

**SIERRA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

March 25, 2023, 10 a.m.

Maker's Paradise, 299 E. Plumb, Ste. 155, Reno

Call to Order: Ronnie Rector, President at: 9:57 a.m.

In Attendance, Board Members, Committee Members and Members at Large:

Ronnie Rector, President, Jennifer Amrhein, Co-Vice President, Anita Watson, Co-Vice President, Anette Rink, Treasurer, Vickie Behrens, Secretary/Archivist, Diane Sewell, Past President/Advisor, Nancy Podewils-Baba, Art Angels, Community Outreach, Bess Inouye, Librarian, Sharon Reed, Exhibits Coordinator, Sally DuPre, Memberships, Linda Halicki, Newsletter, James Gayles, Challenges, Kathryn Dudley, Scholarship Program and Carolyn Runnels, Social Media Publicity.

Minutes from the January 14, 2023 Board Meeting: Vickie Behrens, Secretary

Minutes emailed with the agenda. Motion to approve: Jennifer Amrhein. Seconded by: Anette Rink. Opposed: None. Approved as emailed.

Treasurer's Reports: Anette Rink, Treasurer

Financial Summary Report:

- Most of the payments to SWS comes through electronic payment. Due to concerns about the security of payments through the website, some payments were made by check.
- Four 1099 NEC forms were sent out to four workshop artists and bookkeeper David Issacson. This was the first year a 1099 was sent to the bookkeeper. This is clearly required according to IRS for amounts over \$2200 and must be documented as income.
- 1069 expenditures for non-employee contracts in the amount of \$19,336.33.
- Ongoing costs Hartford business Insurance are stable at \$525.
- Website costs continue at no increase.
- Mailbox costs increased \$168 to \$204 to \$232 this year.
- Constant Contact stable pricing at \$31.50/month with discount for making payments vs. monthly.
- Quick books up annually to \$915 per year. Anette recommends continuation due to ease of use and good service. The Board concurred.

Board Questions:

\$54 lodging cost? This was a deposit to hold a room.

Zoom subscription? We are no longer paying for a subscription. An upcoming artist wants to use Zoom as a promotion for her upcoming workshop. The Board decided there was no reason to continue the subscription and the artist may have her own business subscription to Zoom that she can use.

The January and February Treasurer's Reports were emailed with the agenda. Motion to approve: Ronnie Rector; Seconded by: Nancy Podewils Baba. None Opposed. Treasurers report approved as emailed.

Archivist: Vickie Behrens

Vickie provided a report of 2022 files and documents filed at the Nevada Historical Society (located on the UNR Campus) on Saturday, March 4, 2023:

Filed annual documents and added to Flash Drive:
2022 Board and General Meeting Minutes
2022 Itemized and Chronological Reports

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2022 Newsletters

In addition, several exhibit related documents for previous years, provided by outgoing Exhibit Coordinator Marjee Smith, were filed and added to the database.

There was a brief discussion about how long to keep the archive files. Anette reported that the Audit requirements for financial records retention is two years. Linda Halicki reported that NHS recommends keeping as much on file as we can. Vickie reported that files are in 6 boxes, categorized on a database and easy to research. She recommended that if files exceed 6 boxes, we should further discuss disposing of some unnecessary documents in the future.

2023 Report to Board Attached.

2023 Workshops and Demonstrations: Jennifer Amrhein and Anita Watson, Co-Vice Presidents

Artists booked for 2024 are unchanged, nothing booked for 2025 yet. Possibility of Donna Jeanne Koepp for January 2024 Demo. She works in gouache.

There are new workshop promotion boards prepared for today's meetings, saving \$100 in printing costs for the color pamphlets. These workshop boards can be reviewed and photographed by members.

Anita distributed the member survey responses for the new facility. In general, the responses were very positive. Many participants were concerned about the small tabletop workspace being crowded with limited space for 1/2 sheet paintings, supplies and tools. Everyone loved the light in the room. There were good suggestions for 8' tables and more tables, trash cans, better directions to the site and concerns about stains on upholstered chairs and a lack of recycling containers.

Anita reported that the small storage cabinet in the classroom is useful for secure storage of smaller items, and she would like it to stay in the classroom. As discussed during the SWS initial tour of the space, a larger storage area is needed, especially for the overhead mirror, which is incurring damage from moves from upstairs storage to classroom.

We do need to have coffee service in the classroom because inside access to the Reno Public market is not accessible until 1:00 p.m. Due to mobility issues and weather, going outside to the front of the RPM to access food courts/coffee shop is inconvenient. Kathryn Dudley will communicate with the building manager and get the closer outside side doors open when we are here.

Workshop Coordinators suggestions/discussion:

- Possibility of cork board areas on one wall to showcase/dry student/Artist paintings.
- Wall clock needed in the classroom.
- Rearrange tables for better viewing (fanning out from corner) and using the projector for a larger group. Limit size of classes.
- Discussion about eliminating a class in Spring. We currently have workshops in March and May. Concern is about lack of participation due to weather instability and lack of interest as demonstrated by the current signups for Betty Carr. The Board agreed to continue with the March and May workshops at this time.
- Additional chairs are needed.
- SWS has not yet received a contract or invoice. The cost of the new facility is the same as it was for the Temple.

Anette announced an upcoming workshop by Keiko Tanabe and a juried watercolor competition in Carson City as part of Watercolor Carson City. The workshop is on August 4th and 5th. The competition deadline is April 15. More

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signups are needed for both. Some of the proceeds will go to the Capital City C.I.R.C.L.E. Initiative to reintegrate people with former drug issues back into society.

For further discussion, would SWS consider sponsoring this event at some level?

2023 Workshops and Demonstrations:

- Soon Warren, "Painting Vibrant Watercolors", March 22-24, Today's Demo starts at 1 p.m.
- Betty Carr - May 10-12, Demo May 13. Registration is now open- one registered to date.
- Lisa Jefferson, Member Artist Month, June 22 – 24. Registration will open in April.
- Julie Cohn, August 16-18, Demo August 19
- Sterling Edwards, October 4-6, Demo October 7

Student Rate Membership Fee

Discussion/Decision: Continuation of the last Board Meeting's discussion about a change to by-laws which require that the same rate apply to all members regardless of age. It was suggested that the by-laws be changed to allow for a lower rate for younger artists (i.e. under 18 or 21). We currently have a new member under 18.

Anette suggested that because there will be very few that this would apply to, we consider offering a 1-year free "audit" membership to students in high school and college. If they are interested in continuing, they can ask for sponsorship from a member. It could be a positive recruitment outreach for our organization,

The group agreed that sponsorship for membership for students would be a great idea as well as offering a firstyear audit to get to know the organization. No action was taken at this meeting.

Scholarship Program, Kathryn Dudley

Kathryn has been unsuccessful in contacting Holland Project by phone to set up a scholarship program. It was suggested that she contact the group by email, which will be provided by Ronnie. Kathryn will contact Holland Project by email and report back at the next meeting.

Library: Bess Inouye, Librarian

All 83 books and 149 DVDs will be available at today's general meeting and the book sale will be at the next meeting.

Biographer: Vacant

Membership: Sally DuPre

110 members to date. This year several members are paying by check but not registering on the website. If members are having computer issues, Sally can register for them. Members must not only pay membership fees, but also register online annually. She will remind members at today's general meeting.

Newsletter: Linda Halicki

The March/April Newsletter is posted on the SWS website. Deadline for items for May/June issue to Linda by April 20th.

Art Angels: Nancy Podewils-Baba

- Four classes at Spanish Springs Elementary
- March 9 and April 7 at Poulakidas Elementary 5th grade
- April 28, May 9 at Peavine Elementary 5th grade
- May 9, May 16, May 23, May 30 at Lois Allen Elementary

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- Art Angels Spring Workshop will be held on Sunday, May 7th, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Downtown Reno Library, 301 S. Center Street. Still looking for participants. Nancy will contact teachers to promote participation.
- The Artown Art Angels Workshop is changed from July 14 to Friday, July 21st at the Wilbur D. May Museum.

Publicity:

Nancy discussed the February Reno Arts Consortium meeting she attended with Ignacio Barron Viela, E.D of the Reno Philharmonic. Mr. Viela discussed the need for more partnerships to address community problems like homelessness and ageism. Nancy suggested that SWS create artwork depicting these problems, and the Philharmonic or another group could potentially commission a piece of music to highlight the paintings. After the Consortium meeting Nancy received emails from ReNEW and the NV Arts Council, encouraging her to apply for a Project Grant.

Nancy suggested to the Board, that the Artown exhibit focus on community issues and resources and titling the exhibit "Community Perspectives". Also, to make the artwork available to potential composers to view either before or at the start of the exhibit to ideally have at least a preliminary piece of music ready to perform at our reception on July 22nd. She will discuss the feasibility of having tables for community resource organizations at the reception with Tina at Maker's Paradise.

Social Media Publicity: Carolyn Runnels

Carolyn reported that she has worked with Julene Hunter (website coordinator) to provide her with access on Facebook. She is currently posting on Facebook with a link to Instagram. She currently does not have direct access to post directly to Instagram and would like to do so. Ronnie Rector suggested that she work with Breanne Craig, the current Instagram account holder.

Carolyn asked for the Board's direction about what she can and cannot post on Social Media. She will share SWS member activities if she has a member roster to verify members. Ronnie will send the roster to her.

After discussion, the Board agreed that she should share all Nevada Art related activities, continue to share SWS member activities, and all SWS activities on Facebook and Instagram.

Exhibits: Sharon Reed

2023 Ongoing and Future Exhibits:

- January 19 through February 28, 2023, Reno Public Market Gallery, "Watercolor Expressions," Kathryn Dudley, Exhibit Chair. Take down is April 7 between 1 and 5 p.m.
- February/March Exhibit, Sparks Library, "Transitions," January 30 through March 30, Take-down. is April 1, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nancy reported that the exhibit is up and looks great. No prices on paintings, sales are through contact with Nancy. No sales as of now.
- Annual Judged Exhibit, May 10 through June 11, Wilbur May Museum, "Spring Into Art". Judge: Betty Carr, Take-in May 9; Take-down June 14, 11 a.m. to 1 pm. Co-Chairs: Sharon Reed, Judy Welsh, Marjee Smith, Cheryl Keaveney, Julie Sulahria, Chris Kjaer, James Gayles.
- July Artown Exhibit 2023, July 1 through July 29, Reno Public Market Gallery, "Community Perspectives"

Take-in is June 30, 2 to 5 p.m. Take down is July 30. Artist's reception is July 22, 2 – 5 p.m. Co-Chairs: Nancy Podewils-Baba and Kathryn Dudley.

Challenges: Graciela Mancini (absent), James Gayles

May meeting challenge discussing is deferred to the General Meeting.

Meeting Calendar, 2023: May 13, August 19, and October 7. Board meeting at 10; General meeting at 11; demo at 1. Holiday Event: December 2.

Announcements:

Nevada Fine Arts Big Sale, last day today.

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 10:56 a.m. by Anette Rink, seconded by Sally DuPre.

Attachment: Archivist Report to Board