



Michigan Silversmiths Guild

Executive Board Meeting Sunday, May 15, 2011

OFFICERS

Christine Bossler
President

Ericia Bartels
Vice President

Richard Locke
Treasurer

Jennifer Thomson
Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE: Christine, Jennifer, Dan, Danielle, Mary, Steve, Ericia

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm at the home of Jennifer Thomson.

Last month's minutes were accepted as submitted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Christine reported

501(c)3 application update: This is not completely finished yet. Christine will meet with Richard hopefully in the next month to finalize the details.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Ericia reported

DIRECTORS

Alan Ardizzone
Danielle Blanchard
Mary Kernahan
Tiffany Massey
Dan Neville
Steve Tracy

Ericia passed out a written report summarizing the Renee Zettle-Sterling workshop and proposed budget for the da Silvas workshop.

Renee Zettle-Sterling workshop: The final report was presented. Total expenses were \$1,053.07. 7 people attended @ \$145 each for a total income of \$1,015. So, we lost \$38.07 - which seemed pretty reasonable. Ericia said Renee was wonderful and she received a lot of positive comments.

Da Silva workshops: Ericia expressed concern for the upcoming visit of Jack and Marilyn da Silva and wanted to know from the Board how much money would be the maximum allowed to lose. This will be an expensive event including air fare from California, hotel, honoraria, etc. Discussion included the fact that some of the expenses should come out of the Exhibition Committee budget, since Marilyn will be traveling to Midland to jury the awards for the J&O show. After discussion, the Board approved a maximum deficit of \$1,000.

Upcoming workshops: Ericia was disappointed not to hear back from the sculptor she was hoping to get for a fall workshop. She asked for other ideas. Christine said she would email Ericia with a list of possibilities.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Richard was not present and did not submit a report. Christine will email a report for Board approval in the next few weeks.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Danielle reported

We have 122 current members which includes 73 active, 8 other family members, 26 student and 10 lifetime.

Danielle expressed concern that the membership job is taking a lot more time than she had anticipated. She was also concerned about memberships being renewed mid-year. It is her opinion that membership should be a full year cycle, Sept - Sept. She feels that some people only renew their membership if they want to participate in a show or workshop - and they are still receiving MSG benefits without paying the membership fee. (i.e. MSG mailings, etc.) She thought she might want to step down from the membership position in light of the un-professionalism and the time commitment.

Steve expressed his apologies for the sudden influx of new memberships to process due to the J&O show. Some forms and checks were submitted with the show entry instead of going directly to Danielle. This was a cause of much confusion. He also requested that Danielle stay in this position until the Annual Meeting in Sept.

There was more discussion - Christine explained that the Board has always tried to make it as easy as possible to join MSG and has always encouraged participation in all our events. While this sometimes makes the paper work cumbersome, it is still the Board's position to encourage new and renewing members.

Danielle agreed to stay on in the membership position until the Sept. annual meeting. Hopefully the process can be streamlined - for example, by processing renewals on her lap top at the annual meeting.

Newsletter: Jennifer reported

A reminder about sending info to Jennifer for the next newsletter (June) will be emailed to the membership shortly.

Web Master/Publicity: Christine reported

The web site continues to be updated on a regular basis. The J&O show and art fair information will be added shortly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ann Arbor Art Fair: Mary reported

There will be 12 participants this year: Carolyn Bache, Danielle Blanchard, Lori Brauer,

Janice Degen, Lesley DiPiazza, Joanne Huspek, Mary Kernahan, Paul Mergen, Emily Saling, Ron Suddendorf, Sue Szabo, and Jennifer Thomson. With the \$420 in application fees and \$2,160 in artist fees, the working budget is \$2,580. The booth fee and electricity have been paid, there have been copying and postage expenses, and a lap top was purchased for accounting purposes. We will also need to buy some more abstracta display pieces to accomodate all 12 artists.

The artist contract was changed to reflect several changes: electronic inventory system, requirement to help with either set up or tear down, having artists only work 2 out of 4 days, and picking up unsold inventory at a date AFTER the last day of art fair to allow inventory and accounting to be thorough. Any non-compliance will be subject to removal of the artist and her/his work from the fair.

The call for demonstrators has been sent out - 8 responses so far. Changes to the demo contract include: work must be limited to 20 pieces and must relate to the process/ technique being demonstrated.

Mary has looked into credit card processing and is recommending a 1 year contract with Propay. After some discussion, it was decided that we should wait until we attain 501c3 status - otherwise the tax consequences are complicated. We will address this in the future once the new status has been finalized.

Exhibition Committee:

J&O Show: Steve reported that there are 55 pieces from 39 artists in this year's show. There are also 23 pieces from 16 students in the student part of the show. Work will be dropped off at Jennifer's house on June 4&5, students to Steve's house. Steve will drive the work to Midland by the June 18 deadline.

Midland Center for the Arts is providing a postcard, so it was decided that we do not need to send out a separate one. Christine will get our mailing list to Steve - to be included in the post card mailing.

Awards: So far, sponsors are: Anonymous (\$300), G&S (\$100 gift certificate), CRHill (\$100 gift certificate, Armstrong (\$40 gift certificate). Steve requested Board approval for \$550 to be provided for awards. This was approved.

Steve scheduled a phone conference meeting for the J&O committee on July 25th at 8:00 pm. This will be to discuss the awards and the opening reception which is to be Aug. 6.

Christine reported her progress on the J&O show catalog. It will be approx. 68 pages, and will be ready for print soon. Jennifer is proofreading it. Christine requested Board approval to provide each participant and each sponsor with a free catalog. She also requested 2 copies for our records. This would be a total of 46 copies provided by the Board (39 artists, 5 sponsors, 2 for MSG records) . The Board approved.

Christine will also send out a form for catalog pre-orders. Steve will ask how many Midland wants to sell at their shop. We will sell copies for \$20 each.

Gifts of Art: The show went very well. 2 pieces were sold. We had a great rapport with the UM Hospital staff. Next year this student show will probably be held at CCS with the help of Tom Madden.

Art Center: Christine received the contract for the invitational show. She made some changes and hopes to get the revised contract soon. This show will be in late Sept. or early Oct. It will be an invitational, not juried.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations and Election Committee - needs to be formed. Dan volunteered to chair this committee. Mary and Danielle will also serve on the committee.

NEXT MEETING: August 28, 12:00 at the home of Jennifer Thomson

Fall meeting: Sunday, Sept. 18th, 12 - 4 PM at EMU.

Meeting adjourned at 2:18 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Thomson, Recording Secretary