

**ALBERTA ROMANCE WRITERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Saturday, January 14th, at 9:00 AM**  
**Board Agenda for January 14 Meeting**

We will be using the recurring Zoom link below for this meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89375598777?pwd=L2VkOGZaeWNxSlpWS2cvMUcyM25zQT09>

A different one has been set up for the visioning session.

1. REVIEW AGENDA
2. REVIEW MINUTES FROM Saturday, December 10, 202
3. TREASURER'S REPORT
4. OLD and CONTINUING BUSINESS
  1. Visioning session – ARWA in the future, this morning (lead, outline, etc.)
  2. Use of St. Mark's Manor – update
5. NEW BUSINESS
  1. Zoom channel challenge – secondary verification
  2. Update on Programming
  3. Anything to add...

Present in person: Tammy, Darlene and Wendy  
 By Zoom: Diana, Jessica, Bret, Rachel and Randi

1. Agenda was reviewed and no changes were noted.
2. Minutes from December meeting were reviewed. Diana moved, Jessica seconded that they we accepted.
3. Treasures Report:

Treasurers report read and accepted. Moved by Tammy, seconded Jessica  
 Visa \$21.35  
 Petty Cash \$76.15 but missed add coffee sales of \$1.60 so it now equals: \$77.75  
 GIC to cover Visa \$1,000  
 GIC \$10,095.28  
 PayPal \$217.16  
 CHQ \$10,576.39  
 Memberships 22/23                    --27 --3 unpaid  
 ??Mis payment Renew Fee \$50.54

4. New Business
  1. Diana had some response but no suggestions
    - possible need more advertising
    - possible merger with Vancouver group

2. Update on St Mark's manor
  - Because we are only using the Manor on Saturdays now Bret thinks the credit will go till about June.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Up date on programing attached.

AWRA PROGRAMMING – SPRING 2023 from Diana

### JANUARY:

Saturday 14th: Visioning Session - led by Tammy.  
Thursday 26th: Writing the Short Story – Tammy

### FEBRUARY:

Saturday 11th: Valentine Social – Tammy to run. Pot Luck and possible writing exercises. With door prizes  
Thursday 23rd: Dialogue – Victoria Chatham

### MARCH:

Saturday 11th: Outlining Your Book – Sandra Wickham  
Thursday 23rd: Creating Characters – Shaa Dickson

### APRIL:

Saturday 8th: Marketing – Mark Leslie  
Thursday 27th: Save The Cat – Diana Cranstoun. OR.... Romancing The Bea if we don't do it in February.  
Specific Beats of a Romance Story. This might be worthwhile because members or the Medical Romance writing group have been struggling writing romance.

### MAY:

Saturday 13th: Retreat? Writing Fan Fiction – Jessica. If we have a retreat, Jessica will off this workshop. If we don't have a retreat then she will give this as a regular Saturday workshop.  
Thursday 25th: Adrienne Kerr--possibly trends in publication

### JUNE:

Saturday 10th: Detective Sweet  
Thursday 22nd: AGM. Traditionally we have announced our Fall programming before this time. What if... we ask the members at this session what they would like and see who might be willing to give some workshops. Programming co-ordinator could pull it together over the summer?

- b. Zoom channel challenge – secondary verification

Bret needs to be makd a secondary contact for Zoom. David needs to be removed and Bret added.\  
Diana will send an email to David.

### C. RETREAT

Virginia and Tammy will look into it.

### D. Password #23arwa\*

Meeting adjourned at 9:50AM

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING  
HELD JANUARY 14TH, 2023

PRESENT IN PERSON: Virginia, Grace, Darlene, Tammy, Holly Owen, Wendy

BY ZOOM: Cassandra Arnold, Jessica, Diana, Randi Bret, Sue Putin, Lorainne Felberg, Sha Dixon, Del simon, Rachel Baird, Sarah Graham, Deb Draper, Ann Ranic.

APOLOGIES: Lorraine Paton

PURPOSE; A VISIONING WORKSHOP to lay out Where, If and How ARWA will continue.

Note from Secretary: As this meeting was sometimes difficult to keep up with, I apologize in advance for either missing or misinterpreting anyones comments.

Tammy Chaired the meeting from Calgary.

Tammy ---asked if there were any suggestions.

Diana--Vancouver is having the same issues. Perhaps it would be possible to merge with them.

Rachel--Younge members are needed but the board situation needs to be looked at first.

? asking too much of Board

? 1 meeting a month

? scale back

? do we need a news letter

? what are the key positions that need to be filled.

Darlene--Treasurer and Secretary need to be in Calgary

Tammy--zoom has changed how we operate.

Darlene--bylaw rules says 2 years membership is needed for board positions.

Grace---originally there was no internet so now people don't need a group to learn to write.

Del--What do we need as an organization. ?? President not necessary

ANSWER: not for profit a president isn't needed but someone has to oversee the daily running of the group.

Del--succession planning needed.

Sue--Rally to find interest if continuing. Most not interested in running as it is boring. Need more spontaneous groups. Structure and Chaos is needed.

Del--hire a programmer

GROUP ANSWER--NO

Ann-- expand to Mt Royal attendees etc.

Cassandra--Group is too expensive. Talks not feasible. Web site needs to be better so people want to come. All writing groups are struggling not just ours.

Deb--Board has too much work so no one wants to work.

Del--Need more social media activity. Hire a ceo for some organizations who reached out. Ask younger people what they want.

Rachel--the Monday and Tuesday groups are the best

Randi--Originally there was a Pathways to Publication which was a panel and critiques to help get published---corrected to help get written.

Tammy--ARWA not necessary for critique groups. She it be dissolved? Without a secretary and treasurer it can't function.

Del--it was to learn the craft. ?? bring people who don't normally have access to it. Make people want to come back. Be more creative about presentations.

Jessica--our money was from long ago and there have been no additions for years. we need to be judicious about spending.

Del--we need to use some money.

Tammy--researched for a free retreat but the covid happened so nothing was done.

What do we want to do?

Who are we?

We still need an executive.

Jessica--it is a writing group focused on the craft. we need to do what other groups aren't.

Sarah--simplifying so board work is less. People get resentful. Possible a PO Box online event rather than at St Mark's.

Grace--What we needed in the past we don't need now. Internet has killed us as it provides what we did.

Diana--has been doing programing for 10 years. Still loves it but can become stale.

Bret--instead of meetings a large gathering 3x year and sell tickets.

GROUP SAYS NO--COST WHO AND ORGANIZATION

Ann Radic\_-on other boards went to Mt Royal and paid \$300 per month for them to organize festivals

Lori--some members should be part of the Writers' Group of AB (paid by arwa) so they can list meetings. ?? join as a organization or person

Grace--there was a consortium of writers groups about 506 and it went no where as each group had its own agenda.

Tammy--everyone should post on FB to say what they want. Need to be respectful of others.

Grace--need to dissolve and remove "R" from name and form a writing group..

GROUP: Perhaps just a name change.

Tammy--deadline for March 31 for a summary of what people want.

"Do you want ARWA.....???"

Possibly critique groups & 2-3 workshops???

???.Possible meet in a library not St Marks--more central, free and attract different members.

???. how many board meetings are required a year.

???. of the 27 paid members how many were at his meeting---17 -- 1 apology

???. at December Saturday workshop how many members were present--13

Numbers not available for Thursday meetings

12:30pm many people including secretary had to leave so no other comments are available.