

Skagit Artists Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2019

President Sarah Dalton commenced the meeting of the Skagit Artists Board of Directors at 2:58 p.m. at the Skagit Valley Co-op Building. Board members in attendance included Mechel Bell, Sarah Dalton, Gary Giovane, Sheila Johnson, and Ron King. Rick Hoag attended to discuss the first blush of a budget. The meeting's agenda was:

- Update on Membership Committee (we do not have a chair)
- Membership cards
- Discount agreement with stores
- Budget (Rick will present his effort to date)
- How to represent the grantors in our communications
- Fall show update

Membership Committee

The search continues for a chair for the Membership Committee. Marie-Claire Dole will mail out membership cards to the current members, and new members will receive SA organization information, as well as a card. Maria Wickwire will continue to send an electronic version of welcome information when notified of a new member. There was discussion of going to a 12-month membership, vs. the current calendar year membership. A "Dues Notice" email was thought to be beneficial, regardless, so Ron will explore that. The Board is open to reading proposals for a Membership Committee, and/or membership changes, so members are encouraged to document their ideas.

Membership Cards

Mechel received a discount and prompt service getting the official Membership Cards printed at Copy and Print in Mount Vernon. The cards looked fine, according to the Board.

Membership Discounts

A proposed agreement between SA and companies offering membership discounts was reviewed. Gary moved, and it was seconded by Ron, that the document be adopted after it is printed on SA letterhead and a couple typos corrected. The motion passed. Copy and Print in Mount Vernon is the first business to offer Skagit Artists a discount. Thank you to Mechel for enthusiastically seeking discounts. Ron will provide such information on the SA website.

Membership Growth

Mechel has been visiting artists asking why they are not members of Skagit Artists.

Sponsorship

Mechel is approaching businesses about becoming Skagit Artists' sponsors. There was discussion about what an ad in the Studio Tour brochure should consist of (anything the sponsor wants), cut-off dates for Studio Tour publications, and some of the details outlined in the Sponsorship brochure. It was agreed that there needs to be a more concerted effort so that those making sponsorship calls are not overlapping.

Stationery

There was no interest in having letterhead produced at a stationer. Instead, the new design can be used as a template when producing SA documents. Thank you to Jennifer for creating the design.

Budget

Rick Hoag distributed a first draft of a budget and a YTD Income Summary. He needs more detailed information from Monica to refine the budget. He pointed out that the last two Art's Alive fall shows have been money losers.

Grant Acknowledgements

As follow-on to the January discussion, Sheila read the requirements of the Skagit County LTF grant commitment SA received. NWAB Studio Tour printing, publications, and press releases need to acknowledge the funding. Sheila thought the other two LTF sources should be mentioned as equally prominently, regardless of commitment amount. Maria and Sheila will begin using the acknowledgement in all Facebook postings/press releases as soon as Stephen develops it. Sarah wants to review the Skagit County LTF grant award herself.

Fall Show

There is no chair for a fall show yet, so Mechel is getting proposals for what the show should be, including chairperson, locations, dates, juried, non-juried, etc. That is not to say that participating in La Conner's Art's Alive is a dead proposal, Sarah said. Sheila told the group that Art's Alive will open the evening of Nov. 8 and close on Monday, Nov. 11, late afternoon – making it, for the first time, a full 3-day show.

Art Bash

On Jennifer's behalf, Mechel talked about some logistical details yet to be worked out with Art Bash. Sarah was confident anything needing to be addressed would be worked through Thursday during set-up and the Friday opening. Rick Hoag created a nifty PVC pipe sign holder that can be base-weighted with sand. He'll be dropping some off at the Carnation Building on Thursday. Thank you, Rick.

Picnic

The picnic will be rescheduled. Please ignore the August 3 date seen on the SA website calendar. A new date will be announced after our gracious hosts check their summer schedules.

Program Meetings

Mechel wants to secure Peter Whited for the November Program Meeting, and he has verbally committed. There was discussion of giving a 1-year Skagit Artists membership to each non-member program speaker, in addition to the \$50 cash gift.

Involvement of the Members

Ron distributed a list of volunteers and the committees in which they expressed interest when they completed with their online registration. Identified as committees are 'Events', 'Programs', 'Finance', 'Membership', 'Communications', 'Website', and 'Other'. It was suggested that 'Finance' be renamed 'Sponsorship' and that a 'Meet and Greet' committee be created to handle the welcome functions at SA meetings and arrange for food. Mechel was designated 'Programs' chair for 2019.

NW Art Beat Studio Tour

The Mount Vernon Downtown Association will have businesses host the Studio Tour artists during a June 1 'Arts & Ales' event, as well as the June 6 Art Walk. Sarah and Maria Wickwire will match NWAB artists with available businesses. Any remaining display spots will be offered to non-tour SA artists. Studio Tour brochures will be distributed in swag bags.

Creative Planning Meeting

The March planning meeting at Skagit River Brewery was discussed. It is too noisy to return, but the format change of discussing art between meeting topics was well-received.

Miscellaneous

Mechel wants to encourage art event growth in the Sedro-Woolley.

The meeting adjourned at 5:04.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Johnson, secretary