

## NOVEMBER 14, 2006 EXCOM DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at Pancho's Restaurant at 5:40 PM by LocSec Ben Burgess. ExCom members Ben Burgess, Dave Shiffman, Aimee Sufka, Greg Childers and Sherry Mars were present. Mensans Trisha Nelson, Susan Hinson, Jami Francis, Dolyn Norris, David Stowell, Ed Raper, Rich Olcott, Whitney Hartman, Neville Mayfield, and Michael Heidingsfield, our guest speaker, were present. Robert (Dax) Wade, our newest member, Sam Couch, Gary Wagoner, and Mike Deming joined us later. Marilyn Shiffman and Beverly Wagoner accompanied their spouses.

Ben moved to adopt the agenda as circulated before the meeting, and to adopt a 5- minute discussion limit. (Approved 5-0)

### AGENDA (Condensed)

1. Adopt agenda and discussion limit.
2. Confirm the full Election Committee.
3. Read and approve October minutes.
4. Approve printing of November SPS meeting notes.
5. Approve November SPS meeting expenses.
6. Approve expense allocation method for Jonesboro and Jackson/Toone events
7. Approve the newsletter serialized fiction contest and prizes
8. Announce all candidates for the ExCom, and announce that candidacy petitions may be submitted until the December newsletter deadline.
9. Reschedule November FSM to Tuesday, 11/28.
10. Announce that the Bylaws Committee will present their proposal to the new ExCom, early next year if re-appointed.
11. Discussion of printer acquisition.
12. Discussion of the election rules standing order.
13. Proposal to combine the positions of Membership and Publicity, effective with appointment of a new Membership chair.
14. Proposal to appoint a North Mississippi Area Coordinator.
15. New business, as time permits.

Ben moved to appoint all members of the Nominating Committee (Chairman Ed Raper, members Rich Olcott and Ann Ray.) to serve as the Election Committee. (Approved 5-0)

Shiffman read and moved to adopt the October minutes. (Approved 5-0)

Shiffman moved to approve printing of the November SPS meeting notes. After discussion, it was decided that this is solely at the discretion of the editor, and no vote was taken.

Aimee moved to approve \$64.32 expense for the working lunch at the November SPS. (Approved 5-0)

Shiffman requested approval of allocating proportionate expense reimbursements for the Jonesboro and Jackson/Toone events. We had budgeted \$120 for each event, but Jonesboro was significantly over budget, although much of the excess was then used at the Jackson/Toone event. The excess was allocated by attendance (1/3 of shared items) and the Jonesboro reimbursement limited to \$120, plus a share of the cost of the Jackson event, for a total of \$173.88. The remainder of the Jackson cost, reduced by the same percentage to \$40.05, was reimbursed to Shiffman. (Approved 5-0)

Greg requested approval for a serialized fiction contest and prizes for next year. Prizes would be small gift certificates (\$10) for the best submission for each chapter. (Tabled by Ben.)

Re-announced the rescheduling the next FSM away from Wednesday before Thanksgiving to Tuesday, 11/28.

Announced that the Bylaws Committee will not present their proposed revision this year, but if re-appointed, will present it next year, to the new ExCom.

Ed Raper asked to discuss the new standing order regarding election procedures. His questions: What is the specific cutoff time for accepting ballots? And what is the effect of a write-in vote that is invalid due to

misspelling or other trivial error, or a false assumption of membership? Ben moved to strike the entire Standing Order, but there was no second and no vote called. In further discussion we determined that the bylaws specified that the Election Committee was responsible for determining if a ballot contained "frivolous or inflammatory markings" or "None of the above" which, according to the current bylaws could invalidate the ballot, while an indeterminable mark or name would simply not be tallied. Ben restated his motion to strike the entire Standing Order. (Defeated, 2-2-1; Ben and Sherry, Aye; Shiffman and Greg, No; Aimee, abstain)

As requested, the ExCom opened a discussion about our acquisition of the 8550 printer. In response to the questions received, a handout with the questions asked - along with answers - was provided, and Shiffman's spreadsheet with usage and cash flow estimates was posted as a file on the Yahoo Forum.

Ben presented Greg's proposal to combine the positions of Membership and Publicity, then tabled it without a vote.

The question of appointing a North Mississippi Area Coordinator was mentioned, without action.

The meeting was adjourned about 6:40 PM.