

## **Nebraska Center for the Book Annual Membership Meeting Minutes - November 14, 2009 - DRAFT**

Nebraska Center for the Book annual membership meeting was held on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at 8:15 am at Nebraska History Museum (Gilmore Room), Lincoln. The meeting was convened by Garry Alkire, President, and followed with introductions of those present.

Present: Garry Alkire, Laurie Alkire, Sharon Bishop, Rod Wagner, Molly Fisher, Mary Jo Ryan, Sherry Houston, Rebecca Faber, Marge Saiser, Erica Hamilton, Hilda Raz.

President Garry Alkire expressed appreciation to Mary Jo Ryan for what she has accomplished for the 2009 Nebraska Book Festival. Rod Wagner and staff were thanked too. It was a labor of love. It is a good festival.

Minutes: A motion to approve the annual meeting minutes was made by Carol Connor. Seconded by Sherry Houston. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Sherry Houston distributed reports. Finances for the Nebraska Book Festival look good. Sherry reported that the NCB received about \$1,800 in membership this year. Garry Alkire added that grants for festival helped a lot. It was very organized. The board commended Sherry Houston for all her work this year. Motion made by Rebecca Faber to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Sharon Bishop. Motion passed.

President's Report: Garry Alkire expressed his gratitude to Nebraska Library Commission staff and all those who helped to make this festival happen. Difficult accomplishment in our economic times, with the distance factor, and everyone is busy. Garry stated that when he goes to the Library of Congress / Center for the Book meeting in DC he is impressed with what is accomplished by Nebraska. In comparison to other states and regions, some that have full time staff, we accomplish a lot.

National Book Festival 2009: Mary Jo Ryan, Debra Dragos and Sherry Houston represented the Nebraska Center for Book at the National Book Festival in Washington DC. It was very busy at Nebraska booth. Many people stopped. About 130,000 where in attendance.

### Other Reports:

Rod Wagner expressed appreciation to Laureen Riedesel who annually leads the Letters About Literature project.

Rod Wagner thanked the Bess Streeter Aldrich organization for the excellent 2009 One Book One Nebraska program.

Molly Fisher asked board members to thank all the sponsors of the Nebraska Book Festival. Letters of thanks will be sent. Completed evaluations of the festival are important for continued support.

### New Business:

Election of Board Members. Slate of nominees: Susan Mahar, Matt Mason, Lois Meyer.

By-laws provide for nominations at this meeting.

Motion to close nominations and approve by acclamation made by Carol Connor. Seconded by Marge Saiser. Motion passed.

By-laws Proposal. Article IV, Board of Directors - Composition. Section 2. "Members shall not serve more than three consecutive terms."

Erika Hamilton suggested that we do research on attendance policies in other organizations so we can copy that language.

Motion to approve by-laws change as presented made by Carol Connor. Seconded by Sherry Houston.  
Motion approved.

Annual meeting adjourned at 8:40 am.

Carol Connor, Secretary