

Blue Ridge Fiber Guild Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2022 on Zoom

Program: "Maker's Statement" led by Vicki Skywark

Participating: Beth Reavis, Vicki Skywark, Susan Sharpe, Rhonda Gladden, Mona Alderson, Janeene Ross, Hope Estepan, Jane Campbell, Sali Gill-Johnson, Mary Valante, Susan Payne, Hannah Finkelstein, Rita Collie, Kathy Cooper, Jean-Marie Reddan Martinac

Topics:

Treasurer's report:

\$ 1,451.94 Ending Balance/March

\$ 71.05 Deposits

\$ 1,522.99 Ending Balance

Currently there are 30 paid members.

We are still working on establishing a PayPal account to allow for easier facilitation of payment of annual memberships and other monetary transactions, but are having some issues. Vicki will send out information to board members when it is up. Also, business cards have also been ordered and there is a supply for each member on request.

Secretary's Report: There were no updates or additions for the March minutes, which were approved.

New Member Welcome Email will be signed by sender (secretary) and will include board members' names and emails, along with Facebook, and other web links.

New Business, Reports and Upcoming Events:

Hickory Ridge "Fiber Frolic" is planned for Saturday, May 7 from 1-4 PM. There are a host of participants and demonstrators for historical American life coming.

Susan Sharpe has extended her one-woman show at the Arts Space. (Located above Doe Ridge Pottery on King St) She provided a zoom preview and there will be an opening on April 21 from 4-6 PM featuring live music.

The Linus Project provides handmade blankets for children in need and dealing with trauma. The chapter in Fletcher reached out via a local member seeking donations of material and yarn, and we are collecting those. Drop off site to be determined. There are also Watauga County agencies which could use blankets including the Children's Council and the Red Cross.

"Boonerang Festival" Saturday, June 18

- Cost of participation as a group is \$110, and a tent would be set up in front of the Jones House in downtown Boone. Members will be allowed to demonstrate and also to sell individual work. Beth Reavis and Mary Valante volunteered to coordinate and staff a table for children's fiber activities. Please let Susan Sharpe know if you are interested in offering your work for the sale (and what) so space will be available.
- A motion was made and carried to participate with the BRFG paying the fee. An additional motion was made to charge individual members selling outside a 10% commission of total sales that would go to the BRFG, to be waived if a commission of 35% is charged by WAC. This was adopted by unanimous vote.

The BRFG show will also be up inside the Jones House June 1-30. All guild members are encouraged to submit at least one work showcasing your interests and talent. The deadline for the guild application is April 30, and members are requested to submit individual applications to Susan Sharpe ASAP via the link on the guild website. Also, we are collecting Maker's Statements, which have been sent to members as a google form. Susan Sharpe indicated she was told members would be charged 35% commission for any Jones House gallery sales, under authority of the Watauga Arts Council, but she will double check.

Handweavers Guild of America is hosting the Fiber Convergence July 15-21 in Knoxville, TN; info at <https://weavespindye.org/convergence/>. Please let Beth know if this will present a conflict for you, as it is the same date as our scheduled Christmas in July.

The next meeting of the Blue Ridge Fiber Guild will be Saturday, May 21 at 10:30, at the ArtSpace classroom. Susan Payne will lead a "Slash Your Stash" using fabric/leftover quilt pieces.

Saturday, May 2, Lost Province is having a "High Country Boil" with music and craft fair in Lansing from 2-6 PM.

Meeting was adjourned.

Workshop:

"Your Maker's Statement" led by Vicki Skywark. A statement should ideally be personal and interesting enough to get attention. Among the prompts to consider in creating your statement are:

- What is your first memory of your craft?
- What kind of training/exposure did you have?
- What are your inspirations?

Examples may be viewed at [southernhighlandguild.org](http://southernhighlandguild.org), in the members' directory.

Members are encouraged to draft a statement on their own, and share with one or more other members for review/feedback. Completed statements may be submitted via the Google form, and Vicki is happy to provide feedback. If you have trouble accessing the form, contact Vicki.

Minutes prepared by Sali Gill-Johnson 4/17/22