

Potomac Fiber Arts Guild (PFAG) – Board Meeting – January 31, 2016

Attending: Margaret Fisher (President), Esther Asaki (Secretary), Gayle Roehm (Treasurer), Cathy Irish (Membership), Carla Gladstone (Librarian)

Also Attending: Diane Mularz (Conant grant), Clara Graves (Study Groups)

Absent Board Members: Lisa Walsh (Vice-president/Programs), Priscilla Stultz (PFAG Gallery chair), Jackie Lewis (Newsletter), Fran Levin (Outreach)

Meeting called to order at 1:05 by Margaret Fisher at Gayle Roehm's house.

Topics of discussion, reports, and decisions made as follows:

1) Margaret made several announcements

- Bethany Cecere is setting up the PFAG Facebook page. Helen Blumen will be the manager of the Facebook page.
- Asked if a nominating committee should be convened if current officers and committee members agree to stay on. Janet Stollnitz will be consulted.
- Lisa Walsh asked if the Guild has a minimum size of a workshop before canceling. Gayle indicated that it is usually decided on a case-by-case basis.

2) Gayle gave the treasurer's report. Net income from January '15 – January '16 was ~\$10,000 plus a \$15,000 donation from Richard Janda for the Sharon Janda fund. Gayle asked if the Guild should repeat a donation to the Craft Emergency Relief Fund (CERF). A suggestion was made to put an announcement in the newsletter to invite Guild members to donate.

3) Diane reported that ~19% of the Guild membership voted in the initial screening of the Conant grant process. She will contact the top entries to invite them to submit a full proposal.

4) Clara will put an article in the newsletter about the mechanics of starting a successful study group. She continues to be the focal point for monitoring interest in forming study groups. A suggestion was made to keep a list of open study groups. A suggestion was made to have a meet-up of study groups/potential study groups in lieu of a mini-workshop at the September meeting.

5) Discussed ways to improve interactions with new members. Perhaps the hospitality committee can assign someone to greet new members. There was a suggestion that we have a reception after the September or October guild meeting to welcome new members. It would be for one hour, after the guild meeting and before the mini-workshop. Margaret will talk to Annalisa about this.

6) Cathy is working to get Guild members on the Yahoo group. Approximately 40 people are still not on the group – some by choice. Discussed some possible alternatives to Yahoo, but it might be very difficult to shift everyone.

7) Margaret will investigate hiring sign-language interpreters for a meeting and workshop. She will investigate companies to determine costs and present this information to the board for approval.

8) Carla is concerned about library books that have not been returned. She is actively contacting individuals to get them returned or billing people to pay for a replacement book. She is reviewing options for making the lending rules stricter.

Meeting adjourned at 2:59.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Esther Asaki