**SOCIETY OF AMERICAN TRAVEL WRITERS**

**WESTERN CHAPTER - BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**August 17, 2022 VIRTUAL via Zoom**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. PST by WC Chair Eric Lindberg

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Eric introduced current board members and welcomed new incoming board officers (Ruth Carlson/Chair, David Lang/Vice-Chair, Teresa Bergen/Secretary), whose terms will begin at the Bogota convention. He also thanked outgoing board members Carol Waller, Julie Bielenberg and Christine Loomis for their service to the chapter.

Eric also welcomed the new Chapter members in attendance and had them introduce themselves: Wendy Nordvich-Carr and Nancy Helmrich, both actives.

**REPORTS**

**Financial Report:** WC TreasurerEllen Clark

* Western Chapter reserve fund account balance as of August 16, is $94,341.
* Ellen 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 an excellent job investing and managing these funds over the years.

**Future Meeting Sites Report**: Eric Lindberg

Eric reported that he and Nancy Vaughn (WC Sites Chair) had been aggressively working to find locations and have fortunately have some good news to share:

* **2023:** Destination cannot be announced until contract is signed, which should be soon. Proposed dates are week of April 16, 2023.
* **2024:** Eric confirmed that the WC will be meeting in **Cody/Yellowstone Country**, May 30-June 3, 2024. Mona Mesereau, who manages PR for the DMO there, has helped make this happen and shared a bit about all of the exciting core meeting program and activities as well as interesting post trips to be offered.

Sites committee is looking for meeting destinations for 2025 and beyond, so Eric asked members to share any ideas they may have with Nancy.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* Elizabeth Harryman, SATW President, thanked the WC for their support of PD video taping for the past three conventions and apologized for the delay in getting those online sessions up on the website – but it will be done soon. She provided recognition to Mary Jo Manzanares for all her work with website audit and updates over the past year. Elizabeth also noted that board was in contract renewal discussions with Kellen as SATW management company.
* Susan Lanier-Graham, Membership Directory co-chair, told group that much work had been done to make the online member database more user and search friendly, and that a special notice would be going out soon to all members to update their information for the database.
* Millie Alexander asked if WC regional meetings, such as BANG and RATS, could start meeting again. Those are informal, non-official events, organized by members in regional areas.
* David DeVoss mentioned that he serves on Phoenix Committee and Kellen had been slow to send out plaques. Anna said she was working on that, just waiting for information on addresses.
* Claudia Carbone, WC Clips Chair, reminded everyone to send her their clips from WC meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**

In closing, Eric expressed his appreciation for being able to serve WC as chair the past four years and

encouraged everyone to volunteer somehow for the Chapter or the Society. Lynn Rosen moved to adjourn the

meeting, Marlene Goldman seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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