

**NMTIA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 18, 2017**

Meeting Title:	Membership Meeting	President	Lisa O'Grady
Date/Time:	11/18/2017	Recording Secretary	Ruth A. Warner, standing in for Gwen Samuels
Location:	APS Rio Grande		
Distribution List:	To be posted on NMTIA website.		
Attendees:	See sign up sheet attached		

Call to Order

1:05 PM by Lisa O'Grady

1. Introduction of Meeting & Attendees:

(See sign up sheet attached)

2. Review & Approve Agenda:

The agenda was reviewed. Uwe Schroeter moved to approve and Molly McIntosh seconded the motion, which then passed.

3. Review & Approve Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes were reviewed. Margarita Montalvo moved to approve and Peter Katel seconded the motion, which then passed.

4. Treasurer's Report:

Uwe gave the Treasurer's Report stating that there was not much activity, a few renewals and expenses for snacks for the meeting. We have a balance of \$5677.46. He explained one issue with PayPal, a student member who signed up last year was surprised by the automatic renewal and contacted PayPal saying that it was unauthorized. We had already withdrawn the funds from PayPal so were temporarily overdrawn. Most people who signed up for payments online are on an automatic renewal, which is helpful for the organization, but is optional. He suggested that we remind members that their automatic renewals will mostly be coming up in December and January. We will send out a renewal reminder to members soon.

5. Old Business:

- A. **Benefits of NMTIA Membership in NAJIT and ATA:** Lisa summarized the benefits we receive for belonging to these organizations. **NAJIT:** Organizational members can designate one individual to attend NAJIT events at the member rate. Can apply for NAJIT sponsorship of one event per year, either with monetary assistance (up to \$300) or publicity through NAJIT's channels. If approved for sponsorship, we would allow a NAJIT representative to attend the event free. Membership costs us \$115/year.
ATA: We are an affiliate organization, which is free, just requires some paperwork once a year. Benefits: Free display space to promote the group and its activities at the ATA Annual Conference; listing in the ATA website; event listing in the ATA website.
- B. **Strategic Planning:** Lisa and Ruth Warner explained that we started a process to receive input from members regarding where the organization should go, that for the time being the Board is focusing on formalizing our status as an incorporated non-profit organization in the state of New Mexico, which has never been done in the past. We have been functioning as an informal nonprofit for many years. The Board will keep members apprised of this process.
- C. **ATA Exam:** Uwe announced that we hope to host a sitting for ATA examinations next spring,

probably the third Saturday in May (5/19/18). This exam could now be done on computers, in addition to of handwritten, and Uwe is looking into all the requirements. Uwe can proctor the exam, and has asked member Patrick Hubenthal to help with technical aspects, specifically regarding Apple computers. We will probably need other ATA certified translators as proctors, Ruth offered to help. Margarita may be willing as well, as long as she doesn't have to deal with technical aspects. **Preparation:** NMTIA hopes to sponsor some test preparation, perhaps a panel discussion by certified translators, perhaps preparation for the computer test. Melinda Gonzalez-Hibner mentioned that ATA has sponsored test preparations into English, in Boston, presented by ATA raters. She will find out how much it would cost to possibly provide that kind of training in NM, with the hope of pulling in other interested parties from the Southwest region.

- D. **La Cueva Career Fair:** Lou Ollivier reported on the career fair he attended on behalf of NMTIA. Member Amelia Cardena also helped at this event, which seemed to be successful.
- E. **Non-profit status update:** Dealt with under strategic planning; is moving forward.
- F. **ATA Conference report:** Uwe reported on the October ATA Conference held in Washington DC, which he attended along with at least 5 other folks from NM. Conference was well attended (1740 people) and interesting. Melinda encouraged people to join the interpreter division of ATA, which has over 4000 members. She also explained how now interpreters who are qualified can add their credentials to the ATA online directory; in the past only certified translators appeared. She encouraged people who are members to add their interpreter qualifications to the ATA directory.

6. New Business:

- A. **Board elections in January:** Lisa explained that elections will be held at our annual meeting in January and we are seeking candidates for the following positions: Vice President (this will be a one-year position to complete Dinorah Gutierrez' term, as she cannot complete her term due to family obligations); two-year terms for all of the following: President, Recording Secretary, and 2 members at large. Members are encouraged to consider nominating themselves or others.
- B. **Copyright Infringement Issue:** Lisa explained that we were contacted by a copyright attorney from the state of Virginia who informed us that a photograph posted on our website was copyrighted and was being used without authorization. The letter demanded that we pay a penalty of \$4000. The Board has been dealing with this for the past 2 weeks, and the attorney has now made a counter-demand of \$1000. She reported that the Board will likely settle the case for this amount, but hopes to recover the full amount from the web designer, Kelley O'Mara, who fully acknowledged her responsibility in this error. The Board is willing to receive repayment from her in in-kind web support services. The Board will keep membership apprised of this case.
- C. **Holiday Potluck:** Will be held at Lisa's house, 2610 Candelaria Rd NW, Abq 87107 on December 9, 2017 from 5 to 9 pm. Volunteers are needed for set up, she may also need to borrow chairs and tables. Molly and Ruth offered to help with clean up.

7. Announcements

Margarita Montalvo: Is selling copies of her award-winning children's book to raise funds for aid to Puerto Rico, \$10/copy.

Adjournment: 1:57 PM (Peter moved/Ruth seconded) ~ Next Meeting: Holiday potluck 12/9/17

Followed by 2-hour ethics training presented by Melinda Gonzalez-Hibner.