

Sidewalk Poetry Report

March 12, 2018 Meeting

The Sidewalk Poetry season is approaching its busiest time of the season. Submissions were due on February 28th. Based on the number of envelopes submitted to the Library, it appears as though we have had another good response from local poets. I am meeting with Bill North of the Friends and Foundation of the Library on March 10th to review the submissions for adherence to the length/width rules and residency requirements. Next, I will be printing sets of the poems to deliver to our five judges. As was announced at a recent ACC meeting, this year the judges will be selecting “up to five” winning poems, rather than “up to ten,” as has been the case in previous years.

The judging panel is scheduled to meet on March 27th. The press release announcing the 2018 winners will be ready for publication in time for the start of National Poetry Month in April. The poets are scheduled as guests on Paula Granquist’s ArtZany! Radio show later in April.

I want to recognize the Northfield Library and Director Teresa Jensen for their enhanced partnership in this year’s program. They have supported us in a wide variety of ways over the eight years of the contest. This year, in the absence of SEMAC funding, they have supported the marketing efforts by copying the posters and brochures. In addition, Library staff members Kathy Rush Vizina and Steven Maus updated and enhanced the design of the poster and brochure. The Library’s willingness to provide the support necessary to continue the project is greatly appreciated and duly recognized.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Jean Flom