

NWWS Board of Directors Meeting

Weds. Dec. 13, 2023
Zoom Video Conference

12:15 - 1:00 Social time and lunch online, pre-meeting
1 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

Attending: Deb Roskopf, Conny Spann, Shilpa Bhadsalve, Linda Hulce, Karen Robinette, Eileen McMackin, Linda Sewerker, Sarah Love, Sue Dehmlow, Kristi Dyson, Katherine Wright, Peggy Willett

Approval of November Board Meeting Minutes

A motion by Molly Murrah, seconded by Sarah Love, to approve the minutes of our November meeting was approved by all.

President's Report - Debbie Roskopf

- Website Insurance
 - **DECISION:** A motion by Linda Sewerker, seconded by Conny Spann and approved by all, authorized the addition of online protection insurance to our existing policy for the small cost of \$237 annually.
- Survey results
 - A summary of member survey results was discussed. Deb has sent the summary and a deep dive into all comments to the board for additional review. She also sent the results of the non-member guest account holder survey.
 - Discussion followed and after evaluating members' social media use, the following action was taken:
 - **DECISION:** A motion by Molly Murrah, seconded by Sarah Love, authorized the deactivation of our X (formerly known as Twitter) account.
- Website builds
 - Deb advised that she's working on two items:
 - The Volunteer Gallery as a benefit to those whose work ~~to~~ makes NWWS possible.
 - In response to the member survey, she will explore ways to help members find and connect with other members near them, to possibly paint together.
- Financial Forecasting
 - At the end of this month, we're transitioning to QuickBooks Online. We will move to the amended and shorter Chart of Accounts and Shirley will have support from QuickBooks' migration team to complete the change.
 - The updated accounting structure will provide a more intuitive, truncated chart of accounts that supports the reporting and forecasting needs of NWWS, leverages the variety of standard reports available in QB as needed, and gives BOD members an easier report to read.
 - Deb reminded the board that this is a needed journey for a modern organization, and that the road may turn this way and that as we look to serve all of our reporting needs.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** All chairs should send ~~to~~ Deb their expected event income & expenses for 2024 for integration into the forecasting plan.

Treasurer's Report - Shirley Jordan

Shirley was unable to attend today but sent the budget and YTD numbers.

Deb noted that the 2023 Open has so far resulted in a loss, financially. The exhibit continues online for some weeks and once it is wrapped up, a special meeting will be called to review other key aspects of the exhibit, including the value of in-person gatherings, the number of paintings sold, impact on volunteers, logistics of a gallery venue and in person workshop, and more, to decide whether the Open will be only online or also in a gallery setting.

Corresponding Secretary - Conny Spann

We have six new Signature Members since our last board meeting and one new Gold Medal Fellowship member.

New Signature Members:

- Caitlin Hatch of Dodgeville, WI
- Tara Choate of Lincoln City, OR
- Valerie Englehart of Mukilteo, WA
- Anik McGrory of Rye, NY
- Beth Owen of Olalla, WA
- Tracy Hebert of Port Allen, LA

The new Gold Medal Fellowship member is:

- Liz Walker of Beaverton, OR

Membership Report - Shilpa Bhadsalve and Sue Dehmlow

Shilpa reviewed our membership trends this year and provided a year over year comparison. Our current membership stands at 995, with 57% in Washington State, 39% from the rest of the US and 3.4% international. Of our current 2774 guests, 39% are from Washington State , 24% from other US States and 37% from other countries. Year over year growth shows that in 2019 we had 815 members compared to 995 this year.

Agenda Section A: Items requiring Board input and/or decisions:

Molly Murrah offers two items for board input and decisions:

1. We have been invited by ERA to have an NWS Invitational Exhibition at Aljoja Mercer Island:

Dates for exhibition from October 27, 2024 until February 23, 2025

Submissions deadline will be a couple of months prior

Shall we participate? Discussion followed.

DECISION: A motion by Peggy Willett, seconded by Molly Murrah and approved by all, accepted the opportunity.

2. NWS has been invited to participate in an International Triennial Exhibition at the Bolivarian Museum Foundation of Contemporary Art in Santa Marta, Columbia. Shall we participate? Discussion followed.

DECISION: The board informally agreed that Molly would let the organizers know we are honored to have been invited, but that the short deadline and complexities of selecting participants over the holidays and shipping artwork internationally, prevent us from participating this time. We do hope, however, that an invitation to the next exhibit (in three years) may be possible as it would give us time to prepare properly.

New Business

NEWSLETTER UPDATE: Peg noted, on Katherine Wright's behalf, that KW will call a meeting of Newsletter contributors early next year to clarify timelines, deadlines and guidelines for future issues. We need to avoid last minute scrambles for content and ensure everyone is pulling together for what our members said was their favorite NWWS benefit - HotPress!

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Next meeting is Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 1 p.m.