

Friends of Lorine Niedecker
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, October 18, 2021, 6:00-7:00 via Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Ann Engelman, Steel Wagstaff, Jeremiah Beitzel, Karl Gartung, Laura Solomon, Chuck Stebelton, Ronnie Hess

1. Call to order – the meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.
2. Approval of minutes from September 20, 2021 – approved unanimously (Hess, Solomon)
3. Welcome and introductions of new Board members: Jeremiah Beitzel, Fort Atkinson introduced himself to the group. David Pavelich was unable to attend this meeting.
4. Updates:
 - a. New Board Members – Richard Meier has agreed to join. Rita Mae Reese and Jeffrey Leppendorf are currently being contacted. Update at the next meeting.
 - b. Write On Door County partnership – Ronnie described the fellowship residency proposed as a joint project between the Friends of Lorine Niedecker and Write on Door County. This would be a two week fellowship-one week in Door County and another in Fort Atkinson that is hoped to take place every other year beginning in October of 2023. The total cost of this fellowship is \$3000; \$1000 will be provided in-kind by Write On Door County, \$1000 will be provided by Ronnie and \$1000 is proposed to be provided by the Friends of Lorine Niedecker. Ronnie will share her proposal with the rest of the board members and we will plan to vote on this proposal at the November meeting.
5. Board Member Discussion –
 - a. List of Funders for ED position – So far the potential identified funders for an Executive Director position include NEA (grant already submitted), Poetry Foundation, General Federation of Women’s Clubs (Wisconsin’s Own Library) and the Earl & Eugenia Quirk Foundation. Chuck suggested we may wish to contact donors to the Hoard Museum expansion (2008?) listed under the category Friends of Lorine Niedecker. (Note: these groups/individuals are listed under that category because of the amount they gave, the various levels of donations were given different titles. We should probably ask the amount attached to the FOLN group, we may want to go to bigger donors.) Chuck also suggested the Chipstone Foundation.
 - b. Are we ready for a budget to review salary/benefits, financial plan, drafting a two year budget? - We determined that we need a budget before developing a fundraising plan. Laura will send an outline of the budget categories used by Woodland Pattern.

Laura and Chuck volunteered to be part of a Budget Development Committee. We need someone to chair this committee.

- c. Comparable salary and compensation for ED position – Amy contacted Louise Kennedy, Executive Director of the Laura Riding Jackson Foundation. She has generously shared her salary/benefits information. Amy will forward that info to the rest of the board. Amy and Jeremiah will mine the data about nonprofits available for free on the web to get a range of salary/health insurance provided to Executive Directors.

6. Adjourn – the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Next meetings - third Monday of the month:

Monday, November 15, 6:00

Monday December 20, 6:00

Monday, January 17, 6:00

Monday, February 17, 6:00