

VWS Board Meeting- May 21, 2023

In attendance(via zoom): Martin Lalonde, Petey Becker, Gary Eckhart, Michelle Maher, Anne Lalonde, Abigail Bartell, Ann Stafford, Julie Holmes

Treasurer Report (Anne L.): Assets = \$23,281. Consistent with previous years. One note is that we decided in the fall meeting to continue the 50% carry-over of Hub funds from year to year. So the hubs actually have more money in their budget than previously calculated.

Program Director Report (Abigail): Diane Chencharick is the presenter for the spring meeting happening on June 3rd via zoom.

*It would be super helpful to have people send images to Abigail to share on social media (instagram, Facebook)

This brought up many questions and discussion around sharing artwork on social media. There was some worry about people scraping images once it is posted on the web. Best to keep images to share for Social Media low-quality so it can't be taken.

* Do we want to keep posting VWS images on INSTAGRAM? There are complex copyright issues- Maybe we could have a workshop or learning opportunity around this_

- * How to we get permission to post
- * Is it ok to photograph artwork, at a show
- * What kind of stuff is ok to post

Instagram can be a great way to share artwork and see what fellow watercolorists are doing, but want to be careful about it

Also, we talked about the FALL MEETING: Lake Morey October 14th 9:30-1 or 3 (We want to make sure we can extend to 3 pm). It costs \$37./person, but we'll charge \$35. And cover the extra. There is a discounted room rate if people want to stay overnight. Lynn Cummings will do a collage workshop and we will have table space if people want to paint along. Also we want to have a participatory component to the fall meeting.

Thinking of ideas for future presenters. Check out Alison Bishnis- she has free YouTube tutorials too.

Membership Director Report (Michelle):

10 new members. Average 1 per week. How often do we send reminders to renew?? August is the time when we count membership to figure out hub money allocation.

Exhibitions (Gary):

Fall Show: judge- Susan Whentraub venue: Supreme Court building in Montpelier. October 6th opening.

Should we hire a photographer to archive our shows? (5-10 photos)

Ann Stafford will send out a Call to Artists, also to 7 Days.

Most venues need scheduling *2 years in advance!!* We need a venue for the Spring 2024 show. Here are some places suggested: City Hall in South Burlington, Catamount Arts in St. Johnsbury, All Souls in Shelburne.

For the awards, if the top prize is less than \$700., then we don't have to worry about a W9 form.

Communications: (Petey)

There is a 52% open rate of newsletter which is considered a good percentage.

A request for people to work directly with Vickie for things to post on the website. The website needs to continually be updated.

We want to get rid of the PO Box on the brochure, since nobody uses the PO Box and we end up spending money on it. Instead, there is a suggestion to have a map with hub membership areas on that part of the brochure. Also, a QR-code.

Next meeting: Sunday, Aug. 6th at 11 am