

Blue Ridge Fiber Guild Meeting Notes

July 20, 2024

Brookshire Park

Guild Picnic

1. **Call to Order-** President Mona Alderson called the meeting to order.
2. **Recognize visitors, new members-**One member, Betty Armistead rejoined. Eighteen members were in attendance. There was no zoom option for this meeting as it was a picnic.
3. **Cares and Concerns-** It was reported that Susan Sharpe's sister is in hospice. Janeene Ross reported that her husband's recent PET scan did not detect any cancer. He is improving slowly.
4. **Motion to Approve Minutes-**Andrea Vail motioned to approve minutes from June 22nd meeting. Rhonda Gladden seconded the motion. Motion carried.
5. **Treasurer's Report-**Betty Womack reported a balance of \$3216.05, \$875 of which is designated for retreat.
6. **Retreat- August 16-18 Wild Acres Little Switzerland**
Susan Payne will send an email with details about the plans for the retreat after Aug 1. Final payment is now due. As of the end of the meeting, all rooms for the retreat were full.
7. **Busker's Fest:** Amber at Watauga Arts Council has asked if the guild is interested in participating in Busker's Fest Oct 4.
<https://www.watauga-arts.org/buskersfest>
The Fest is held on the first Friday of October, and is a sidewalk celebration of the arts. Salli Gill-Johnson and Vicki Skywark agreed to take the lead on gathering the details on this event. Several members expressed interest in taking part in this event.
8. **Grant Opportunities-** Mona Alderson inquired about interest in pursuing two potential grants. One is offered through Watauga Arts Council, the other through Mid Atlantic Fiber Association (MAFA). The Watauga Arts Council grant needs to be submitted by August 15, so will be considered first.
Amber from the Watauga Arts Council encouraged the guild to apply. This matching grant could provide funds for community outreach

enhancement. Items supplied by the guild such as teaching time, travel time, materials and supplies can all be counted toward the guild's portion of matching "funds".

Amber is also very interested in having the guild consider teaching an introduction to fiber arts series at Watauga Arts Council. Members expressed interest in teaching such as series. Specifically, Jane Campbell, Jeanne Lawrence, Kareen Dendiu, Betty Womack and Andrea Vail agreed to discuss details on this.

Jeanne Lawrence asked the guild to increase artist pay going forward; both for visiting artists and for those teaching at Watauga Arts Council.

Mary Valante motioned to approve guild's interest in pursuing the grant through the Arts Council and the consideration of teaching a series there. Jeanne Lawrence seconded the motion. Motion carried.

9. Website and Email- BRFG.org has been acquired for guild use.

Discussion was held regarding whether the guild should pay for access to email using .org. Blue Ridge Fiber Guild website remains. Inquiries to BRFG.org will be directed to Blue Ridge Fiber Guild. Cost for the domain is \$10, forwarding only email is \$5, a mailbox with capability to send emails is \$20 per year. Members commented that using a .org email is a more professional choice than gmail.

Jeanne Lawrence moved to approve funds to pay for the new email. Beth Reavis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Work will need to be done to populate the guild website. Rhonda Gladden, Vicki Skywark, Mona Alderson and Margie Cassan agreed to work on this.

10. Committee Reports:

Programs- Mona Alderson is working on future programs. Those with ideas should contact her. In August the guild will be at the retreat and there will be no formal meeting. Kelsy Wagner will present at the September meeting.

Exhibits and Shows- Susan Payne reviewed necessary information for the upcoming Guild show at Edgewood Cottage in Blowing Rock.

<https://www.artistsatedgewood.org/>

The show set up is Sunday, August 4 at 6 pm, and will begin as soon as the departing artist has taken down their show. Members may also set up early on Monday, August 5. The show runs from 10-5 throughout the week. Art will be taken down on Aug 11 at 4:30 pm. Training for use on “square” for electronic purchases will occur during set up on Aug 4. The reception will be on Thursday, Aug 8 at 1 pm. Susan reviewed the paperwork needed for those selling at the show. Members were asked to take copies with them.

Susan Payne has her own show at Edgewood Cottage this week- Members were encouraged to visit.

11. **Show and Share-** Beth Reavis shared a quilt she made for a school fundraiser. Other show and share will be held at future meetings as the weather deteriorated.
12. **Adjourn-** The formal meeting was adjourned and members enjoyed a pot luck lunch. A gift basket was won by Beth Reavis after she most closely guessed the amount of yarn on a ball provided by Betty Womack. A fiber swap was enjoyed as well.

Submitted by Margie Cassan July 21, 2024