

OWAC TELECONFERENCE MINUTES – November 14, 2022

I. Call to Order

7:01 pm by Carrie Wilson

II. Roll Call by Carrie Wilson

Attending: Matt Johanson, Peter Schroeder, Bob Semerau, Don Vachini, John Williamson, Carrie Wilson, Risa Wyatt

Absent: Mike Harris, Tom Martens, Betsy Senescu, Barbara Steinberg

III. Minutes: Taken by Risa Wyatt

IV. Approval of Minutes [October 17, 2022]

Motion by Don Vachini: To accept the minutes

2nd: Bob Semerau

Approved: Unanimous

V. Additional agenda items

None

VI. Finance Report [Bob Semerau]

Current balance: \$ 15,463.45

Expenditures:

- a. \$500 insurance (annual)
- b. \$212 P.O. Box (annual)
- c. \$79 Web Builder charges
- d. \$25 Secretary of State

Income: From a few renewals

VII. Outdoor Californian of the Year (OCOY) status [Laurie Morrison / Bob Semerau]

From Laurie Morrison: There are four candidates. Ballots will go out approximately November 19 or 20, with voting to run November 21 through December 2. Election will be conducted vis Survey Monkey, with ballots cast by both Professional and Supporting Members. Laurie will contact the OCOY winner, who will be awarded prize at the spring conference, if one takes place. Winner will receive an engraved glass vase, certificate, and digital logo. Laurie will handle.

VIII. Endowment accounts [Peter Schroeder]

Balance is \$14,950, up \$1,500 from previous month because the stock market has gone up. Expecting \$800 in annual dividends.

IX. Legal issues [Bob Semerau]

Although matters are still unresolved, progress has been made. Uncertain when State will respond. Until then, no donations or awards can be made. However, planning for EIC Awards and Vachini Scholarships will continue.

X. EIC [Peter Schroeder / John Williamson]

Rules are basically the same as last year, with dates revised. Information will be posted in the December/January Newsletter.

XI. OWAC Press Cards 2023 [Bob Semerau]

Press cards (in color) are scheduled to go out in early January 2023. There's no charge to recipients—it's a benefit of membership.

XII. Vachini Scholarship contest [Matt Johanson / Peter Schroeder / Don Vachini]

For 2023, contest will be open to all California high schools. A Poetry category will be added. Contest will be announced in December 2023 so students can work on their writing and photography submissions over the winter break. Promotional copy will headline "Scholarship Awards," with subhead about "Cash Prizes." Peter Schroeder will write the copy.

Matt Johanson will provide guidelines for teachers and put something together for the website. John Williamson will set up a tab on the website for the Vachini High School Scholarships.

XIII. Publicity

No report since Betsy Senescu was unavailable.

XIV. Website / Membership report [John Williamson]

OWAC has lost one-third of its membership this year. Organization needs to form a committee to recruit members. Mike Harris will be approached to head. Committee will also do outreach to find out why people are not renewing.

XV. Spring Conference Locations

Carrie will get in touch with Mammoth Tourism. John will provide contact information for Monterey. Bob Semerau will reach out to Morro Bay.

XVI. Next Meeting Date: Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.

XVII. Adjourn

Motion by Don Vachini: To adjourn

2nd: Peter Schroeder

Approved: Unanimous

Adjourned: 8:03 pm

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