

Storytellers of San Diego Meeting  
August 16, 2016  
North University Community Library

The meeting was called to order at 6:00. In attendance were Marilyn McPhie, Fred Laskowski, Mindy Donner and Harlynn Geisler.

We reviewed the treasurer's report, sent by Jim in an email, and noted that we are in stable financial condition.

We went over the calendar of upcoming events.

#### Old Business

We revisited the last two storytelling events at Rebecca's, concluding that the crowds were good and the stories were well-received. Fred offered to host the September event and asked for theme suggestions. David Schmidt will host in October.

Marilyn reported on the storytelling at the Sam Hinton Festival last month. Audiences were generally good. There were only a couple of kids at the kids' open mic, but the adult open mic was filled.

Li-Anne has developed the flier for school storytelling programs, with design assistance from Michael Mufson. These will be placed in the AERO mailings to schools.

Marilyn reported on the NSN Conference, mentioning the importance of including new personal-experience storytellers and groups in the larger Storytellers of San Diego group. She reminded all of the discount on NSN membership for Storytellers of San Diego. Highlights of the conference included an off-site venue for the Sunday concert, which drew more people than usual from the community. NSN is in need of financial support from memberships and other revenue streams. One of the hotly-discussed items at the conference was the status of the magazine.

#### 2017 Storytelling Festival

We briefly reviewed items related to the 2017 festival. The date is Saturday, March 18, and the theme is "Transformation" – the World Storytelling Day Theme. Harlynn suggested that the New Americans Museum in Liberty Station could be a source and possible collaboration for stories from refugees. Marilyn suggested that one concert could feature Irish stories, since the festival is the week of St. Patrick's Day. Mindy said she'd check out food trucks at an upcoming event in her neighborhood. Marilyn said that Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo will be in town and is available to perform and do a workshop for the festival. Kathleen Warren of the Encinitas Friends of the Library sent an email, which was read in the meeting, explaining that the Friends group has allocated \$2000 for the festival. She expressed a preference for no big silent auction, but suggested that perhaps six large gift baskets could be a good money-maker. She said that she'd seek donations from the Friends and her women's group, and also that she knows a woman with expertise in putting together attractive gift baskets who would likely help us with that. Other topics were briefly mentioned.

#### Tellebration

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing Tellebration, to be held on Saturday, November 12 at the Bethany Lutheran Church on Sunset Cliffs Blvd. in Ocean Beach. Mindy has arranged for the venue, due to a connection with the pastor at the Anglican church (which meets at the Lutheran facility) with her husband Ray. The financial arrangement is excellent, and Mindy has assured them that we will be certain to leave the facility in as good a condition as we found it.

We agreed with Jim's suggestion that we make sure that all publicity includes the fact that Tellabration attendees can park free in the church's lot. This is especially important for the Ocean Beach area. Mindy said that the sound system was not excellent, and Fred suggested that we have Jim Hinton arrange the sound and also perform. He mentioned that Jim has arranged the sound for Tellabration before and has not charged us, but Fred suggested that we pay Jim for both the sound and the performance. This suggestion was met with approval from all. Li-Anne will take care of refreshments. Marilyn mentioned that NSN is requesting that all Tellabration programs and publicity include the indication that Tellabration is a trademarked term and also that it should mention that it is an NSN program. She said she'd forward the current official Tellabration logo and wording to Fred, Mindy and Li-Anne, but added that there would be updated information on that in the near future. We agreed that the line "A Worldwide Celebration of Storytelling" is appropriate. Michael Mufson has agreed to create a flier/poster with his amazing creative skills. Mindy mentioned that a group she was acquainted with used a publicist for a recent program. This cost around \$200 and was very effective. She agreed to check into that, since we all acknowledged that publicity is one of our biggest challenges.

House concerts and master classes were briefly discussed, with storytellers David Novak, Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo, Darci Tucker, Jim May and Angela Lloyd possibly available in the future. Marilyn will ask Vicky for input on future house concerts.

#### Next meeting

There will be no meeting in September. The next meeting will be a board meeting on Tuesday, October 18 at the Encinitas Library.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.