

**SOCIETY OF AMERICAN TRAVEL WRITERS
WESTERN CHAPTER - BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
February 23, 2022
Fairbanks, Alaska**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order 10:00 a.m by Chair Eric Lindberg

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Eric then introduced current board members & officers and also new and first time Chapter meeting attendees, past SATW president David Swanson and past Western Chapter Chair Christine Loomis.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Fairbanks Meeting Update: Eric reminded everyone to please use social media to promote Explore Fairbanks and the meeting using the appropriate hashtags. He also reminded Actives to visit with Associates at Marketplace, and other meeting housekeeping notes.

Financial Report: Carol provided report on behalf of Treasurer Ellen Clark, who was absent

- Western Chapter reserve fund account balance as of Dec 31, 2021, is \$110K. It was noted these funds technically belong to SATW since WC is not an independent entity.
- Carol and Eric provided special thanks and recognition to the WC Budget & Finance Committee members Gordon Thorne, Carol Beck-Edgars and Laura Daily who have done a great job investing these funds.
- Carol noted that this is an exceptionally large fund balance compared to other chapters/councils and that the board had approved using some of those funds to support Chapter members, such as the registration fee subsidy of \$100 per attendee for the Fairbanks meeting.
- The Chapter Board approved the 2022 budget with \$4,000 in income from writing awards, and \$15,000 in expense for meeting and writing awards costs. Net income is projected at (\$11,000), which will be funded from the reserve.

Future Meeting Sites Report: Eric Lindberg

Eric reported that he and Nancy had been aggressively working to find locations for upcoming years, and have fortunately some good options in play, including Sonoma for spring 2023 and Carson City, NV for potentially 2024. Other destinations also in consideration.

Western Chapter Board Elections: Eric noted that the Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates for the positions of Chair, 1st Vice Chair and Secretary. Terms will begin in September at annual convention.

Western Chapter Writing Awards: Christine Loomis, Awards Chair

Christine updated board on WC Writing Awards, to be held in March this year. Requests for submission have already gone out, might not be able to secure a sponsor this year due to short timeframe but will try. Updated certain categories for DPC members. Photographers can enter any published image.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Waller, Chapter Secretary. Approved by Chapter Chair Eric Lindberg