

Here are the Meeting Minutes from the Area 31 Grapevine Committee Meeting held on 06/04/24.

Attendance:

Joe (Chair)

Anissa (Co-chair)

Steve (Sunday night Haydenville) - I need Steve's email address

Danielle (Southwick Sunday Night BB)

Lianne (Wilbraham)

Mark T. (SH. Falls)

Ricky P. (Wildcats) I need his email address for the minutes

Ray (Area Visitor Alternate Delegate)

Nathalie (Language of the Heart)

Mary (Daily Reflections Holyoke)

Laura (web/zoom support)

This meeting was a Writer's Workshop Planning Meeting.

Danielle A. - Meeting space under the Daily Grind in Southwick on College Highway is most likely available on a Saturday between 4-6pm. Danielle Left a message for Denise the manager of the Daily Grind.

Per Ray - no passing a basket at an Area Funded Event. The GV Committee has a \$600.00 Budget for the Year.

Joe and Anisa met a woman named Vera from the Berkshires at the Round Up. Vera has experience with Grapevine and La Vina (District 3) she may be able to provide consultation to our committee.

Mark wants a Writer's Workshop as a separate event from the GV focused meetings. Proposes that we hold a GV focused event Quarterly.

Steve suggested we alternate the Grapevine Writer's workshop every other quarter alternating with a Grapevine meeting (such as a Listening Party, or a GV reading/discussion).

Joe- read page 42 of the Grapevine Workbook that provides Submission Guidelines and Editorial Calendar. WE can read this workbook at the Writer's workshop.

Proposed Agenda:

Anisa - suggests intro in Grapevine Resources about what is expected from a GV Article.

Share Submission Ideas

Can write a Letter to the Editor or Contribute to the What's on your mind section.

Also can submit to Jokes & Cartoons.

Joe: Provide handouts from the GVR resources at the workshop. Create fertile ground for ideas. Use the workshop to allow them to get started.

As GVRs we should be available as a committee after the workshop to mentor/support those who want help with a GV submission. The Writer's workshop can be a good motivator to publish.

The GV Magazine does not send out rejection letters. They keep the stories for possible later publications.

Ray urged group to ensure there is not an Area 31 event happening when we plan the writer's workshop. Check the Area 31 district Calendar.

Possible Date for the First Workshop as close to the 15th of the month so there will be a month's time for participants to finish their submission before the next deadline.

Nathalie suggested August 17th or 24th. Nathalie also suggested calling this a Writer's Retreat.

WE can share the Editorial Calendar at each workshop.

Items needed for the workshop:

30 Copies of the 1 page summary of GV submission

and 30 copies of the Guidelines to Contributing

30 copies of the Editorial Calendar (Danielle)

Food & Drink

Maybe note pads and pens.

Proposed Agenda from committee members:

*Ice Breaker - What brought you here?

*10 Minutes Free Write (mind dump) from the Artists' Way

*Read Submission Guidelines

*Bring Vera from District 3 to present (Anisa will ask). Have Vera discuss her experience from the past with writing for GV.

*Write for 25-30 minutes

*Break

*Write 25-30 minutes

*Share and Close

Finish in 2 hours.

Final Name of Workshop Voted on By the Committee and approved.

Grapevine/La Vina Summer Writing Retreat and

Grapevine/La Vina Winter Writing Retreat

Lara the Webhost offered to help with the Writer's Workshop so we can offer it as a Hybrid Event using the Area's Zoom account.

Next Meeting:

1) Is Vera able/willing to come to our first writer's retreat?

2) Finalize Agenda

3) Finalize Date/Time and location

4) Can we use GV funds to pay for Color Copies and Collate (30 of each) to make the packets at Staples for example?

5) Purchase Notebooks and Pens? Maybe journals with inspiring quotes on them.

6) Food and Drink