

## **Weaver's Guild of Greater Kansas City Business Meeting March 10, 2022**

The meeting was held via Zoom due to Covid.

Janet Meddings called the meeting to order at 10:02

### **Treasurer's Report** - Kate Webb

Operating Cash	\$12,556.55
Scholarship Fund	\$ 3,323.78
Gross Operating Fund	\$15,880.33

The directory has been mailed to all who requested it. The rest will be distributed at the next in-person meeting.

### **Programs** - Cindy Smith

- April - still open
- May - book binding
- June - Victoria Newman
- Suggestions for future meetings include:
  - Susan Ferguson, a local fiber arts artist who has created the design for one of the 154 hearts for the Kansas City Parade of Hearts. (Janet Meddings)
  - Program about Maxine Erickson who was a former Guild member. (Lolly Buxton)
  - Wire Wrapping (Rachel Rose)

### **Newsletter** - Karen Neal

- Ads for looms for sale listed in the newsletter will run for three months. After that, the seller must make a request for a relisting.

### **Scholarship** - Gail White

Gail thanked the Guild for accepting changes to the scholarship program and for the additional money added to the scholarship fund.

### **Midwest Weavers Association**

- Janet Meddings - The Midwest Weavers Association has added the Weavers Guild of Greater Kansas City to its webpage listing of guilds.

### **Public Sale**

- Janet Meddings reported on her discussion with the the St Louis Weavers Guild annual sales which is open to the public.

- Members make their own financial transactions for items sold as opposed to having a central cashier.
- The Guild pays to rent a location but members can have a space free.
- There are no local weaving stores so this is a popular sale with about 50 public people attending.
- Several members had questions regarding sales tax remittance.
- A few individuals indicated that they enjoyed the swap and shop we had in a park that was open only to members. It was pointed out that many parks do not allow sales.
- The Farmer's Market was suggested as a potential partner for the sale.
- It was suggested that if we move forward, we need to have sufficient member commitment to make the effort worthwhile.
- Feeling there was enough interest, Janet asked for volunteers to form a committee to study the feasibility of a public sale. Vickie Raynes, Gail White and Rachel Rose volunteered.

### **Guests**

- Pat Knefel with the Kemper Museum and the Nelson Atkins Museum was a guest at the meeting today.

**Felt Study Group** meets at 10 AM on the fourth Thursday of every month at the home of Judy Santner.

**Treats** Abby Dearth, Lori Deason, and Gail White who were supposed to bring treats for the March meeting will now bring them in April.

### **New Members**

We have gained two new members so far this year and 26 during the past year.

### **Younger Members**

Janet addressed the problem of attracting new younger guild members, a problem that is felt by guilds nationwide. Many suggested that for the most part it is a time constraint issue. It was also suggested that podcasts and other ways of electronic communication is the preferred form of engagement by younger people.

### **Bylaw Concerns**

#### **1. Diversity and Inclusion**

- Janet suggested that we add a diversity and inclusion statement to our Bylaws. Having a statement could make more people feel welcome.

- It was also suggested that diversity should be reflected in our outreach and in programs to raise our visibility.
- Another suggestion was that we look into a two-tier membership (local vs more remote members). Janet has already researched this and feels it would generate too much work for the treasurer and others.
- By a show of hands, it was determined that a diversity statement needs to be added to our bylaws.

## **2. Members in Good Standing**

- During our previous discussions regarding the revision of our scholarship program, it came to light that we should revise our statement regarding members in good standing.
- Janet read the Weavers Guild of St Louis' statement.
- Jacqueline Jacobson shared that the current wording of our statement dealt with the rental of looms.
- The purpose and wording of the statement was also for participation in Creative Hand and to hold an office in the guild. Loom rental is no longer an issue and Creative Hand's concerns were taken care of with the elimination of the half-year membership rate.
- The current statement held difficulties when we recently made changes to our scholarship program guidelines as the wording excludes many members who work, are homebound, or are elderly.
- By a show of hands, it was decided that the Members in Good Standing section of our bylaws needs to be revised.

Janet will submit new wording for both of these issues to be included in the next newsletter which will be followed by discussion and vote at our April meeting.

## **Membership Participation**

Our in-person meetings have about forty participants while our online meetings generate about 25-30 attendees. Janet suggested that we need to question what we are doing for the other 60 members of the Guild. Light discussion followed.