**NEST Board Meeting**

**November 19, 2020**

**Present:** Cris Riedel, Deb Roe, Lynn Schweikart, Chris Donnald, Mike Lockett, Barbara Aliprantis, Jim Brule, Gail Herman, Rona Leventhal, Andy Davis (Arrived at 3:44)

**Meeting Start:** 3:07PM

**Call to Order**

**Motion to Approve Minutes: Approved (6)** Motion by Barbara, Seconded by Mike

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

* **NEST Fest Update**
  + Deb talked about feedback she received regarding NEST Fest and thoughts about how it went. She commented on the numbers of participants in each event (up to 104) and the registration numbers (300 plus). There was a question as to how we could reach out to children and families more for the children performances in the future. There was also a comment regarding the international participants that showed up to the events. The general consensus around the tech for the event was very positive.   
    Deb said that there were several members who brought new people and some attendees became members of NEST as a result of the event. The comments about what to do better were about making sure registration is smooth, tech rehearsal times are set ahead of time, and what to do regarding performance recordings is decided ahead of time. There was talk about the response to the honorariums to the performers and the effect of that on getting performers for the future.
  + Board Responses were positive. There was very positive support around choosing Cooper to be the tech to run the event. Gail liked that people wanted to stay after each event to talk about it, and recommending a way to allow people more time or a separate space after events to talk to each other. Rona talked about maybe starting later in the evening on Friday to allow more people to show up that were finishing up work. Deb commented on the timing of that event being set up as a professional development activity. Mike commented that the morning start time was good for international participants.
  + Lynn talked about Andy Davis joining the meeting to keep the ball rolling about the Social Justice topic. Lynn said that panelists from the FLY! Panel were approached by people interested in being mentors and Andrea Lovett is looking into grant opportunities.
  + Regarding the recordings of the performances, the board members will have access to the recordings. The performers will be sent clips of their individual stories. Panelists will be asked about letting the panel recording be distributed. Jim brought up questions that should be asked before an event like this happens again regarding recordings and distribution. Rona commented on how these materials can be used to help get sponsors for future events.

**Social Justice Discussion**

* Andy talked about some of the things he learned coming out of hosting the Social Justice Panel for NEST Fest. He also mentioned how there is a lot of storytelling involved in social justice groups and organizations around the country. He talked about using storytelling to help promote and inform regarding the various groups’ missions. He brought up the possibility of NEST working with activists and social justice groups. Lynn asked if it would have to be a live event or if it could be a virtual one. Deb brought up the idea of NEST forming a Social Justice Committee and everyone agreed that this is a good first step.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

* **STF 2021**
  + Lynn brought up how STF 2021 should be handled with regards to the uncertainties in regards to the pandemic. Jim mentioned looking into a hybrid model. Lynn said that 2021 will most likely be a virtual event and 2022 will be a hybrid model. Rona asked for clarification on what a hybrid plan would look like. The consensus is that it is unclear what exactly that would look like. Lynn brought up when to hold the event, and Deb and Cris recommend May to give enough time to properly plan for the event. Deb talked about the number of days that the event should be based on the number of workshop offerings. There was also a discussion about how to handle working with hosts who signed up for 2020 that were pushed back to 2021 and having it be virtual instead of in person.

**Outreach Communication**: None to report

**New Business:** Deb talked about NEST possibly working with other storytelling groups around the country to develop the Story Trail as this is something that NEST hasn’t yet had the capacity to get off the ground.

**Old Business**: None to Report

**Motion to Adjourn: Approved (6)** Motion by Cris, Seconded by Jim

Next Meeting: December 17 at 3:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 4:36 pm