

Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature
Annual Business Meeting
Saturday, May 15, 2010

The business meeting was called to order.

The membership elected Nancy Bunge as Vice President/President Elect and LiLanne Musselman and Mark Fields as members of the SSML Executive Council. All were approved by acclamation.

The membership approved the SSML Web Master as an ex officio member of the SSML Executive Council, attending its meetings.

The membership agreed to limit submissions for the SSML conference prize to 15 pages and 3,750 words maximum. These limits accord with the maximum length of papers that can be presented effectively at SSML sessions and avoid situations where very lengthy prize papers reduce the space available for essays recommended for publication in SSML journals by the Publications Committee.

The members also agreed that only one winner per SSML prize contest will receive automatic publication in SSML journals. The rationale is that having co-winners or honorable mention submissions limit the number of pages available to essays recommended for publication by the SSML Publications Committee.

The Executive Council reported to the membership that there had been an expression of interest in having non-SSML sponsored social events for interested people on Friday evenings following the conclusion of the Friday SSML Officer and Executive Council meeting. While participation is completely an individual decision, a site will be publicized in conjunction with the 2011 program.

The membership thanked Mary Obuchowski for her many years of exemplary work as SSML Conference Program Chair.

Phil Greasley reported that the manuscript for volume two of the *Dictionary of Midwestern Literature* should be completed near the end of calendar 2010.

The Society is seeking a photographer/archivist as well as someone to recommend policy regarding what SSML should keep and how best to manage that. Robert Beasecker recommended that MSU Archives personnel be consulted. Roger Bresnahan agreed to explore that possibility.

Roger Bresnahan indicated that the Society will need to look into the future home of the Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature, at MSU or elsewhere. Roger reported that although SSML is not a part of MSU, there is a financial relationship, including a revolving account. The MSU mail office will also mail SSML materials.

The Executive Council has authorized Sara Kosiba to coordinate with the summer 2012 International Hemingway Conference to be held in Petoskey, Michigan. Sara and Marilyn Atlas will seek a joint session at MLA, January 6-9, 2011.

Marilyn Atlas told SSML members that they must be MLA or MMLA members, or be willing to join by specified deadlines, in order to participate in panels at MLA and MMLA conferences.

Phil Greasley reported that the Voelker Foundation holds a meeting every June in Marquette, Michigan. If there is interest by our membership, it may be possible to do some Voelker-related papers in conjunction with the Foundation meeting.

President Lawrence Moe thanked Peggy Rozga for her service as SSML President and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Greasley
Recording Secretary