

Minutes of the Hawaii Writers Guild (HWG) monthly Board of Directors (BOD) meeting, held via Zoom due to pandemic protocols. All times noted refer to Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time.

Officers and Directors present via Zoom:

Bruce Stern -*Vice President*

Bob Lupo -*Treasurer*

Donna Beumler -*Secretary*

Joy Fisher -*Public Relations Director*

Brian Furer -*Provisional Events Director; Regional Director-Volcano*

Others present via Zoom:

Duncan Dempster -*Webmaster*

Cecilia Johansen -*Co-editor of "Member News"*

Angela Leslee -*New Member*

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CALL TO ORDER: In the absence of **President Carol McMillan, Vice President Bruce Stern called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.** At Carol's previously e-mailed request, the issue of the resignation of Eila Algood as North Kohala-area Standing Committee Chairperson is deferred until next month's meeting.

Donna advised all present that Diane Revell would not be able to attend the meeting this evening, whereupon a general discussion ensued concerning whether Diane would be willing to serve as the new North Kohala-area Standing Committee Chairperson. Donna agreed to approach Diane and inquire in this regard. Additionally, Donna advised that the article written by Joy and Diane with respect to soliciting new participants in the North Kohala-area writers group had been published in this month's edition of the Kohala Mountain News.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: Prior to the meeting, Bruce had e-mailed to Board members updated membership logs. Bruce notes that there are currently 79 active members of HWG. This tally does reflect one new member, whom Bruce will add to the Guild's Google-groups e-mail list.

Bruce reminded the Board that he will be traveling and therefore unavailable during the month of October, and will not be able to participate in the October BOD meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Having previously e-mailed an “Interim Treasurer’s Log,” dated August 31, 2022, as well as a “Final Treasurer’s Log,” dated September 22, 2022 to the Board, Bob updated the BOD as follows: the current operating budget totals \$7,702.91. He added that, just like last month, there has been little activity regarding the Guild’s finances this month.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Donna requested approval of the previously e-mailed Minutes of the August 25th BOD meeting, and indicated that she would re-send the most recent draft of the minutes for the Board’s consideration.

Additionally, Donna pointed out that the fourth Thursday in November is Thanksgiving. Bruce suggested that the meeting be accelerated to November 17 to avoid a conflict for those with Thanksgiving plans, and there was unanimous approval to schedule the November meeting for the 17th rather than the 24th.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES

EVENTS COMMITTEE: Bryan reported that he looked into the Guild establishing a presence at the upcoming “Renfaire” in Honoka’a. However, he ultimately concluded that this renaissance-style gathering would not be an appropriate venue for HWG.

Brian advised that the Volcano-area writers will hold a book publishing event on October 23rd to announce the publication of the group’s second anthology “Out of Our Minds: Shadows and Reflections.” Joy will contact Brian and collaborate with him on an article regarding this anthology for the upcoming issue of *Member News*, the Guild’s on-line newsletter.

Noting that the COVID pandemic—which has drastically limited in-person events for the past two and a half years— seems to be waning, Brian indicated that he hopes to explore the possibility of HWG maintaining an informational table at future events and gatherings. In this regard, Angela mentioned that she had seen reference to a virtual “book and music festival” to be held in Honolulu during the month of October. Duncan and Joy both acknowledged that the Guild’s possible participation in this event had been explored in the past, but that, primarily for logistical and financial reasons, the decision had been made not to participate. Angela will send Joy a link to the festival information. She will also connect with Joy regarding the Guild’s desire to find a member who has the time and expertise to take over administration of its two Facebook pages.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Joy addressed recent PR activities, and advised that, in addition to the article published in the Kohala Mountain News pertaining to the North Kohala-area writers group, the Mountain News has also published a story which she’d written regarding Diann Wilson’s most recent YouTube episode of “Write On.” This episode includes an interview with Eila Algood and covers the topic of her recent self-publication of two books. Joy

notes that the interview is very well done, and is a helpful resource for those looking to self-publish.

Joy also reports that she and Cece are working hard to complete the next issue of *Member News*, which will include—among other things—a variety of feature stories, profiles of new members, and an article concerning the publication by the Volcano-area writers of their second anthology. Joy anticipates that the newsletter will be ready to be forwarded to Duncan for posting to the website in October.

WEBMASTER Duncan Dempster advised the BOD, that he has completed renovations to the “landing page” for the Guild’s website. The updated webpage is designed to make it easier for users to navigate the site. Duncan also referenced a member who contacted him and wished to make changes to her personal author’s page, and he noted that members are welcome to make such changes at any time.

LATITUDES: Bob Lupo, Managing Editor of *Latitudes, 4th ed.* provided the Board with the following information: the submission window opened on September 1st, and will remain open until November 1st. Bob has received some submissions, and will be sending out a follow-up e-mail to the general membership shortly. He also advised that he will be recording a “Write On” episode with Diann Wilson concerning *Latitudes, 4th ed.* and submission guidelines.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS: Available updates regarding Volcano-area writers were provided by Bryan, who noted that the group continues to thrive, and currently has about a dozen regular members. He commented on the very high quality of the writing, and applauded the writers for continuing to inspire. Other projects in the works include the radio-theatre podcast, and the book launch event on October 23rd for the Volcano-area writers second anthology. He is hopeful that, as the restrictions caused by the pandemic continue to lift, writers will become more active in terms of potential projects and events.

Diane Revell was not available to report on recent changes with respect to the Kohala-area writers, but she did provide an e-mail update which Donna read. Diane writes that the Kohala group has met twice *via* Zoom, with long-standing members participating, but with low attendance. She expects that writers will eventually get back into the habit of meeting on a regular basis to share their work and provide feedback to others. She is also hopeful that the article published in the Kohala Mountain News will encourage members of the public to participate.

NEW BUSINESS: Cece shared with the Board her proposal, that, in the upcoming year, HWG should actively work toward the very important goal of outreach to local schools and community organizations. She noted that she has looked into recent activities of former Guild member Mahealani Wendt, who is a nominee for Poet Laureate for the state of Hawaii. Mahealani has demonstrated a commitment to promoting community involvement in literary endeavors such as poetry, and writing in general. Cece would like the Guild to reach out to

Mahealani in an effort to partner with her in this regard, or otherwise seek her assistance in connecting the Guild with appropriate community organizations. There was unanimous agreement that community outreach and interaction with the public is a core goal of HWG. Bruce requested that Cece put together a written memorandum with more specific proposals and forward same to Donna for inclusion in the Minutes. Additionally, it was suggested that this topic be added to the annual planning meeting, typically held in January or February.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

\* The next BOD meeting will be held on October 27, 2022 at 6:30 pm. Due to pandemic restrictions, all meetings for the foreseeable future will be **held via Zoom and hosted by Duncan. Requests for items to be added to the agenda for the next regular Board meeting should be sent via email to President Carol McMillan ([sylvanease@gmail.com](mailto:sylvanease@gmail.com)) and Secretary Donna Beumler ([dmbeumler@gmail.com](mailto:dmbeumler@gmail.com)) at least 10 days prior to the next meeting (no later than October 17, 2022). The agenda will be emailed to the full membership five days prior to the meeting.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.**

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of October, 2022

By: \_\_\_\_Donna Beumler\_\_\_\_

Donna Beumler  
Secretary, HWG