

The Press Club of Metropolitan St. Louis

Next Board Meeting: Monday, November 18

Minutes of October 21 Board Meeting

8888 Ladue Rd, Conference Room 250

Attending: Joan Lee Berkman, Jessica Brown, Bob Cohn, Amanda Cook, Suzanne Corbett, Tom Eschen, Cynthia Kagan Frohlichstein, Richard Gavatin, Margie Gillerman, Alice Handelman, Betty Kagan, Tom Keller, Ben Lipman, Carol Lundgren, Thomas Keller, Kent Martin, Matt Murphy, Pam Niehaus, Charlotte Petty, Gloria Ross, Barbara Shuman, Bill Smith, Ellen Soule, Rick Stoff, Dick Weiss, Patty Wente, and Executive Director, Glenda Partlow

Also members: Katy Gurley and Eric Butler

The meeting was called to order at 12:01.

Katy Gurley and Eric Butler presented the video trailer for the Martin Quigley documentary they will be producing over the next 9 to 10 months and requested funding of \$5,000. Gurley explained that she will be donating her time in developing the script, as will Kay Bezelli who will edit. Butler will be the videographer and a broadcast student will narrate.

President's Welcome: New board member Kent Martin was welcomed and gave a brief description of his background.

Minutes from the September meeting were approved after a motion by Bob Cohn and seconded by Patty Wente.

Financial Report was distributed and discussed. Commerce Checking Balance September 30 was \$6,950. The value of all assets was \$131,100.

Media Person of the Year

MPOY chair Bill Greenblatt was unable to attend today due to photo assignment.

Copies of the list of persons who have received a MPOY solicitation letter were distributed along with the current status of commitments (paid and promised). Great concern was expressed about the few commitments received to date.

Partlow requested that board members indicate who they will be contacting with a personal call requesting sponsorship of this event.

Berkman emphasized that we must secure commitments between now and Thanksgiving as during the December holiday season, decisions are not made.

Partlow said Steve Edwards will be completing the caricature of Rick Hummel for the invitation cover.

Partlow asked board members to forward to her the address lists of persons to whom we can send invitations. Membership directories of organizations will be used for the invitation mailing and kept confidential. She needs these lists before mid-November.

Catfish Award Nominations

Smith requested that all nominations for the Catfish award be emailed to him in order to determine the most requested candidate for this honor which will be given at the Annual Meeting on December 12 at The Highlands in Forest Park.

Office Move

Partlow reported that thanks to a request made by Alice Handelman, Michael Staenberg of THF Realty and Staenberg Group is donating office space for the Press Club at his office building at 2127 Innerbelt Business Center Drive in Overland (just west of 170 off Page). The move will be on October 31.

Nominating Report:

Alice Handelman reported that Matt Murphy has agreed to assume the position of VP Publicity. Gloria Ross will assist.

Programming Reports:

October 30: Bill McClellan will be the Press Club Gatesworth Speaker;

Nov. 26: Barbara Shuman will be the speaker.

Nov. 2: Richard Gavatin reported that the fifth annual Social Media Workshop has been rescheduled due to illnesses of both presenters. The new date is Nov. 2 and will be at Webster University library. Seats remain and reservations are requested by Monday October 28..

Nov. 15: Press Club Media Literacy Forum will be at noon in the Blackbox theater of Ladue Horton Watkins High School. The topic will be: "Is Modern Media Making us Stupid?" She is arranging for 8 speakers to present.

December 12: Annual Meeting at 6 p.m. at The Highlands of Forest Park

Media Archives:

Rick Stoff and Gloria Ross met with Sarah Cain and Amanda Bahr-Evola of the St. Louis Public Library earlier this month. Minutes from that meeting were distributed. Discussion topics included: listening area, what's in the archives, donations, what's hot, research papers, spring program and follow-up.

New Business: Proposal by Dick Weiss

Weiss requested the Press Club to be the 501 (c3) for a crowd-funding appeal he is making to help a recent SLU graduate who is doing a research article about where the students are now who had been in her fifth grade class at Sherman Elementary School in the St. Louis Public School district that Weiss had mentored, monitored, and written Post-Dispatch articles about as part of the support by Richard Barron to their school. He said he would do all of the work involved in the donation campaign -- solicitation, banking and thanking to minimize administrative work -- in order to provide funding for her time in researching and writing the article. Interest to publicize it has been expressed by the St. Louis Beacon, St. Louis Post-Dispatch and a potential documentary at Channel 9.

After discussion, a motion was made by Weiss, seconded by Gloria Ross and approved by the board to allow Press Club to be the 501 (C3) project sponsor.

Respectfully submitted,
William Greenblatt, Secretary

Prepared by Glenda Partlow