Alamance Artisans Meeting/Potluck Minutes

January 16, 2024

23 members and 3 guests

After an excellent potluck meal and lively conversation, Copresident Jean Kaplan called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Membership renewals**: The online application is working, and mail-in forms are also on the website, alamanceartisans.com. You must be a member to vote.

**Board elections**: Jean announced that she, Carolyn Bell, and Pam Watts are leaving the Board of Directors. Continuing board members are Mary Archer (resigned as treasurer), Dottie Blanchard, Sean Leahy, Deb Ussery (secretary), and Anita Vigorito (president). A slate of new board members was presented and voted onto the Board unanimously: Deb Barnett (no longer VP), Terry Cott, Donna Vitucci, and Gia Woods. The board will meet January 30 to elect a new VP and treasurer.

**Guild show options**: A meeting discussed whether to have a 2024 Extravaganza in the same format as the past few years or to sponsor more frequent, smaller shows. The Inn at Elon is available and is interested in hosting us again this year, but we need to decide fairly soon. Members expressed a good deal of enthusiasm for continuing the Extravaganza model, but members need to step up to serve on the Steering Committee and sign on as participants. Other options were discussed, including pop-up shows and collaborations with other groups. Further discussion is needed.

**CCL updates**: Twenty-two member artists will be on display at the Center for Creative Leadership from December 1, 2023, through March 29, 2024. The reception is Friday, January 26, 5–7 pm, at CCL, 1 Leadership Place, Greensboro, and all are invited to attend. Please share information about the reception, along with the fact that the exhibit may be viewed each Friday through March 29 by appointment. For appointments, call Laura Gibson at 336-708-2495.

**Social media**: We need an administrator to post on our public Facebook and Instagram pages. Susan Kern has served in this role for quite some time and is requesting someone else take over. FYI, anyone can post on our members-only FB page.

**Grants**: Donna Vitucci has agreed to head future grant writing. She would appreciate suggestions and brainstorming.

**Patrons**: Each member is expected to solicit a Patron to help fund our activities in return for a place in our publicity. New Patron letters are on the website. We ask for renewals at the anniversary of current Patrons’ contributions.

**Activity sign-up sheet**: A sign-up sheet was circulated at the meeting asking for volunteers: (1) Programs for meetings—Jim and Rita are making a presentation at our February meeting and offered to present again later in the year. (2) Student connections—no one signed up. (3) Grant opportunities—no one signed up other than Donna. (4) Patrons—no one signed up. (5) Social media—no one signed up. (6) Exhibitions—Deb Barnett and Deb Ussery signed up.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, February 25, 2 pm, at Alamance Arts. Jim and Rita Duxbury are planning a program to include a brief discussion of the first uses of wood as an essential element for family life and how early humankind and later American pioneers perfected the craft of wood turning. The program will include a show and tell of the process from log to bowl with examples of interesting wood turnings. A short contest on wood identification includes a prize for the winner.

**Member activities**: Please let us know of any shows in which you are participating so we can spread the word. Here’s what we know so far:

**Harrison’s**

December 16, 2023–January 27, 2024

 Beth Hill and Pat Scheible

**Center for Creative Leadership**

December 1, 2023–March 29, 2024

**Alamance Arts**

May 27–June 27, 2025