

AGS Board of Directors
Board Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2021 via Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm. Attending: Diane, Pat, Karen, Tracey, Elizabeth. Absent: Max, Nan, Erin, Belinda.

Karen volunteered to take minutes in Max's absence.

Pat moved the board accept the August 2021 board minutes previously distributed digitally. Elizabeth seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's report: Elizabeth reported to be completely caught up on reports. Erin had looked at May-August reports and showed Elizabeth how to correct them. They have all been corrected. There was discussion regarding the \$1000 anonymous donation from April/May. Pat did not remember seeing it. Upon looking at reports onscreen, it was noted as having been received, to everyone's relief.

Discussion Items:

1. Zoom account for AGS. Diane has it set up. Present board members have all received information how to log on. Everyone present practiced how to record on Zoom. After the meeting, everyone was planning to practice the follow-up steps to download and then upload the recording to the AGS shared drive. Noted that this provides for multiple people being able to handle technical aspects of monthly Zoom meetings, not just Diane. It is also available for committee meetings, board meetings, etc.
2. Seminar wrap-up. Karen reported that there were 69 paid registrations. 57 people attended on Zoom. 10 people paid but not seen on Zoom (however there were two unidentified presences on Zoom who could have been two of the 10). 2 registrants paid but weren't expected live. (They paid so they would get access to the recordings and handouts.)
3. Programs. Everything set for remainder of 2021. Pat, Tracey and Diane meeting Tuesday, September 14 to begin planning monthly program speakers for first half of 2022. Physical meeting sites discussed for when it becomes safe again. Elizabeth volunteered to check with her church (Metropolitan Community Church) in South Austin, but concerned that only room big enough for full member meeting is sanctuary. Karen volunteered to check with her church, Redeemer Lutheran Church, in North Central Austin. Not sure of cost but there is a new community room built for a variety of uses (from theatrical plays to formal banquet dinners) that has technology built in. Diane volunteered to attempt again to arrange site visit to renovated French Legation. Some discussion about our lack of knowledge of where our members live, as it is no longer a part of our membership registration form. By consensus, 2022 membership form will include a field to enter zip code.

The sign-up process for the Diahann Southard webinar went so well, that by consensus it was decided to utilize the same process for monthly meetings. People will be directed to the AGS website to click on a button which will take them to a registration page that will include where they live. When submitted, this should flow directly to a Google Sheets that board members will have access to.

4. Book Donations. Diane has updated list of John Marostica's books. She sent donor a thank you card with a Starbucks gift card. Discussion of places and people to check with for some of the donated items, especially some scrapbook pages and a handwritten memories manuscript.

5. Membership update. Karen reported that we have 189 paid members as of today, plus 15 life members. We have added about 3 new members each month lately. Karen announced that she plans to roll out 2022 membership renewal drive in November, followed by new member drive in December. Two items for that part would potentially be a Facebook ad and the concept of "gift card" membership/giving membership as a gift to a loved one (or yourself!)

6. Nominating committee. Time to start recruiting members for 2022 board of directors. Elizabeth (was) volunteered to lead committee. Discussion among those present that all of us are relatively new members ourselves and don't know a lot of the long-term members, especially as we have been completely virtual for over a year and a half at this point. Karen will look through her records of who has been actively participating recently (monthly Zoom meetings plus seminar), compile a list of very active people and email that list to the board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.