

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
OF  
RWA CHAPTER: YOSEMITE ROMANCE WRITERS**

May 16, 2009

(10:00 a.m. - Marie Callendar's (Shaw & Brawley - Fresno, CA)

1. *Opening*

- a. Call to Order (President/Vice President)

***Meeting was called to order by President, Dawna Richard @ 10:52 a.m.***

2. *Reading of minutes of last meeting (Secretary)*

***Reading of the minutes was waived. Minutes will be submitted on website only for review by general membership.***

3. *Correspondence*

***Dianna Love Contest - Break Into Fiction***

***All members should enter - Not only will there be individual winners but Chapter winners as well. Go to <http://www.breakintofiction.com/> for more info.***

4. *Reports*

- a. **Increase membership/renewal dues**

**Proposal: Raise annual renewal/membership dues to \$50.00; Motion made by Di Tarhalla and seconded by Donna O'Brien. Proposal went to vote - Majority of Ayes cast in favor of increase. Before Nay vote could be taken discussion ensued re amount and feasibility of charging so much more for renewal/membership fees.**

**The consensus of the online discussions with members is that it would be easier to come up with a higher annual fee than raise the monthly meeting dues. (As it stands now, monthly dues barely cover expense of room and meals.) Discussion about whether we need to compensate speakers. In order to attract and secure quality speakers, compensation is necessary and expected. Have stayed with in-state authors in order to keep fees down but would eventually like to draw others; Need to form committees to budget these items - Main responsibility has fallen to Sandy & Dawna; Will be submitting workshop ideas; Fiscal year is January to December; RWA renewal is a year from whenever you first joined. ; Membership increase will take effect for all new members within thirty days. Current members will pay increased fee upon annual renewal.**

**Proposal still on the table; Nay vote called - no opposed; 1 undecided.**

**Motion carried.**

**b. Take increase of meeting fee off table - Meeting increase taken off agenda as annual fees membership fees were raised to cover meeting expenses and speaker fees.**

5. *Business*

New business

**1. New Members – Nannette & Lisa**

**Nanette Potter - (The infamous Nannette Potter) Writes Mystery/Romance - sold short romances to True Love;**

**Lisa Duncan from Porterville - Teacher, currently working 2 contemporary romances.**

**Visitor: Lois Hauck reader not a writer - "Write 'em so I can read 'em"**

**2. Author/Publisher chats**

**Had first publisher chat online - Dianna Love, Jessica Anderson and Sandy Blair have all signed on to participate in chats as well. Sarah's working on 2 other publishers; If anyone has a publisher requests, let Sarah know so she can contact them. (If members don't want to receive e-mails from loop when Chats take place, you can opt in yahoo {Edit Membership} to not receive e-mails that day or choose digest - home page)**

**3. Newsletter Articles**

**Newsletter articles - Articles are needed. SEND TO DI (She needs "stuff, big time.") June suggested we could also recommend, not just books to read but "help" books; Other newsletter items: Contests; Gripes; Group questions for meetings; etc.**

**RWA Newsletter contest - Was judged in print format - not web-based format. Only two print format - KOD only final. There were many that were submitted only on web-based form which weren't judged. Our version was submitted in web-format.**

**1. Workshops; Announce**

**June 20 meeting – Linda Wisdom Randall – writing paranormals (Sandy's birthday.)**

**EXCITING NEWS:**

**MaryLou - Got a phone call from New York - Want to option her book, *A Handful of Sand*, for film or Telemundo or Univision; KUDOS Marylou!!!!**

- Meeting adjourned at 11:29 p.m.; Speaker and lunch followed
- Minutes submitted by Secretary, Donna O'Brien.

/s/ Donna K. O'Brien\_\_\_\_\_

Donna K. O'Brien, Secretary