



Minutes of the Meeting
Board of Directors of Poetry Promise, Inc.
August 13, 2022

Those present included Board Members Rosa Mendoza, Chris Giunchigliani, Rodney Lee, and Bruce Isaacson. The meeting was held via Zoom,. A quorum was noted and, having been duly noticed by email, the meeting was called to order by Bruce Isaacson in his capacity as Board Chair of Poetry Promise, Inc. at approximately 12:02 p.m. Bruce noted the resignation of Board Member Jennifer Battisti. Her resignation was accepted. She continues to lead the Poetry Promise Award program. It is clear that we need additional administrative and executive and support, and Bruce was charged find that.

The Board reviewed the Minutes of the last meeting, which had been circulated in advance. Rodney moved and Bruce seconded to approve the Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Bruce reviewed his Board report, which was circulated in advance the week before the meeting. We have been awarded a Project Grant from Nevada Humanities. These funds are in and will be spent by October 31. This includes a reading by Kim Shuck, Emertitus Poet Laureate of San Francisco on October 14 at Winchester. Zoom events continue weekly in the Saturday Series, and we will be running a Hybrid Zoom and In-Person event on the second Saturday of each month. Other public readings are being supported as well, including a series at the Clark County Charleston Library, the Poetry Promise Award, and an attempt to restart the Alzheimers Poetry Project. Outside match support for federal grants may be needed and sought.

Further discussion was held about the major grant for Poets in the Schools awarded by the Clark County Outside Agency process as part of the Clark County Fiscal Recovery package. The first release of funding has been obtained and can be used for student programs in schools, community centers, libraries and other public spaces in less-advantaged Qualified Census Tracts as defined by the County. It is very, very difficult to ramp up quickly enough to use all of the funds allocated. The grant will also have specific reporting requirements for evaluations by participants and partners and for reporting to Clark County. We hired an Administrator, Isabelle Bellinghausen, to assist with the program.

Further, we have tentative approval for an additional \$150,000 from the State of Nevada's Fiscal Recovery program to support the program for two more years.

Some discussion was held about the Clark County Poet Laureate program. Poetry Promise indicated its desire to support the Poet Laureate and the program in whatever manner possible.

The financial report was provided by Bruce and reviewed by the Board. Chris moved and Rosa seconded that we accept the report. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board agreed to schedule its next meeting as a Zoom tentatively on December 3.

Rosa moved and Rodney seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried without objection and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

The above minutes are approved and submitted by the Secretary, Board Chair, and Board of Directors.

Board of Directors of Poetry Promise, Inc.

Rosa Mendoza, Board Member & Secretary

Bruce Isaacson, Chair & Treasurer

Chris Giunchigliani, Board Member

Rodney J. Lee, Board Member