

SPJ Georgia Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, March 8, 8-9 p.m., via conference call

Old Business

February minutes to approve

New Business

- **Treasurer report:** Danielle Douez will present our most recent bank statement to the board.
- **Freelance committee report:** Report from committee chair Adina Solomon:

SPJ Georgia Freelance Committee's February Meeting Recap

Everyone, make sure to keep contacting editors for the job fair.

Space at WSB isn't available for the freelance job fair on May 5. Still waiting on an answer from the AJC. Ellen advised seeking backup locations.

Details for a potential space: Main room that can fit 60 attendees; a breakout room that can be smaller; a cafeteria/place for people to eat lunch; a small space for taking headshots; parking

Some venue ideas

Rush Center – Stell will contact them

Elevator Factory – Mark will contact them/get info

Strongbox – Stell will contact them

Start figuring out learning sessions/classes for freelance job fair.

Keith Herndon, a University of Georgia professor who teaches entrepreneurial journalism and works on the Independent Resource Journalist Coalition, offered to do a business planning session, 7 things that you need to consider before you go into business for yourself

Social media expert Al Smith – Mark will ask him

CPA – Haisten, could you book him?

Keith Herndon – Adina will say yes to him

Ask a freelancer – a breakout table that will be manned by Haisten, Stell, and Adina taking turns

Photographer Brook Hewitt offered to do free headshots for the first five people to sign up. After that, headshots cost \$20 per person. Ideally, headshots will be booked at time of registration so everything can be scheduled ahead of time.

Haisten inquired what a flat fee would be if the chapter paid. It would be \$500

The committee decided not to go the flat fee route, instead opting to have people pay \$20 themselves.

Karen said she could get some gift cards for a raffle at the job fair. Thanks!

Karen, could you also get gift cards for participating editors?

Mark also got gift cards last year, so he will see who he got gift cards from and contact them for more.

For the job fair, make sure to have a schedule online and on a poster at the event

Adina went over phone conversation that she had with Keith Herndon from the Independent Resource Journalist Coalition

IRJC is interested in holding training, so SPJ should keep them in mind for those sorts of opportunities.

On April 5 at 1-3 p.m., they're having a training at the University of Georgia's Gwinnett campus.

This will be focused on legal issues, including liability issues and why freelancers need to consider liability insurance, contract issues, and giving up your rights

Next committee meeting will be Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Starbucks, 3330 Piedmont Rd NE

Next freelancer lunch will be Thursday, March 8 at noon at Cafe Lily, 308 W Ponce de Leon Ave, Decatur

Social media committee: The committee is meeting via conference call on Friday, March 9 at 10 am.

Diversity committee: Larry Johnson will chair this committee and plan for an event, potentially another edition of 2017's Media and the Muslim Community to be held in September or October ahead of the 2018 elections.

Bylaws committee: Jay Suber will chair and work with one or two others to review and update existing Bylaws.

Press Release/Board Statement policy: Discussion and potential vote on a non-binding guideline for the chapter to craft statements in response to news events involving journalists, which will be distributed to media outlets.

SPJ Region 3 conference: Will be held Saturday, March 24, in Charleston, South Carolina. Board member Toni Stauffer would like to attend and has inquired about having the board reimburse some expenses.

Discussion of Board ideas: In January each board member presented ideas for SPJ Georgia events and initiatives during 2018. The board will continue to discuss implementing those ideas. Ideas presented were as follows:

Haisten Willis: Willis aims to centralize and organize the chapter's affairs, especially in the digital space. Also aims to streamline process of creating and disseminating chapter press releases. **UPDATE:** Willis has set up a LastPass account with usernames and passwords for SPJ Georgia's social media, website and bank account passwords.

Ellen Eldridge: Ellen would like to organize a podcasting workshop, working with GPB Director of Podcasting Sean Powers and possibly with someone involved with AJC's podcasting efforts. They haven't discussed dates yet but no sooner than April.

Mark Woolsey: A campaign to increase membership and an event where the chapter invites prospective members, with refreshments included.

Lou Phelps: Teaming with SPJ Florida for the Green Eyeshade Awards as a way to increase engagement and chapter revenue. Also, seeking out potential corporate sponsors or partners.

David Armstrong: Armstrong would like to focus on connecting the chapter with potential student members. An idea discussed with the board is partnering with existing job fairs. **UPDATE:** We are looking for job fairs to partner with.

Toni Stauffer: Would like to have SPJ Georgia set up a table at college job fairs. Chapter members could take turns manning the tables at different events.

Danielle Douez: Idea to plan a Wikipedia edit-a-thon with a journalism connection, potentially in concert with Atlanta's tech community. This would also serve as a networking event.

Adjourn