

NOTIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2020, in GoToMeeting

Chair: Shelley Fairweather-Vega

Board members present (online):

Yasemin Alptekin, Lindsay Bentsen, Olga Cuzmanov, Shelley Fairweather-Vega, Maria Farmer, Laura Friend, Luisa Gracia, Pinar Mertan, Melody Winkle

NOTIS members present: None

Board members absent: Adriana Gonzalez, Janet He

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

I. **Approval of agenda:** 7:02 - The agenda was approved with no changes.

II. **Approval of Minutes:** 7:08 - The minutes of the June 10 meeting were approved with minor changes.

III. **President's Remarks (Shelley):** 7:09

- a. Mary McKee has resigned as Secretary, and Laura Friend is taking her place.
- b. We will talk later about further consequences of Mary resigning. The Board is to appoint a replacement Board member.
- c. Four new video assistants have been hired and trained. Several Board members attended the online training session. We have created a new section on our website with information on the video assistant process, including FAQs and links to a sign-up sheet. (This is only for video assistants and those who are planning events.)

IV. **Vice President's Remarks (Lindsay):**

- a. Lindsay asked whether we want to continue using GoToWebinar, as we seem to be using Zoom all the time now. Board members discussed the cost of the various platforms (GoToWebinar, GoToMeeting, and Zoom), security concerns, and payment status and decided to continue the discussion through email.

V. **New Business:** 7:22

- a. Board member replacement
 - a. Shelley reminded the Board that, according to the by-laws, a member who leaves in the middle of the year shall be replaced with a new Board member for the remainder of the term.
 - b. Several current NOTIS members were suggested as possible potential board members
 - c. Shelley called for any other potential candidates, including former Board members who may now be eligible to rejoin.

- b. Gift for Mary. The Board agreed to buy Mary an Amazon gift card for \$50. Shelley volunteered to look into a card that we could all sign online.
- c. December holiday party and annual meeting.
 - a. The Board agreed to hold them this year via Zoom.
 - b. Shelley called for volunteers to polish up the meeting and the party, including entertainment. Lindsay, Pinar, Maria, Yasemin and Shelley volunteered
 - a. A possible talent show
 - b. A “Secret Santa” gift exchange
 - c. The Annual Meeting. It was suggested that we vote during the online meeting using Zoom’s “Raise Hands” feature, since we took the trouble last year to approve online voting. Members not attending the meeting could also have the option of voting using an online service, for which they would be sent an email.
 - d. It was agreed to pick a date later.
- d. 2021 conference. There is the potential of holding a big virtual event, but the Board agreed not to, since there is a glut of virtual conferences and people may be getting tired of them already. People are also quite busy.
- e. Lindsay suggested organizing a variety of small, casual get-togethers in spring. We will all think about possibilities.

VI. Regular Business

- a. **Finance Report** – Melody
 - a. We have \$73,000. We were going to open a money market account to earn some interest, but that is currently not being done.
 - b. Mary will see a banker tomorrow to remove Mary as a signer from the Wells Fargo account.
 - c. P&L: In July NOTIS brought in nearly 2K for membership and 2K for workshops. These amounts are small compared to what NOTIS had been earning pre-COVID. There is still money to spend, though.
- b. **Northwest Linguist Report**
 - a. Alicia has a newsletter ready in pdf form, which she has sent to Shelley and Maria to proofread.
- c. **Scholarship Committee Report**
 - a. Pinar gave an update
 - b. Olga and Pinar agreed that Elise has put a tremendous amount of time into this and wishes the members knew how much work is involved.
 - c. Shelley suggested they write a short piece for the newsletter to that end.
- d. **Membership Report**
 - a. Net membership was up by 4 despite difficulties people are experiencing due to the pandemic. The Board can feel good about the fact that members like NOTIS.
 - b. Luisa expressed a desire to submit the proposed amendment to the by-laws introducing term limits for members for the Board of Directors to the membership for voting. The general consensus, though, was to ask them to vote on all amendments at one time, so as not to overburden them.
- e. **Legal Division Report** – Luisa reported that:
 - a. The division has reserved 6 dates for training events that it is planning. Some might not be used.

VII. Review of Action Items

VIII. Housekeeping

- a. Review dates for next two meetings.
 - 1) Dates will be proposed on or around September 9 and October 14.

VIII. Announcements for the Good of the Society

- a. Luisa reported on a remote interpreting training held by Claudia A'Zar and Luisa Gracia. It was very successful, with 219 attendees. Luisa donated her time, and AOC made it free for everyone else.
- b. Shelley announced that she will be featured translator next Thursday at "Meet the Translator," a 6-month series at Folio. All of the translators are locals, and most or all are NOTIS members. All are welcome.
- c. Shelley announced that OSTI is holding its online conference. She encourages us all to go online and check out their programs.
- d. Yasemin just received 5 copies of the book she translated.
- e. Shelley is studying Spanish with her kids using Mango languages.
- f. Lindsay: The Guardian published a great review of a translation of Shelley's.

IX. Adjournment: 8:30 pm