

Lake Winnipeg Writers' Group
Executive Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2015

Present: Debra Dusome, Jeanne Gougeon, Helma Rogge-Rehders, Pam Larner, Léo Sewicki, Conni Cartlidge.

1. Adoption of agenda (Debra, Conni. Carried).
2. Adoption of minutes from February meeting (Pam, Conni. Carried).
3. Treasurer's Report:

Debra reported that our bank balance is currently \$1263.81. The corporation number has gone through. The need to sell books to pay our debts is not dire, but worrisome.

 - a) Write another cheque for Tyra re volume 15, No. 2 to replace the lost one (over \$200), but not immediately. We need \$1300 to print at Hignell's. The question was raised, do postcards cost the same to print as bookmarks?
 - b) We have received a cheque from McNally Robinson for \$205.40, our share for 30 Voices they have sold. It is worth our while to have sales out of McNally as this enhances the public's perception of us as real authors. McNally does not indicate which editions were sold. A letter will be sent requesting that they do so in future.
 - c) 2016 Annual Return of Info (Prov. Of Man.). We have maintained our status with the receipt received.
 - d) Jeanne will take 4 tickets to our 20th anniversary tea, in lieu of our paying her the \$80 we owe her.
4. Poetry Workshop:

Jeanne revisited the decision made at our February meeting regarding cost to attend. She stated we could not cover expenses at the prices then agreed upon. The group amended the pricing to \$40 for non-members and e-members, \$20 for members. Poster editing has been done. This event is Saturday 11 June, at the Gaynor Library children's room, from 1 to 4pm.
5. Launch:
 - a) Tyra –date/time reminder. The launch of Voices 16-1 is at 2pm on Mothers' Day, May 8th in the atrium at McNally Robinson book store. Reserve at the restaurant (Prairie Ink) if you intend coming for lunch beforehand.
 - b) Advanced Purchase to date. As of the twenty-23rd of March, Jeanne had received \$240 for the purchase of 20 books.
6. 20th anniversary:
 - a) Permit re silent auction (Jeanne). The cost was twenty dollars and we now have it.
 - b) Debra. She is adding items to the silent auction list she posted to us as they come in. Doreen Millichamp is being asked to contribute something from her Campfire series. Other member

writers will also be asked if they would like to contribute one of their books. They will also have the benefit of selling their work from a table at the 20th anniversary celebration.

Helma suggested that writers who are farther afield be contacted to see if they too would like to make a contribution of one of their books.

We are still looking to touch base with Alex Tretiak, third editor of *Voices*, who knows our history well and could be a real help with archival information.

7. Contest (Marlene). Marlene was absent. Conni is ready to help update the website, but is waiting on Marlene freeing up some time to train her in this regard. Members are reminded to update their personal information on the website.
8. Voices issues devoted to themes (Pam). This option was proposed as some readers have expressed the desire to read on a single theme. This would require giving our writers a year advance notice. Maurice needs to be approached for his opinion on this idea. If the idea is accepted, the membership would be called on for suggestions that they would later vote on. Some ideas came up during the discussion: *women & justice, animals, art in our lives, the Lake, the Prairies, pushing the edge.*
9. Correspondence:
 - a) Eric McKinnon sent a thank you letter for his honorary LWWG membership. We appreciated his help with editing of *Voices* 16-1. As he does not have email, Tyra will deal directly with him.
 - b) Manitoba Writers' Guild – Melanie Matheson would like to visit us during our Saturday May 14th executive meeting. This will work well for her, as she is leaving as writer in residence from Arborg, heading back to Winnipeg that day.
 - c) Victor Enns is confirmed, 11am to 2pm, Wednesdays, March 30th, April 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th at the laundromat in Gimli. All budding and other poets/writers are invited to join him to discuss their art.
 - d) Victor Enns will be guest poet at our April 20th Slam at the Ship & Plough.

The next executive meeting will be at Debra's, on Sunday, April 17th at 2pm.

Adjournment 3:07pm.

Thanks to Helma for locale and goodies.

Pam Larner