

Speed City Sisters in Crime **September 25, 2021**

Business meeting: 11:07 a.m. Zoom meeting

Called to order: President Janet Williams

The Minutes: Carol Paddock moved and Steve Terrell 2nd to approve the August minutes.
Minutes approved with one correction.

Treasurer's Report: Brigitte Kephart

BEGINNING BALANCE: **\$2,512.95**

ENDING BALANCE: **\$2,238.76**

Lillie Evans moved and Keith Roysdon 2nd to accept the treasurer's report.
Treasurer's report approved pending audit.

Membership: Elizabeth San Miguel

48 members are in good standing with local and national SIC.

No new members this month.

Website and Communication: Hawthorn Mineart

Stats are up because of the book. Traffic on the website was 457. Page views 705.

Traffic increase because of the Halloween Anthology page and 20 rules for writing detective stories.

87 newsletters and 39 opened. Anyone having issues receiving the newsletter should send an email to Hawthorn Mineart.

YouTube had 10 total subscribers. William Kent Kruger is still the most popular.

Instagram increased by 20.

Twitter had an increase. Two promotions of the Halloween Anthology are on Twitter.

Programs: Janis Thornton (upcoming meeting dates and speakers on Zoom):

September 28 – J. C. Kenney, Write What You Know With A Twist

October 23 – Andrew Welsh-Huggins, Is There A Draft In Here? The Art of Revision

November 27 – No speaker. Chapter members will discuss projects and exchange ideas.

January 22 – Panel will present how to put an Anthology together.

Russ Eberhart and a panel to speak on writing cyber security and technology in fiction at future date.

Marketing Committee Update and Promotion Events: Carol Paddock

The marketing committee met at the end of August.

The committee is focusing on promotion of the Halloween Anthology.

A book signing will be held in conjunction with the Gal's Guide at the Nickel Plate Arts in Noblesville from 2-4 p.m. October 23rd. The address is 107 S. 8th St., Noblesville, IN.

Authors volunteering are Tony Perona, Janet Williams, Carol Paddock and Ramona Henderson.

The Morgan County Library Event in Monrovia will be on from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on November 27th. Volunteers are Diana Catt, Michael Dabney, and Brigitte Kephart. Note this event takes place during the regularly scheduled business meeting.

SCSIC is still waiting to hear from the Indianapolis Authors Fair.

A podcast will be recorded on September 30th and broadcast October 30th. Authors volunteering are Russ Eberhart, Elizabeth San Miguel, Mary Ann Koontz, and Tony Perona.

SCSIC is on the waiting list for Indiana Authors at the Indiana History Museum.

The Christmas event at the Indiana History Museum will go on this year.

Carol Paddock said taglines will go out every other day during October.

Janet Williams stated press releases will be adapted to different medias and library letters will be updated.

Steve Terrell did a reading of an excerpt from his Halloween story and Hawthorn posted it.

Hawthorn will transfer any videos for other writers if they wish to do a reading.

Discussion:

The Elwood Red Gold Chili Cook Off has been canceled.

Michael Dabney stated the CEO of the Indianapolis Public Library recently resigned and that could be the reason for the delay in notifying those selected for the Indianapolis Authors Fair.

Carol Paddock stated the owner of Black Dog Books is busy planning her son's wedding.

Crystal Rhodes inquired about the contracts for the Deadbeat playbook. Janet Williams said the board has been overwhelmed with the production and promotion of the Anthology and will see the contracts are done soon. Crystal said the beginning of next year would be all right.

Next Marketing Committee Meeting: September 29th at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Members are welcome to join the meeting.

Book Sells Update:

The price of the book for chapter and author members is \$9.00 per book. Janet Williams will send an email to members reminding them the books may be picked up in the parking lot of Barnes and Noble on 86th St. between 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. on Sunday September 26th. Cash or checks are accepted. Checks should be made out to Speed City Sisters in Crime. Those unable to come at this time should contact Janet to make other arrangements.

Future Meetings:

SCSIC will continue meeting via zoom through early 2022. SCSIC has not heard from the IRS regarding tax status. Janet Williams is in touch with Indy Reads regarding a place to meet.

The Zoom account has been switched to one with more capabilities and the capacity for 100 attendees.

First Friday Write-ins:

First Friday write-ins continue. The next session is October 1st at 6:30 p.m. Sign up on Eventbrite.

NaNoWriMo 2021:

The month of November is national novel writing month. Writers are encouraged to take part in the annual event.

Critique Group Update:

The critique group will continue to meet at 10:00 a.m. prior to each business meeting via Zoom. Interested members should send their material to Russ Eberhart as early as possible prior to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

November Election of Officers: Michael Dabney will head the nominating committee. Lillie Evans volunteered to assist him. One more volunteer is needed. Contact Michael if interested. All members are eligible to run for office. Janis Thornton has served four years and Ramona Henderson has served two years. Both would like to step down.

New Logo:

SCSIC is still waiting for National SIC to approve the logo.

Dues Increase: National SIC annual dues will increase next year from \$50.00 to \$60.00. Lifetime dues will go from \$500.00 to \$600.00. Members renewing their membership this year can still pay \$50.00. SCSIC annual dues will remain at \$15.00. Most local chapters have \$20.00 to \$25.00 annual dues.

Retreat: A retreat will not be held until the pandemic slows.

Member Announcements:

Steve Terrell – National SIC has a series of webinars regarding short story writing that are very good. Also, check out the National SIC email with the Bouchercon Anthology guidelines for The Land of 10,000 Crimes. Stories must be set in Minnesota or adjacent areas. Deadline is December 31, 2021.

Russ Eberhart – Check out the NorCal site to register for their event November 17th.

Russ stated he is almost finished writing *The Three-Legged Assassin*.

Crystal Rhodes – Crystal's play *1200 Miles from Jerome* will be performed at Onyx Fest and tickets are selling fast. Deborah Asante is the director.

Janet Williams asked them to send her the information so she can pass it on to the members.

Meeting Dates for 2021:

Board Meeting – October 12, 2021 6:00 p.m.

Business Meeting – October 23, 2021 11:00 a.m. (Critique Group 10:00 a.m.) - via Zoom

Motion to adjourn: Michael Dabney moved and Brigitte Kephart 2nd

Meeting adjourned 11:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ramona Henderson, Secretary