



## Michigan Silversmiths Guild

Executive Board Meeting  
Sunday, August 9, 2009

### OFFICERS

Christine Bossler  
*President*

Tiffany Massey  
*Vice President*

Annette Berenholz  
*Treasurer*

Jennifer Thomson  
*Secretary*

Marilyn Southern  
*Membership*

Juanita Bitonti  
*Publicity*  
*Webmaster*

### DIRECTORS

Ericia Bartels  
Cheryl Brooks  
Bill Fitzpatrick  
Kathy Fitzpatrick  
Skip Hunter  
Mary Kernahan  
Richard Locke  
Larry Newhouse  
Idelle Hammond-Sass  
Steve Tracy

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Christine, Jennifer, Marilyn, Ericia, Bill, Kathy, Skip, Richard.

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM at the home of Richard Locke.

Last meeting's minutes (May 3, 2009) were accepted as recorded.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Christine reported on the status of the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION. She said they are being reviewed by Katie Locker- President of the Detroit Artists Market, has worked for the Jean Hudson foundation and is a lawyer.

Christine called the office of Grant Beal at the DIA to follow up on a letter she sent months ago. This is regarding a statement in the previous by laws that MSG is connected to the DIA. Christine was writing to ask if the DIA would like to once again be connected with us. Mr. Beal's executive secretary said that he has been traveling a lot recently and would get back to her as soon as he can. Christine asked the Board if she should continue to pursue this relationship. Skip said he thought we should continue to pursue some sort of relationship with them, but that it doesn't have to be mentioned in any of our official documents. Everyone seemed to be in agreement with this.

Christine's plan is to file the Articles of Incorporation after the Sept. Annual Meeting since the list of Officers needs to be included in the Articles.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Christine reported in Tiffany's absence. She and Mary are working on the WORKSHOP SCHEDULE for next year. They hope to have it finalized in time to have a postcard made up to distribute at the Sept Annual meeting. Tentative plans include 4 advanced workshops and 2-3 beginning workshops. Content ideas include: enameling, wax carving, mold making, resin casting, optics workshops and beginning soldering and riveting.

Christine mentioned the idea of working with a university or college to share the costs of the more expensive workshops. Skip said this had been done in the past and that it can work very well. Skip also suggested that MSG might want to subsidize some workshops so we

don't have to keep canceling them.

Bill indicated that we have talked about having a workshop on digital photography and digital application forms . Erica said this would be a good one to piggy back onto a college workshop or lecture.

Jennifer said that perhaps the workshops subsidized by MSG should be the more "mainstream" topics (i.e. not Deb Stoner and glasses making). Most people were in agreement.

Christine said she would pass along the details of our discussion to Tiffany.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Christine read a report submitted by Annette. She said that she and Marilyn had gone over the membership deposits to clear up the confusion from the last meeting. They now agree on the number of memberships paid to date.

This month's report : as of 7/21/09 there is a cash balance of \$7,253.02. A motion was made to accept the report, seconded and passed.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Marilyn reported that there has been no membership activity since the last Board meeting. She asked about the processing of the free high school memberships (given to the high school students who participated in this year's J&O show). The Board agreed that she could go ahead and start processing those applications.

Marilyn expressed concern about non-corporate sponsors being mentioned in the calendar of events portion of the web page. Christine explained that the calendar listings are not advertisements and that she lists all events pertinent to our membership. The calendar listings do not include any company logos and are meant as simply a source of information for our members.

**NEWSLETTER:** Christine reported that this fall's newsletter will be her last one as editor. Marilyn, Erica and Jennifer volunteered to take on the production. Since Jen and Erica both use mac computers, they suggested they could team up for this task.

**WEB MASTER/PUBLICITY:** In Juanita's absence, Christine reported that Rob has been working on completely updating the web site. He will be in touch with Marilyn for input on the membership page.

**HISTORIAN:** Skip reported that he has 3 boxes of MSG materials in his upstairs office. He intends to work on sorting through this information in the next few months. Christine will collect any historical information brought to the Annual Meeting in Sept

**NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS:** Erica reported that the committee will meet today directly after the Board meeting and will be ready for the elections at the Annual Meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ART FAIR:** Jennifer reported that the art fair went well. The new cases looked great and seemed to function well. However, they are not as easy to assemble and take apart as we would like. Jennifer suggested that we might start to think about renting a storage facility in order to keep the cases partially assembled. This would have the added benefit of having all MGS property in one central place. She said a 5' x 10' unit would be approximately \$50 per month or \$600 per year. The Board talked this over and decided to look into more storage options for now and come back to this topic at a later date. Jennifer will call the New Center to see if they have any storage space for non profit organizations.

Another way to make the cases easier to handle would be to make 2 separate units out of the one bigger one. Jennifer said this would cost around \$60 for the additional parts. Also, our art fair neighbor would like to sell us some of his used abstracta pieces. The Board approved the motion to spend the \$60 to purchase the extra parts.

Jennifer also mentioned that the booth had a much better location this year and that the demos seemed to generate a lot of interest. A preliminary budget indicates that we lost about \$1,000 including the cost of the new cases.

Ericia reported that sales were \$9,120.15. All participants made back their booth fee of \$250.

A final report will be made at the next Board meeting.

**JEWELRY + OBJECTS SHOW:** Christine reported - The Select Show at the Domaci Gallery went well. The gallery owners sent us a nice thank you note and said they would be happy to work with us again in the future. They sold just over \$1,000.

The J+O catalog is now on- line . We sold most of the copies we had printed.

A final report will be made at the next Board meeting.

**SEPTEMBER TOOL SWAP/ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Christine reported the following details have been finalized:

The meeting will be Sunday, Sept. 13 at EMU, starting with the tool swap at 12:30.

Caroline Gore from Western Michigan University will give this year's lecture at about 2:45.

Christine will arrive at 11:45 to start setting up. Ericia volunteered to help her.

Christine will work on the agenda.

Skip said that the Board must agree on this year's dues structure to present at the Annual Meeting. Ericia mentioned that it might be a good opportunity to ask for an additional \$5 or \$10 for an endowment or other special fund. After much discussion, the Board approved a

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motion to keep the dues structure as it is. The idea of requesting an additional sum for a special fund might be re-addressed at a later time - after 501c3 status has been achieved.

Christine has asked some of our sponsors to come to the tool swap with some of their goods to sell. CR Hill has agreed and Christine will also ask businesses who are corporate sponsors or who donated prize money to the J+O show. In addition, AU Enterprises would like to come and make a short presentation about their business. We agreed that this could be right after the business meeting. Skip added that we should be sure these businesses know they are responsible for sales tax.

Food: Marilyn offered to pick up sandwiches, water, soft drinks and a fruit and/or vegetable tray for the meeting. The Board approved \$150 advance for Marilyn to make the purchases. Marilyn asked if she could also be provided with an advance to purchase more stamps, stationary and business cards for her membership duties. The Board approved an additional \$100 for this purpose.

Christine and Ericia will order the pizzas.

Jennifer will check on the paper products remaining in the workshop materials that happens to be in her garage. Jennifer will also bring the t-shirts and aprons to the annual meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 4, 2009 at 1 PM at Richard Locke's house.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 PM.