

Loose Bead Society of Greater Milwaukee
Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 6, 2017
Brookfield Public Library

Board members in attendance: Maureen Bartz, Bonnie DeSautelle, Deb Dunn, Pat Harvey, Allyn Steffen, Carol Surges, Tris Withington

Unable to Attend: Kat Feldman, Katy Hess

Guests: Julie Miller, Kathy Willmering (acting as membership coordinator)

Call to Order

Bonnie DeSautelle called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the December 3, 2016 transition meeting were tabled again, taken by Tris Withington. This meeting also functioned as the December board meeting.
- The summary minutes of the January 16, 2017 membership meeting were approved with corrections, taken by Deb Dunn. Deb will make the updates.
- The minutes of the February 6, 2017 board meeting were approved as written, taken by Kathy Willmering.
- The minutes of the February 20, 2017 membership meeting were approved with minor corrections, taken by Maureen Bartz. Maureen will make the updates.

Volunteer Hours

- Any committee volunteer hours for previous month were submitted to Kathy Willmering.

Calendar Updates

- March 20: next Membership meeting at New Berlin Public Library
- April 3: next Board meeting at Brookfield Public Library

Financial Submissions

- Any expense forms, income forms, & reimbursement requests were submitted to Allyn Steffen, Treasurer.

Open Community Service Coordinator Position

The board proposed appointing Pat Harvey as Community Service Coordinator. Pat is willing to take on this position. The board approved Pat's appointment.

Officer/Committee Reports

Vice-President - Programming; Deb Dunn

- The February Hands-on program of stacked boho leather bracelets was successful. Several extra kits were sold at the meeting. There are many remaining kits. We will attempt to sell the extras at future events such as the Rummage Sale, the Milwaukee Bead Show, etc.
- The next several months of programs are scheduled to be:
 - March – Robert Jennik, lampwork artist, will give a presentation. Deb will be out of town and Cindy Collins will handle the introduction to members.
 - April – Demos, with 4-5 members continuously demonstrating various techniques including Wrapped Loops, Polymer Clay, Kumihimo, and Paracord bracelets.
 - May – a Hands-on program at St. Dominic's PAC involving tassels.

- June – a presentation by J-Me and Guy of Wild Things Beads. The New Berlin Public Library gave “one-time” permission to LBS to use the community room early and allow selling. NBPL will charge LBS a nominal fee (\$50) for this privilege. Thus, Wild Things Beads will have a selling event prior to the presentation.
 - July – unknown at this time
 - August – trying to arrange a presentation by Rita Briant, owner of Prairie Flower Beads in Portage, WI
- Deb is investigating whether the American Legion Post on about 91st and Beloit might be a suitable spot for a future Hands-on meeting. Deb has spoken to Irina Miech about potentially getting wholesale prices for supplies for LBS projects. Details still to be finalized.

Vice-President - Special Events; Maureen Bartz

- The Retreat is coming up on March 10th-12th. Everything is in order for that event.
- No other Special Events news for this month.

Treasurer; Allyn Steffen

- Allyn presented the previous month’s Treasury Report for review.

Community Service Coordinator; Pat Harvey

- Pat proposed doing another community service event with the Veterans group. Pat and Karen Weinberg would organize the events and coordinate the volunteers needed. Pat expects about three events per year. She already has a project in mind for the next event. The board approved this proposal.
- Pat will follow up with Mary Hottinger about the Vision Forward event – to at least get an overview of the event.
- Bonnie will follow up with Katy Hess about any existing Community Service supplies – tools, beads, etc. – and let Pat know the results.

President-Elect; Tris Withington

- Tris is starting to get a few people signing up for volunteering at the Bead&Button show.
- Tris is also working on getting some raffle prizes.

Website Coordinator; Carol Surges

- Carol discussed some of the quarterly changes she makes to the website to keep it current and fresh. Carol hopes to take a few pics of some member’s finished jewelry at the Retreat.
- Carol encouraged all board members to email her with information about upcoming projects, events, and meetings. The person who is organizing the project, event, or meeting has the information already and thus the posting on our website will be accurate and timely.

Membership Coordinator; Kat Feldman

- Kathy Willmering is still acting as Membership Coordinator on Kat’s behalf.
- LBS currently has 158 members. This is about 74% of our 2016 final count of 213. We’ve currently taken in nearly \$4600 in dues, however the budget amount was \$6750 (225 paying people at \$30 each). An eblast will be sent to the non-renewed members from 2016 encouraging them to renew.
- We discussed ensuring that people are paid-up members to get a free kit at Hands-on meetings. A suggestion is that all the table captains pass around a piece of paper asking each person to print their name. The table captains then turn the paper over to the membership coordinator during the beginning of the meeting. The membership coordinator would verify the names of the people at each table against a list of names of current members. Anyone who is not a current member could then be asked by the membership coordinator to renew or pay the guest fee. Kathy will ensure that an alphabetical list of current member names can easily be extracted from the database.

Librarian and Rummage Sale Coordinator; Julie Miller

- Julie Miller reported that the Excellence Center is reserved for the Rummage Sale on July 29, 2017. Unfortunately, the rent for the room has increased by 25% to \$500. Historically, the table fees have covered the room rent plus advertising expenses. Julie proposed increasing the table fee from \$15 to \$20 to offset the increase in room rent. The board approved this.

Secretary

- No progress on getting a replacement secretary.
- All board members will try to talk to other members about taking on the position of Secretary.

Unfinished Business

- Membership Survey
Deb Dunn turned over all remaining surveys to Allyn Steffen for summary.
- Nominating Committee
Several members were suggested for this committee. Bonnie will contact people to see if they are willing to serve on this committee.
- Review of Bylaws, Policies and Procedures
No action on this item yet.
- Update membership registration flyer for renewal and new members
Katy Hess is working on updating the entire flyer. Bonnie will determine if anything has happened.

New Business

- Scholarship for 2017
Carol Surges proposed doing a scholarship in a very similar manner as last year, but doing it soon. Carol would like to make this an annual activity. The board discussed last year year's scholarship, the jewelry arts program at UWM, what the money should be used for, whether to make this an annual activity. The budget did allow for a \$500 scholarship for this fiscal year. There was a suggestion that there is a stipulation placed on the scholarship that it be used for tuition, books, or supplies (and not anything else). Ultimately, the board agreed to do a scholarship for 2017, along the same lines as the 2016 scholarship. Carol will see if there can be stipulations on the scholarship. Carol will contact UWM to get the process started now with the intention that a student be selected before the end of this semester.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Next board meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2017.

Minutes taken by Kathy Willmering