

SPJ Georgia Board Meeting Agenda

Saturday Dec. 9 at 6 p.m. at Taco Mac (Lindbergh)

Holiday mixer starts at 7 p.m.

Old Business

November minutes to approve (Emailed)

New Business

- Treasurer report: annual audit complete and signed off by Haisten Willis, Mark Woolsey, Danielle Douez and Adina Solomon
- Freelance committee report: Haisten; grant money for January photography workshop applied for by committee
- Committees for 2018:

Social committee: Bobby Rodrigo and Kimeko McCoy (soon to join) are interested in serving on this committee in 2018. Hopefully one more volunteer would round out this committee and meet in January to discuss goals, measuring and improving engagement and reach. **We need a website manager** so maybe someone on this committee could pick up the task of regular website maintenance and posting of web content created for SPJGeorgia.com.

Diversity committee: Larry Johnson will chair this committee and plan for an event in the second half of 2018

Bylaws committee: Jay Suber will chair and work with one or two others to review and update existing Bylaws for a membership vote in December (probably best to time it with regular election)

Student development committee: David Armstrong will work to bridge his roles with KSU and Georgia News Lab to get students involved with SPJ. Toni Stauffer will help on this committee, too. Hopefully, students can help with event photography/video and writing reviews for SPJGeorgia.com as well as write member features and develop content for website that chapter members would help edit. We could even seek to have students create the newsletter for members. AABJ has a quarterly PDF newsletter created by members; we could give students resume-building experience in a similar fashion.

Freelance committee: Adina Solomon has agreed to chair this committee and hopefully members Karen Huppertz, Stell Simonton, Katja Ridderbusch and others will continue their involvement and planning freelance job fair.

Membership committee: Ellen Eldridge will continue managing the mailing lists via mailchimp and take responsibility for the newsletter distribution. She will report to the board at regular meetings about engagement and growth from our email marketing efforts. Additionally, Ellen will monitor and

welcome new members, remind members about dues and reach out to potential members.

Professional development/programming: We don't have a chair for this recommended committee

FOIA committee: This is a recommended committee for which we have no identified volunteers.

Brainstorm 2018 events:

- Freelance photography workshop in January
- Media Day with students at Harrison High School in February
- Freelance job fair in May
- Podcasting workshop TBD
- Wikipedia-edit-athon with theme along the lines of "Atlanta Women" or "Women in the South" From Danielle: I thought it could be super fun and valuable to host a similar event that could not just help Wikipedia be more equitable and a accurate source of information, but also facilitate a discussion about what kind of challenges Wikipedia represents, and best practices for using/shaping it as journalists. With my connection to faculty at colleges and universities through The Conversation, I thought it would be cool to get some scholars in the room as well -- maybe partner a journalist with a professor to work on a page. I can talk to my people at The Conversation about possibility of co-hosting or sponsoring. Center for Civic Innovation and/or General Assembly also come to mind as helpful partners.
- Something (daylong mini conference if possible) in Savannah or Athens. We have a handful of Chapter members in that area that would hopefully work together on this. Lou Phelps, Betsy Bean (Athens), Keith Herndon (Athens), Lanie Peterson (Sav), Andrew Davis (Sav), Phelps Hawkins (Sav), Michael Johnson (Sav)
- Workshop(s) designed to teach useable skills, such as how to make graphics for stories. Something that can be taught in no more than an hour over light refreshments allows for networking and professional development.
- Something PR oriented (Ask Stephany Fisher, who is a chapter member, to host event about going from news to PR; she is the PIO for MARTA now); also, Barbara Myers is in marketing/PR (maybe they would even help with a social media committee and attract new members)
- Work more with AABJ and AAJA (Carol Gantt is on AABJ Board and Willoughby is AAJA president or past president). Good opportunity for a diversity committee event – Larry Johnson may Chair this committee and work on an event in 2018. Sierra Hubbard would make a good choice for this committee as she's been contributing to Cobb County Courier.
- Ellen is working on partnering on an event/workshop with AHCJ. Many of their members are our members, including Ellen.
- Something about starting/running a business in publishing? Could invite help from Betsy Bean or Dan Whisenhunt. Many of our members and potential members run their own publishing businesses. Lou has also

expressed there is a need for more journalism and advocacy in coastal Georgia.

- Other ideas?

DISCUSS calendar for board meetings: How often and when does the new board want to meet?

Adjourn