

# **Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc.**

## **Executive Board Meeting**

### **December 3, 2014 Minutes**

**Meeting called to order** by President, Cathy McCarthy at 2:00 pm. Cathy welcomed the board members and thanked them for attending the meeting.

**Members Present:** Judith Jones, Letty Klein, Nan Krapf, Cathy McCarthy, Melissa Powers, Terri Smith, Marta Williams

**Secretary Report:** Marcia Freridge was unable to attend, so Marta Williams offered to take minutes. In Marcia's absence, Cathy McCarthy presented the November 10, 2014 general meeting minutes for review. A motion to approve those minutes was made by Terri Smith and seconded by Nan Krapf. The motion passed. Likewise, Cathy McCarthy presented the October 15, 2014 executive board meeting minutes for review. The motion passed, after Melissa Powers made the motion and Letty Klein seconded.

**Vice President Report:** Letty Klein has been unable to get volunteers for a Nominating Committee and has made no progress finding volunteers for the 2015-16 executive board.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Krapf presented the November monthly report. The report was approved after a motion to approve by Judith Jones and seconded by Letty Klein. Nan Krapf indicated that she still needs to complete and send out the 1099 forms and figure out what the Canadian requirements are for Inge Dam.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Publications:** Marta Williams informed the group that the February The Shuttle deadline is January 23, 2014.

**Membership:** Marta Williams informed the group that there are currently 116 members, 14 of whom are new members this year.

**Education:** Discussion of the need to move our archive (currently housed by JoAnne Casey-Smith) to Western Michigan University's Regional History Collections was re-started. The agreed upon goal is to cull the archives sometime in the spring and make the arrangements to move the archives to the Regional History Collections.

**Mentor Program:** Terri Smith provided an update on the Introduction to Warping Your Loom workshop to be held January 7 and 14, from 5:30 to 9:30 pm. There are 10 participants. Cathy McCarthy will let Terri know when the Cooper Township Hall has been secured for the workshop so she can inform the participants of the location.

**MLH Guild:** Cathy McCarthy told the group that the MLH board will be announcing the workshops/seminars for the 2015 conference sometime in January.

**Program Committee:** Letty Klein said that the February speaker is Amy Tyler and that all is set for that program. Letty and Terri Smith have been working on the 2015-16 programs and have

September through December's programs secured. One of the presenters will be offering a demo lecture like the one that Inge Dam gave this past year.

**Scholarships:** Based on a few comments received by some Board members from the general membership, a spirited discussion of the Scholarship Application Process took place. At the end of the discussion, it was decided that the points made would be forward to Anne Mehring so that she could address them. It was noted that Anne has invested a lot of time and effort developing and maintaining the Scholarship program when no one else volunteered. Ever since Anne has developed this program, there have been applicants, whereas in the years preceeding, there were few if any applicants. The following table summarizes the discussion.

| Issue                            | Discussion   |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Review by an anonymous committee | -some members feel that the initial intent of the new Scholarship Process did not include a review by an anonymous committee and would like to have that removed. These members do not feel that the argument that, if known, the review committee members would be pressured or feel pressure to approve applicants is valid. Others feel it will be very difficult to recruit members for the committee if they are not anonymous because of the potential pressure.   |
| Payback restrictions             | -this issue is not well defined, but it was generally agreed that the payback should be in a form that is available to ALL Guild members (whether they take advantage of it or not). The approved application is a contract with the Guild and whatever payback is defined in that approved application is the payback that needs to be given.   |
| Application process too involved | -the application process mirrors application processes common to arts organizations such as the KIA and the Arts Council. The argument is that the Guild is a more focused arts organization and that a letter indicating the amount requested, the event/class, and defining the payback should be sufficient.<br>-Anne has, every year of this new program, offered her assistance in completing the application. She has rarely had any takers.<br>-every year of this new application process, there have been applicants. |
| Division of funds                | -concern that only two of 5 or 6 applicants this year received funding was raised. Some feel that all who apply should be funded, e.g. 5 apply for the \$1500 allotted, each would receive \$300.  |

**Service Bureau Coordinator:** Melissa Powers brought up the issue of the missing Baby Wolf service bureau loom. The loom is still unaccounted for and it was decided that it is probably no longer available to us. The group decided that a replacement is needed as the only other loom for the service bureau is a table loom. A motion was made by Melissa to obtain a floor loom (a baby wolf or comparable workshop type floor loom with 4 shafts and 6 treadles) either by purchase or donation, to replace the missing service bureau loom. The motion was seconded by Judith and was passed. It was noted that a donated loom would be tax deductible and that any donation of \$250 or more would require (by law) a letter of acceptance/recognition from the Guild. It was also discussed that the new loom needs to be permanently marked as property of the Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc.

**Welcoming New Members:** There will be no more New Member stars on nametags this year (unless requested).

**Workshop Coordinator:** Rosalie Neilson's workshop has an opening for one more person. The student requirements and warping instructions have been sent out to currently signed-up participants. After the first of the year, the Cooper Township Hall will be reserved for the workshop.

**Old Business:**

**Proposal for a WAFA 2 Sale to be held at Michigan Fiber Festival in 2015:** The WAFA board decided that they could not handle another sale, so the Guild will not be sponsoring this sale. There is still the option for members to independently rent a booth at Fiber Festival. More discussion needs to happen with regards to the availability of the WAFA sale props for rent or loan.

**The Woolery 5% Cash Back Rewards Program:** It was decided not to pursue this as: 1) there were too many questions on how it would work; 2) what accounting/tax impact would the rewards have; and 3) how would the Guild use the rewards.

**Cards were sent to Jeannine Graves and Ellen Colston.**

#### **New Business:**

**December Meeting Planning:** Cookies will be provided by all members (minimum 6/member). Cathy McCarthy and Cyndee Mishler will bring table cloths for the tables. Marta Williams will bring small centerpieces. Cathy will buy holiday napkins and a gallon of apple cider.

**Cards and Flowers Revisit:** Our policy of sending cards and flowers to members for illness and deaths was discussed since there was concern that we were not being consistent. Marta made a motion to adopt the following guideline: ' If known, a card will be sent in the case of a member's illness or to the family of a member in the event of a the member's death. Additionally, a member's death will be commemorated with the purchase of a book for the Guild library.' The motion was seconded by Judith Jones and passed with one dissension. The discussion centered on the fact that we do not always know and that we do not want to hurt anyone's feelings through negligence. The option of doing nothing, with the assumption that individuals within the guild or within a study group would send cards/flowers was discussed but not proposed.

**Michigan Fiber Festival Ad:** Marta Williams requested approval to renew the Guild's ad in the Michigan Fiber Festival's publication Fiberline and on their website. Funds had been appropriated for this, so Marta will review the ad to assure that it is current, make any required changes, and renew it.

**The motion to adjourn** was made at 4:08.

Respectively submitted:

**Marta G. Williams**

Membership Chair, Publications Chair, and Welcoming New Members  
Weavers Guild of Kalamazoo, Inc.