**NEST Board Meeting**

3/27/2020

In Attendance: Jim Brule, Barbara Aliprantis, Mike Lockett, Lynn Schweikart, Deb Roe

Meeting Start: 1:30pm

STF Update

Deb sent out a notice to all registrants regarding rollovers to the new date and refunds. 90 people have requested rollover. 20 asked for refunds. This amounts to up to $6000. We are waiting on 7 to respond.

NEST Educators

Our goal was to provide value to our membership, provide training, and some revenue. With COVID the demand has increased but our capacity to administer the courses has remained the same. Hope who does the recruitment and training and Deb who will do the promotion have limits on what they can actually provide. We need more resources to come in to sustain this pipeline. With COVID, others have already jumped on the bandwagon and are doing this themselves. So conditions have changed and might warrant some reassessment in the future.

Cris reported that Hope is running two trainings a month. Steve Daut’s course has been approved and we would like to run it in June.

Online Storytelling

Jim is working with Sheila Arnold, under the aegis of NEST, to create online storytelling opportunities and a support group for artists. Jim has offered a free tech session. Separately, people have asked if they can hire him one on one. This is separate outside of NEST.

Storytelling Repository

Jim put together a task force. They are creating a repository of digital offerings. A form has been sent out to the membership so they can list their offerings. NEST is helping with the technical side of things and also going to send this out to libraries and others who may be interested. Right now they have 35 forms returned.

Webpage for Online Resources

Deb suggested that we put a webpage up on the NEST site. It could include resources for how to get started with online telling and education as well as places to see online storytelling. It doesn’t have to be a finished page.

Ongoing performances and resources listed. Maybe we could get a sponsor. We will put out a call to the membership.

Story Swaps

Barbara shared that StorySpace is starting up a virtual swap.

NEST Facebook Page

Really need posts to the page at least 3 times a week according to Hope. Lynn questioned if Facebook is still as important as it used to be. Jim mentioned that people are on more now with Facebook Live, etc. Barbara mentioned that we all agreed to post on Facebook. Mike said that he will post on Facebook two to three times a week if people send him the info. Jim suggested that others post as the inspiration moves them. Mike will put up postponement of STF and post pictures from previous years.

STF Online

This is not a decision that we want to make right now. But we should keep the online aspects in mind.

WVSG

There are now 4 meetings a month. They are up to about 300 members and getting two to three requests a day. Jim mentioned that we should put the NEST logo on. Cris said we should put a donate button up and the NEST website. Maybe we should wait on the donation requests until after the pandemic is over.

Benevity Funds

Our intent is to funnel that back to our membership. We discussed how to expand programs that are working well on a local level and offer training to people in other regions to get them started. Examples include Children at the Well and Stories in the Streets. Barbara Aliprantis will reach out with Marnie Gillard and Paula Weiss. Lynn Schweikart will reach out to Nicolette Nordin-Heavy.

Next Meeting: April 24 at 1:30PM