Minutes for March 3, 2022 AGT meeting

The Authors Guild of Tennessee held their monthly meeting at Faith Lutheran Church in Farragut. The social time and library book exchange began at 10:30 a.m. The official business meeting began at 11:00.

The following members were present:

Dave Curran, Kaye George, Bobbi Chapman, Bill Barbour, Leoma Gilley, Cyn Taylor, Jerry Morton, Vicki Bennett, Randy Carpenter, Sam Bledsoe, David Nix, Art Stewart, Cheryl Peyton, Morris Hudgins, Stanford Johnson, and Jim Hartsell.

**Visitors**: Mike Jennings and Robert Booker

Welcome – Cheryl.

New Members and Applicants – Bobbi. We have new members: David Nix, Morris Hudgins, and Stanford Johnson. Bobbi has contacted two more people who may apply.

Remembering Don Pardue From Barbara Pardue Thanks for the gift to St. Jude’s Hospital and membership in the Guild meant so much to him.

February minutes: Minutes of the February meeting have been approved online.

Treasurer’s report: – Randall Carpenter

Balance as of February 1 was \_$2072.09\_. Balance as of February 28 was \_$2448.84\_. Total amount of outstanding checks is \_$279.76\_\_. Expenses in February: \_\_\_$8.75\_\_\_Available balance as of today is \_\_$2500\_\_\_.

Committee Heads reports:

 **Retail Stores**: Bill There is an independent authors conference in Atlanta with agents. There are seminars. $125 for non-members. [Schedule | ASPC (atlantaselfpublishingconference.com)](https://www.atlantaselfpublishingconference.com/schedule)

Bill is hoping to get a place to meet twice a month for the writers’ group. He will explore Faith Lutheran as an option.

 **Knoxville CTV –** Cyn visited Knoxville’s Community TV office. They charge $25/year for membership. Members can use their equipment, check out equipment and use their editing in house. Cyn is willing to become a member and will film our meetings. The CTV website would allow those who are unable to attend to watch, or anyone who wants to see it. They have state of the art equipment. Anyone who wants to join CTV can do so directly, unless we join as AGT. Would AGT be willing to reimburse Cyn to do this? She plans to do book trailers with their equipment and software. Everything from Community TV is online.

 **Vetting/Membership:** Bobbi We have two more applicants coming.

 **Fairs, Festivals, and signings:**

* Cheryl reported on Southern Charm and Sweet Tea. We did as well as any vendor there for the time we were there.
* Upcoming: Ridgedale School 3 members will attend.
* Lavender Festival 3rd weekend in June, Friday and Sat
* Lenoir City Arts and Crafts, 1st weekend in June, Sat and Sun
* Author of the Month – Tellico Village Library First Friday 9-12, advertised you will be there to sell and sign books. Begins in April and Cheryl is going to that.
* Contact Cheryl if you want to join in the shows.

 **Writing Contest** – Jerry Morton has resumed communication about the writing contest with the Lenore City Schools. The high school has a creative writing class and the middle school has a writing club. They would like an author to go each month to talk about writing. The plan is to ask the students what would be a good reward, how to select the winner, and planning the structure with the students. Everyone is excited. Contact Jerry Morton if you are interested in participating.

Program: Cheryl intrduced Robert Booker, historian, journalist, and statesman. Mr. Booker spoke on “Stories from the pages of Time.”

His fraternity sponsored an essay contest, over 1100 submissions, $300 prize. They furnished legal pads and had them write in the library on the topic of gangs. Recently should there be police officers in the schools. They did online submissions and it didn’t represent what the children thought.

Mr Booker shared there is much to write about, both factual and historical fiction. There is little Black history in the literature from Knoxville or Chattanooga. He read articles from newspapers from 1791 to 1893. These articles are available on microfiche at the East TN History Center. Articles from 1900 onwards are available on the Internet. He encouraged authors to take on this material and create stories around them to help increase the available literature surrounding life in Knoxville and the surrounding area.

“The reward for a job well done is having done it” Ralph Waldo Emerson.

### Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for April 7 at 10:30 at Faith Lutheran Church.

###