## IFWA MEETING Thursday, March 7, 2024, 7:00 PM ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

## **Information Items:**

**New Members:** Liberty Charissage (from Lethbridge – writes speculative fiction – mostly horror – first novel written – looking for beta readers).

Attendance: 34

Time	Topic	Person
7:00 PM	<ul> <li>Discuss / Decide</li> <li>New Meeting Place – Discussion and Decision – ZOOM POLL VOTE – Sunalta 28/36 (78%), Hillhurst 4/36 (11%), Scenic Acres 4/36 (11%)</li> </ul>	Michael
7:30 PM	Crits for March, 2024     Crit 1: Ed Wilson (middle chapter of composite book—speculative fiction) - Critiquers: Steve Swanson, Selene O'Rourke – MOVED TO APRIL     Crit 2: Ryan Sekula (WIP High Fantasy chapter 1) Critiquers: Chris Carolan, Julian Quaglia	Selene O'Rourke
	Crits for April, 2024  Crit 1: Ed Wilson (middle chapter of composite book—speculative fiction) - Critiquers: Steve Swanson, Selene O'Rourke (MOVED FROM MARCH)  Crit 2: Jeanette Dover (Ch 1 of YA Novel – Critiquers: Val King and Gail Barrington	
8:00 PM	Skills Session  Craig DiLouie – Confessions of a Mid-Lister	Craig DiLouie
8:30 PM	Call for Agenda Items  •	Michael
8:35 PM	Susan: will be Writer in Residence at AWC retreat in June     Rick Overwater: Submitted Short Story twice now and after 10 years of slogging, finally applied at guest table at Comic Expo in Calgary and Edmoton     Ed Wilson: RadCon – did 10 panels and 2 presentations and is going to NorWesCon	Michael

Time	Topic	Person
	Michael – went to Rainforest Writer's Retreat where finished editing half a novel and networked with a ton of cool publishers, editors and writers	
8:55 PM	<ul> <li>Ed Wilson is going to Seattle for Norwescon (March 28-31). If someone wants to attend Norwescon and get a lift for 'share of gas' then let me know and we'll set it up. Mind I'm getting to Seattle a day early as I have a friend to visit.</li> <li>July 8-11, 2024, Summer Writing Retreat: W.O Mitchell Centre, about 30 km NW of Cochrane (https://www.ursaretreatcentre.com). Monday arrival after 09:00 and Thursday departure following breakfast for three full days of writing. This is an ideal environment for creativity among fellow writers with each day culminating around a covered fire pit. We have exclusive facility use for \$130 / day including breakfast, lunch, and dinner. A deposit of \$195 is required for booking confirmation. There is an attendance limit of 16. Please contact Michael Gillett for a detailed information bulletin.</li> <li>Wordbridge in Lethbridge is coming up April 13-14, 2024. Could be a good time.</li> <li>Aurora Awards are now open for Nominations – Nominations closes April 6, 2024</li> </ul>	
	<u>Calls for Submissions</u>	

Next Meeting: April 4, 2024

**Skills Session:** Randall Thomas – Opening Lines Through the Ages

If you have a Presentation you would like to give at an IFWA Meeting, please contact our Skills Session guru, Glen Brown:  $\underline{glenezbrown@gmail.com}$