

FSWG Meeting Minutes, 01/13/2024

Recorded by Mary Snellings (text 540-589-0173 for questions)

1. The meeting was called to order, new president Aileen Campbell presiding.
2. The community thanked Florence Ridderhoff for hosting the January Meeting/New Year's Party, and the contributing cooks for the food.
3. We mentioned that there were no minutes from December's meeting, but anyone who wanted to could watch the video we took.
4. Vice President's Report – Kara Pekar
 - a. June meeting coincides with World Wide Knit in Public (WWKIP) Day (8 June) – we should plan a demonstration – maybe in Hurkamp Park?
 - b. Tour de Fleece Spinning Challenge is June 29- July 4 this year. We may have a collaborative team again this year – Kara and Mary Snellings are willing to co-captain again this year.
 - c. World-wide Spin In Public day is September 21st this year – could also do something that day.
 - d. We are in need of program ideas. Need not be long – anywhere from 10 to 90 minutes. Could be reviews, techniques, etc. Contact Kara to suggest topics – or even better, to volunteer!
5. Bonny reports trouble getting into the member portal on our Guild website – Kara volunteered to help her troubleshoot.
6. Treasurer's Report from Denise (in absentia) - \$7,089 starting balance, \$855 in deposits, -\$800 for rent due, Closing balance should be \$7144.xx after rent is paid.
7. Secretary's Report – Nicole was not able to attend the January meeting, but is still willing to support from Utah for meetings with a virtual presence. Mary S. is taking minutes today.
8. Committee Reports:
 - a. Retreat Committee – Keren Pritchard is leading, with Linda George and Margaret Campbell also participating. Hoping for a volunteer from one of the newer members to round out the team, for a wider diversity of opinions and viewpoints. Committee has the Retreat Survey results and will meet after today's meeting.
 - b. Engagement Committee – meets virtually on the 2nd Thursday BEFORE the guild meeting. There is a link in every newsletter to the Zoom call. This is a body for generating ideas for the guild, not making decisions. Everyone is welcome – it's a great way to stay involved and make an influence on the guild activities.
 - c. Education and Outreach –
 - i. Our December demonstration at Beth Horrine's "Cookies with the Clydesdales" event was a big success, and they'd like us to come back again next year. Fran had about 35 children try out her rigid heddle loom, and everyone enjoyed watching Lori, Mary, and Tessa demonstrate Turkish drop spindles, a castle wheel, a pocketwheel, and an electric wheel. The event was outside, but we had an open tent, and they ran an electric cord so we could run a heater. They also provided yummy snacks! The next year's event is scheduled the same day as our Holiday Party again – Second Saturday of the month. If we try to cover the whole day, we will want to work in shifts.
 - ii. Save the date:
 1. April 20 – Earth Day at Old Mill Park
 2. June 22 – Prince William Library Maker Fair

3. 2nd Thursday of the month from 600-700pm Arts Night Out at the Howell Library

iii. Finnegan's Run Yarn Shop is collecting supplies for Stafford HS Fiber Club. They are rotating through the local high schools.

- d. Hospitality - We have had a great turnout for hospitality volunteers for 2024, but there are a few spots left, see Mary Snellings to volunteer. We try to get at least two people to volunteer each month, and we do potluck at the annual picnic/yard sale and Holiday Party meetings.
- e. Membership – We have current paid membership of 54 people - Any recent previous members who have not paid have been reminded by email. Newsletter distro will be updated this month. Lesley is serving as the Membership chair this year.
- f. Library report – Denise is not present, but the library is looking great, with the new folders for the periodicals!

9. Unfinished Business

- a. Online Spinning Class designed by Abby, and hosted on the Moodle platform, is a wonderful new addition to our guild offerings. Now that her class is over, Abby is doing some updates to the course, to include some good photos. Lynnette is going to help with the photography, and there is a list available of things she wants pictures of. They may schedule a day at the studio to take the pictures – let them know if you can bring any needed items. Right now the course is free, and being offered to students of Lori and Mary's in-person Beginning Spinning course.
- b. Florence shared more information about her project for Micah Ministries. It involves prayers from the supporting congregation, written on fabric pieces and woven together by Florence on a 16-inch tale loom. Thanks to Diane, Margaret, Linda and Fran who have helped. She was recently at Shiloh New Site and will be at Shiloh Old Site tomorrow. Strips of fabric have been donated and are being written on with marker pens. Micah's leadership has a theme: "Micah Ecumenical Ministries – Weaving together a Tapestry" It is coming together similarly to a rag rug, but will be displayed as a wall hanging. The individual prayers are unreadable, private between God and the supplicants. It will be two feet in height and stretch around the room. HOPE and PEACE are keywords. Like Micah, it's a work in progress. Florence says it is keeping her off the streets....
- c. State Incorporation is back on the table, with new leadership - Toni Stevens had volunteered. This is to register the guild with the state as a Not for Profit organization. The designation is likely to be "501.3(e)" for "Education". There will be forms to file every year, there are videos and presentations available to provide us instruction. In the end, this status will provide guild members with some legal protection and the board has decided it needs to be done.

10. New Business

- a. Lynette Reed is the Guild's new liason with Libertytown Arts Workshop (our landlord).
- b. Guild needs 1-3 photographers to help record our history as it happens.
- c. Guild also needs social media support for our Instagram, Ravelry, Facebook, and Website communications.
- d. We will also need to develop a policy concerning sharing pictures of ourselves, the public, in particular children, in our photos. What level of permission needs to be documented?

- e. Very much need a Newsletter Coordinator, as Aileen has been serving and will now be taking on the President duties, she cannot be expected to do both of these important jobs.
- f. Guild Engagement Committee has been discussing a tribute for Rita Brown, who was a charter member and passed away last Fall. Someone is talking to her family about what would be most appropriate – perhaps a scholarship of some kind in her name. They are in the idea-generating stage and nothing has been decided yet.

11. Announcements

- a. Patron Show in May at LibertyTown Arts Workshop
 - i. Artist create and donate original work “worth” at least \$250.
 - ii. Submissions are due April 29
 - iii. Thursday before the 1st Friday in May, Patron Tickets go on sale. They are usually gone by Sunday. They cost \$200.
 - iv. Funds raised are usually earmarked for some kind of upgrade to the facilities at Libertytown (bathroom upgrade, cameras to deter theft, etc.
 - v. Donations should be special – previous works of art from our community have been shawls, rugs, blankets – either large works and/or made with expensive materials. You can coordinate with other artists for an entry - say a fiber item and a coordinating pottery item together.
 - vi. The more items are donated, the more tickets they can sell.
- b. Fiber Show in October this year at Libertytown Arts Workshop
 - i. Submissions due Sept 16. (\$25 application fee).
 - ii. National Juried Show
 - iii. All fiber types are welcome: wool, silk, or other animal fibers, plant fibers, paper, wood, even woven or knitted wire is acceptable.
 - iv. Items can not have been shown at previous LTAW shows.
- c. Bonny is planning another Inkle Loom Day on either the 17th or the 24th of February, on a Saturday

12. A motion was made and carried to close the meeting, then we did Show and Tell and then broke for refreshments and the Fiber, Books, and Supplies sale to benefit the Guild.