

NOTIS Board Meeting
September 8, 2021, 6:00 p.m. PST
online meeting
Chair: Shelley Fairweather-Vega

Board members present (online): Shelley Fairweather-Vega - President, Laura Friend -Vice President, Melody Winkle - Treasurer, Yasemin Alptekin - Secretary, Zakiya Hanafi, Olga Cuzmanov, Pinar Mertan, and Yvonne Simpson (for CID)

Absent: Alma Lopez, Tarja Sahlstén

Call to order at 6:00

Approval of Agenda: Approved

Approval of Minutes: July meeting minutes were approved

President's Remarks: No remarks from President.

Vice-President Remarks: Vice President is busy with Nominating committee. Laura encouraged those interested in joining the committee. A couple of people already expressed interest in running for the vacant member posts.

New Business:

Discuss online storage options

Dropbox: The Board discussed online storage options to improve the use of Dropbox or transitioning to a different online storage solution. Melody remarked that the board has 2 GB available. Unlimited storage is not an immediate urgency. The Board can decide what kind of files to keep by outside speakers.

WildApricot: NOTIS has 2 GB. Only 20% is being used.

Microsoft office 360: 1 terra byte is available.

Onedrive: The Office Manager has access to it.

Maria Lucas suggested to delete some of the old stuff and store recent things in Google drive, which has 15 GB storage, Naomi has CID stuff on in one of the accounts. It costs \$132 per person if Dropbox is upgraded.

Board members agreed on following Melody's and Maria's idea first and then look for other ways for storage. Videos are the first to delete to save space.

Melody is going to look into file management systems to see how to save more storage.

Update on plans for online Career Day

Plans for the career day: Saturday, Oct 2nd is the day. It is the biggest event of the year. Yulia and Laura are working on it. Board members are asked to encourage all those Interpreting and Translation agencies to join the career days.

Members were asked to just reach out and do the pep talk and promote the event.

More exhibitors are needed in order to attract more members.

Naomi will be asked to hire a couple of people for the day for technical support.

Discuss plans for Annual Meeting

Plans for annual meeting: The Board approved an online event this year too. Pinar did a good job last year with entertainment. The Board will have an agenda first as mandated by the WA state law, and then the entertainment. The Board will elect the new members by acclamation and then there will be some games and karaoke. Olga, Pinar and Yasemin volunteered for organizing the event.

Update from Nominations Committee

A report from each division is requested as an annual report before Thanksgiving for proofreading and assembling them. Brianna is going to make a newsletter for the annual meeting. Timeline for the nomination committee is set up by VP-Laura.

How many people to recruit: The Board has nine people, Olga is leaving, and so are Shelley and Melody! The Board will have a vacancy for Treasurer.

Annual meeting is December 11, and nominations should be announced 4 weeks in advance, that is mid-November, people should make their commitments.

Bios, and recent photos are required for the candidates.

Candidates will be sought through recommendations. Several names were mentioned as strong candidates.

Regular Business

Membership Report

NOTIS dropped 4 members, individuals. Students picked up a little. NOTIS is still above that magic number 600.

Finance Reports

The total in the accounts is \$ 78 K + including the vanguard account. 700 dollars more from 25K investment.

2 statements of activities Aug. and January are in the Dropbox.

The vanguard account lost some in August but year to date looks good.

Year to date : \$ 20 K in membership

\$26 K for workshops—almost all from CID trainings.

The budget is 9K over year to date.

CID Report:

Yvonne reported on past and upcoming CID trainings. CID is setting a yearly calendar. This way there won't be any holes in the schedule.

Legal Division Report

No official report but Laura and Maria talked about the letter that NOTIS sent to the Washington State Interpreters Commission.

Updates not covered by formal reports

Scholarship Committee:

Pinar reported the announcement was done on September 7th. Scholarships are on the home page of NOTIS. Organizing a training session for scholarship is suggested.

The scholarship amounts are:

\$150 for

\$ 45 for students

\$ 105 for non members

Deadline for application is September 27th

Scholarship grantees will be announced on October 4th

The scholarship committee needs some more members.

Report on August Picnic:

Ex-board members were not there. It lasted for 3 hours. The venue was great, so was the food, the weather was great. The picnic goers expressed their appreciation for the organizers and the participation was satisfactory.

Housekeeping

Next Board meeting will start half an hour later at 6:30 pm on October 13th

Annual meeting is Dec 11th.

Announcements for the Good of the Society:

Afghan settlement: Turkcha—a charity for immigrant women, is holding an event for Afghani people. A lot of Afghani people are settled around Tacoma and Seattle area. It might be worth to find out about those organizations helping the Afghanis so that they know about NOTIS. In case they need any linguistic help—NOTIS can do a good deed.

Adjournment: 7:38 pm adjourned.