

VWS Board Meeting 9/21/13

Present: Mark Nielsen, Reggie Springer, Joann Di Nicola, Rebecca Gottesman, Claudia Carl, Sarah Rosedahl

Absent: Amanda Amend, Lynn Cummings, Pam Dexter, Peter Land

9:15 am The Meeting began

The minutes from the 5/22/13 were accepted.

TREASURER's Report: Peter Land (absent) Report read by Mark Nielsen. The report was accepted unanimously.

- We were down about \$5,000 this at this point in the year due to the fact that the Linda Kemp event hadn't yet happened when he wrote the report. The money has since come in.
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Directors Reports:

HUBS Report : Pam Dexter (absent) Read by Mark Nielsen.

- A survey was sent out to the 7 hub leaders to fill out. Only 6 replied as there was no response from Middlebury-Rutland.
- There is moderate hub activity some offering exhibits, more plain air events, the point person rally, and the funding is good.
- Some felt there were too many VWS activities going on at the same time. Some were frustrated at the low turnouts to the events.
- Pam's overall feeling was that there is some stability in the hubs.

EXHIBITIONS: Rebecca Gottesman

- SHOWS-
- Tony Connor does the Bennington show.
- Rob O'Brien will come back as Exhibition Director and he is working on a second show for next year.
- There was a discussion as to why works weren't selling as well recently as in the past. We also talked about if we should lower the entry fees. In the past it used to be free as part of membership dues.
- Entries are down slightly this year but overall shows vary. We usually get a good amount of entries. It averages 50-65 entries with a lot of the same people entering.

EVENTS: Claudia Carl

- Only 11 people attended the Linda Kemp workshop. We only made \$600.00.
- The John Salimen workshop will be next June.
- In the Fall of 2015 will be the Frank Eber workshop.
- Alvaro Castagnet was our most successful event.
- The fall Meeting is in Quechee next month. One Activity will be Chinese Brush Painting with Zhang Yin.
- The DVD Library- We have DVDs 10 now and are trying to get more.
- Claudia is trying to get a video from Shanley Triggs who made one for kids and adults. These are good to show the IRS for our Community Outreach.
- Claudia will keep after the hubs to return the videos.
- We are paying for the DVDs from the profits from our raffles at the Spring and Fall meetings. We should have a budget for this that is guaranteed. We will discuss this further when we discuss our budget.
- Claudia will ask John from Blackhorse Art Supply to come to the Fall meeting.
- We will have a field trip to the John Singer Sargent show at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. It will cost us \$1,600 for the bus and cost of tickets.
- The bus will pick up people in Burlington, Vergennes and White River Junction. The tour starts at 10am and lasts one hour. The price needs to be \$60 per person for make it successful for us financially. We will take a vote at the Fall Meeting on the date.. The date can be either Weds Jan 8th or Thurs Jan 9th. We must reserve all items 1 month in advance and people should sign up by Dec. 1, first come first serve.
- Scholarships for the trip will be available and will be confidential.

MEMBERSHIP: Joann DiNicola

- Joann sends the data base to all board members each month for whomever needs it. She keeps a notebook as backup.
- There is a problem if you are looking up a member's status. It says the 2012 people are current but they aren't as of 2013.
- We added 16 new members since January 2013 to the present and 43 new members over the last 5 years.
- Jan and Amanda are doing the new Membership Directory so no changes can be made at this point
- We have a new Membership Director as of Jan 1.

PUBLICITY: Sarah

- Filemaker Pro is our only format. It is a hard program to use. We need to consider alternatives.
- Diane has the images for the new Membership Directory. When the directory is done it can be sent to the board and be approved.
- There is some confusion about the Face Book site and the group site. The Facebook site is for personal opinions etc. It does not represent the opinions of the VWS. We need a disclaimer on there to say this. Sarah will look into this.
- The group site requires permission to post submissions prior to being posted.
- We will keep SNIPPETS as it is with no changes with no more additions.
- Announcements are in SNIPPETS and the BULLETIN BOARD. Events announced will only be in the New England States, New York, and Quebec areas.
- Sarah is almost done highlighting the board members and will go on to the hub point persons.

12:00 PM lunch

1 PM meeting resumed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mark Nielsen

- Amanda will not be available to run for President in 2015. She has too much going on in her home life. She is willing to be Treasurer for one year to complete Peter's term.
- Tony Connor is interested in being Vice President.
- Carlton Annis has offered to help with CPA advice on a financial subcommittee.
- Rob O'Brien to co- chair Exhibitions with Loretta Weitzel.
- Michele LaBouff is interested in being Membership Director. She has database experience.
- No one yet for Volunteer Director.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2014: Mark Nielsen

- The Hub expense line is \$4,380.00 available to spend. They may not use it all, but it is available. The breakdown is on the 2nd page.
- Income is assumed to be for about 200 members.
- The outreach education income from bus trip is for 54 people at \$60 income per person. The VWS underwrites \$10.00 per person.
- We will keep a printing budget of \$1,600.00. \$1,000 of it is for the new brochures.
- \$600 is allowed for board meetings.
- Reimbursement for travel to meetings is 55 cents per mile.
- The computer website and software is 00 but will add some things.
- Education and outreach expenses will include the field trip and a Watercolor class supplies program.
- Mark will to speak to Carlton about the Outreach program.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM