

## **Blue Ridge Fiber Guild Meeting Notes**

**October 19, 2024**

### **Zoom Meeting**

- 1. Call to Order-** Mona Alderson called the meeting to order.
- 2. Recognize visitors, new members-**There were 13 people in attendance on zoom. No visitors or new members were present. The meeting was held via zoom following Hurricane Helene's damage to roads in the area.
- 3. Cares and Concerns-** Beth Reavis reported no known cares or concerns other than the ongoing effort by many to recover from the hurricane. Janeene Ross' husband continues to have breathing problems.
- 4. Motion to Approve Minutes-**Pam Kicklighter motioned to approve minutes from the September meeting. Rhonda Gladden seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- 5. Treasurer's Report-**Betty Womack reported a balance of \$2411.11.
- 6. Hurricane Helene Status-** Watauga Arts Council and Western Watauga Community Center survived the storm with minor problems. Andrea Vail's studio was flooded. No one has reported loss of equipment. MAFA has grant money and potentially recovery funds available for storm related fiber art expenses. Pam Kicklighter is our contact person if one chooses to investigate those options. Locally folks were encouraged to support local businesses in order to help them get back on their feet.  
Wild Acres Event center, where our retreat was held, is closed for the year. They have infrastructure problems. Penland has also suffered a lot of damage. Edwina Bringle and her sister are ok.
- 7. Johnson County Arts Show-**  
Jot form for entries was due October 20. Submitted work should include a note with title, your name and cost. Mona will pick up work to be entered on October 29 from 12-1 at Watauga Art Council. Susan Payne and Susan Sharpe will collect items to show if you are unable to get to WAC on the 29th. Mona and Susan Sharpe will hang

the show on October 30 or 31. There will be an opening event on November 1 from 4-6 pm. Mona will send directions to the Johnson County Arts Center with roads that are accessible after the storm. The Center will supply refreshments. Mona did a live video tour of the space as she was conducting the zoom meeting there.

## **8. Committee Reports:**

**Programs- November-** Karen Dendiu will lead a needle felting workshop at the Western Watauga Community Center. A materials fee of \$5 cash will be asked. Participants may bring cookie cutters (open style), and needles if they have them.

**December-** The meeting will be at Western Watauga Community Center. We will have a pot luck meal and a fiber swap. Guild will provide paper products and utensils.

**Jan-Feb-** In person versus zoom meetings were discussed. Several people prefer to meet in person if weather allows.

Mona would like a volunteer to be upcoming program chairperson. Please think about future program ideas.

**Membership-** Beth Reavis reported a membership total of 44 people.

**Exhibits and Shows-** Nothing is planned after the Johnson county show upcoming. Applications are on hold at some places after the storm. Susan Payne is checking on Ashe County and Florence Thomas shows. Mona was contacted by Ashe county inquiring if the guild is interested in participating in a one day fiber arts event in the summer of 2026. That will be considered with more information.

**Communications-** Rhonda Gladden reported no news. Vicki Skywark requested photographs for any events to use on social media; send photos to Rhonda, Vicki, and Kelsey Wagner. Mona requested folks with tech skills volunteer to help going forward.

**New Business-** Jane Campbell reported that a fiber group called Loose Ends meets in Ashe County on November 7 at 10 am. Contact her for more info.

**Emotional Support Chicken Campaign-** Jeanne Lawrence is hosting a knit along to create emotional support chickens to be sent to hurricane survivors. She thanked Vicki Skywark for telling her about the pattern which is available on Etsy and Ravelry. Bobbin Boy

( Melissa and Alan Dewey) in Asheville is distributing the chickens as well as knitted caps and other items to survivors. Jeanne has over 100 people in 4 different countries participating.

**Show and Share-**

**Adjourn-** The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Margie Cassan October 21, 2024