

WATOA Teleconference 1/20/2016

1. **Call to order** 2:05 PM
Attendees: Linda Seesz, Alice Lawson, John Delay, Jon Funfar, Jim Demmon, Chris Jaramillo, George Geyer, Mike Conner.
2. **Approval of minutes** from 11/18/15. Jon Funfar moved, Jim Demmon seconded. Minutes approved without change.
3. **Treasurer's report**
 - a. Reviewed **December 2015** report with Year End 2015 fund balance of \$11,310.60. Only December transaction was annual NATOA Chapter fees payment. WATOA is charged \$30.00 for each *non-NATOA* member. In 2015 that was \$990.00 for 33 members.
 - b. Reviewed report through **January 20, 2016** with current membership renewals. Have 9 Agencies, 3 Associates and total of 24 members already renewed for 2016.
4. **Board Election**
 - a. 51 ballots were mailed, 29 returned for 57% return rate. All candidates were unanimously elected.
 - b. Region 1 Rep: D.J. "Don" Brown, from City of Bellingham, was a write-in nomination for Region 1 by former WATOA Board member Dal. Linda read Board Dal's nominating Discussion: There was general agreement that D.J. sounds like strong candidate with beneficial experience and PEG background. Alice moved to nominate D.J. as Region 1 Rep, Jim Demmon 2nd. Nomination unanimously approved.
5. **Spring Conference**
 - a. Storytelling Workshop: There won't be a need to pay an expert for the Friday Storytelling workshop this year; Megan has it covered through using local people.
 - b. National Speaker Costs: Reviewed past practice of covering hotel and registration costs for national speakers invited to present at conference. Speakers cover their own airfare and car costs.
 - In 2015 \$1,633 spent on speaker costs (including \$300 stipend for Storyteller workshop).
 - Conference committee has 5 excellent national speakers willing to come to the conference. Would like flexibility to invite a few more, as needed.
 - John Delay moved that Board approve to cover hotel/registration costs for up to eight (8) speakers for 2016 conference. Mike Connor 2nd. Motion unanimously approved.
 - c. Board members asked to think of neighboring communities to invite to conference. Committee wants to increase marketing outside of normal WATOA membership.
6. **Newsletter**: Linda will be distributed before end of January.
7. **Other business**
 - a. **Board retreat**. Larry Dunbar with City of Ellensburg has agreed to host retreat. Target date is Feb 29th (Monday) for retreat. Linda to confirm date with Larry and send confirmation to Board members.

- b. **NATOA Presidents Call.**
 - NATOA is working to schedule eNATOA specifically on conference planning.
 - NATOA want to know what it can do to be more helpful to chapter members.
 - Reminder that every chapter gets to have one eNATOA per year (using NATOA technology to host the eNATOA). Board members asked to consider ideas and bring them to the Board retreat.

 - c. **Poulsbo/Comcast project:** George reported working on unique project with Comcast to broadcast City of Poulsbo meetings to wider area by targeting certain nodes. It will allow North County to see meetings.
8. **Adjournment 2:40 PM**