

**SOCIETY OF AMERICAN TRAVEL WRITERS
WESTERN CHAPTER - BUSINESS MEETING
September 24, 2018
Hilton Hotel – Bridgetown, Barbados**

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 11:30 a.m. by Chair Christine Loomis.

Christine recognized new members, and those who are current, outgoing and incoming, board members at Chapter and national board.

Report from Chair

Financial Report:

Christine provided on behalf of Treasurer Erick Elveford, who was absent

- Reserve Fund balance as of August 31, 2018 is \$98,000, which is significant.
- We are in good shape with annual operating budget, in the black YTD.
- Sponsors, specifically Travel Portland and Explore Charleston, have made a positive impact on financial success of our recent Chapter meetings, and Christine made sure to recognize them both with appreciation. Explore Charleston provided funds for Photo Shoot Out and Travel Portland provided funds for writing awards.

Funds to support national convention PD videotaping:

Christine reported that the WC Budget & Finance Committee had recommended in January 2018 that the Western Chapter provide \$10-12,000 per year in reserve funds for up to three years to support costs for videotaping PD at Society's national convention. Board discussed this idea at mid-year meeting in Brno in May. Christine noted that this was predicated upon receiving a detailed plan and cost estimate for project from SATW staff and conventions chair. Estimated cost for 2018 PD videotaping/editing is \$5,000.

New SATW Website

SATW will be launching new website in mid-December as part of re-branding. Each Chapter will have a special page and Christine noted that the Chapter Chair should appoint someone to manage and update the page.

Chapter & Councils

SATW Board is continuing discussions on structure of councils and chapters within the organization as a whole, and will continue to solicit input from members on this subject.

Sponsor Announcement:

Doug Warner of Explore Charleston and Matt Owen of Salamander Hotels and the company's new Bennett Hotel announced that they would be doing a drawing of names from members who attended the spring 2017 WC meeting in Charleston with winner receiving return trip for two with air & lodging in 2019.

Sites Committee: update from Nancy Vaughan Sites Committee Chair

- Still working to nail down site for spring/summer – very close on one destination but not yet final.
- Reminder to turn in clips from Brno, there have not been very many to date.

Other Remarks:

- David Swanson, Chapter member and incoming SATW President made some remarks. He also noted that Carol Waller will also serve as Parliamentarian for national board for upcoming year.
- Eric Lindberg, incoming Chapter Chair, made some remarks. He thanked Christine for her service and leadership as Chapter Chair and noted he was looking forward to serving on behalf of Chapter members.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Waller, Chapter Secretary. Approved by Chapter President Christine Loomis