

SIERRA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
Board Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Reno Artist Co-Op, 627 Mill Street Reno

Call to Order: Diane Sewell, President. 9:33 a.m.

In Attendance, Board Members, Committee Members and Members at Large:
Diane Sewell; Linda Halicki; Anette Rink; Vickie Behrens: Nancy Podewils-Baba; Judy Berland; Anita Watson; and, Jennifer Amrhein.

Approval of Minutes from the August 7 Board Meeting: Vickie Behrens, Secretary
Minutes emailed with the agenda.

Anette Rink made a motion to approve, with no additions or corrections, seconded by: Nancy Podewils-Baba. All voted in favor of approving the August 7 Board Meeting as emailed, none opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Anette Rink
August, 2021 Treasurer's report emailed with agenda

Anette reported that \$208 was raised for Art Angels from Nancy Gunderson's estate supplies sale. Vickie Behrens made a motion to approve, with no additions or corrections, seconded by Linda Halicki. All voted in favor to approve August 2021 Treasurer's reports as emailed, none opposed

Vacating Board and Chair Positions, Diane Sewell, President

Currently Open:

Biographer: The board discussed duties of this position as well as the format for the artist's information displayed in the binders at exhibits where they are allowed. At the October General Meeting, Anette Rink will bring the biography binders for members to review and Nancy Podewils-Baba will present a brief overview of the Biographer position and well as the guidelines for submitting information for inclusion in the binder.

Vacant in 2022:

Vice President: In recognition of the large scope of duties and responsibilities associated with the Vice President position, and as a "recruitment tool" and training opportunity, on August 7, the Board approved providing one free workshop during the volunteer's two-year term of office.

At the August 14 General Meeting, a member asked if the free workshop would be available to all who volunteer to share this position. The Board discussed splitting the workshop fee for up to 3 volunteers.

The Board further discussed a concern brought up at the August General Meeting that, as a 501 non-profit, SWS could not offer a free workshop as it would be considered paying a member. The Board agreed that the Vice-President's workshop coordinator duties are essential and vital to keep our organization going.

In an email to board members, Ronnie Rector conveyed her recent discussion with an executive director of another large 501C3 charitable organization. She reported that he was of the opinion that SWS can provide a free seat in a workshop to a board member as part of our Operating budget, under "Training", as long as SWS is paying for the workshop and not paying the Board member. This training opportunity is seen as 'enhancing' the Board's knowledge of processes important to our organization.

After Board discussion, Anette Rink made a motion for SWS to provide one free seat in one workshop during the Vice-President's two-year term; and, if the Vice President's position is split, the one workshop fee will be split equally for up to 3 people filling the position; seconded by Linda Halicki which was approved unanimously.

Anita Watson asked what options the Vice President has if she wants to waive the fee. The Board discussed the possibility of a donation to Art Angels. This item will be discussed further if the situation arises.

Newsletter Chair: The newsletter can be prepared using a simple format with any software program that the volunteer is familiar with. Lisa is available to advise the new volunteer.

Exhibit Coordinator: There was a brief discussion of the Exhibit Coordinator's responsibilities. Anette Rink will continue to handle the website exhibit duties that she is currently doing using Constant Contact. This position must be filled in order for Exhibits to continue in 2022. Anette Rink volunteered to contact Marjee Smith to see if she is available to review the position duties and 2022 Exhibit dates and venues, at the October General Meeting.

Scholarship Chair: This position is currently on hold until further discussions regarding future scholarships.

Diane Sewell will send out another email notice to all General Members to recruit for the current open positions.

Workshops and Demonstrations: Linda Halicki, Vice President

Linda reported that Colleen Reynold's Demo was very well planned, organized and well-received by members at the August General Meeting.

The Board discussed the continuation of providing videos of the public Demos to SWS members. It was agreed that this practice should continue, as long as the visiting artist agrees.

Linda mentioned that the SWS projector may not be working properly. She will have it looked at by a "technician" before considering replacement. This will be discussed at a future Board Meeting.

Linda reported that SWS's Zoom membership expires in October. The Board discussed discontinuing Zoom or switching to other options, such as Google Meets. The Board decided to continue the Zoom membership and discuss further as the Covid situation changes.

2021 Workshop Artists

Carl Purcell Workshop October 13-15, Public Demo - October 16th at 1:00 p.m. - registration opened July 1st and is full with 24 sign-ups. There is now a waiting list.

2022 Workshop Artists:

- Lori Bishop, Member Artist Public Demo January 15 at 1:00 p.m. The subject of this Demo on will be the "Human Eye"
- Don Andrews, March 9-11, Public Demo March 12 at 1:00 p.m. Linda suggested that members check out his monthly Zoom sessions.
- Soon Warren, May 10-13, Public Demo May 14 at 1:00 p.m. This is a workshop that was rescheduled due to last year's Covid restrictions.
- Lori Bishop, Member Artist Workshop, June 24-26. This workshop subject will be "Portrait Painting"

- Keiko Tanabe, August 17-19, Demo August 20. This artist is known for her plein air painting. A member asked if this workshop/Demo will be done as plein air. This might be a possibility; more information will be provided closer to the workshop.
- Frank Eber, October 18-21, Demo October 22

2023 Workshop

- January TBD
- Eric Wiegardt, March 21-24, Demo March 25
- Betty Carr - May 10-12, Demo May 13
- June TBD (Member Artist Month)
- Julie Cohn, August 16-18, Demo August 19
- Sterling Edwards, October 3-6, Demo October 7

Video Library: Bess Inouye, Librarian (absent)

No report

Membership: Sally Dupre, Membership Chair (absent)

Anette Rink reported there are currently 111 members. 2022 Membership begins on November 1. The membership fees will remain the same.

Newsletter: Lisa Jefferson, Newsletter Chair (absent)

No report.

Website: Julene Hunter (absent)

Vickie Behrens reported that all recently approved Board and General Meeting Minutes are on the SWS website.

Scholarship: Kathryn Dudley, Scholarship Chair (absent)

The Board continued the discussion of awarding the SWS scholarship fund to teachers vs. students. The \$1500 fund could be divided into \$500 grants and distributed to local teachers to be used for art supplies, gift certificates or teacher workshops related to water media art.

Since the last meeting, there has been extensive email discussions among the members, with many good ideas and some procedural questions. Anita Watson suggested considering Charter Schools that have art programs, such as Doral Academy. She also suggested the possibility of recruiting a water media art student from UNR to teach in local schools. Now is the time to start soliciting for 2022 by reaching out to teachers, school districts and charter schools, Anette Rink volunteered to contact Washoe County School District. Anette and Nancy Podewils-Baba will meet and discuss parameters, etc. and report back to the Board. This item will be discussed at future Board Meetings.

Art Angels, Community Outreach and Publicity: Nancy Podewils-Baba

Art Angels:

- Saturday, November 27 workshop at May Museum, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
The workshop flyer has been completed and distributed.
- Art Angels Raffle and Silent Auction on November 27 - December 4. Nancy announced that she will not be available on December 4, Mary Ann Quaglieri has volunteered to fill in for Nancy. However, volunteers are still needed for the Silent Auction and to assist Mary Ann with closing out the Auction.

Nancy requested that members be notified that those willing to donate a small, original watercolor painting (preferably framed) for the Art Angels Silent Auction can bring their painting to the October meeting on October 16, or to entry day for the Winter Exhibit on November 2.

Exhibits: Exhibit Coordinator - Vacant

Winter Exhibit at May Museum, November/December Upcoming Exhibits:

- Winter Exhibit at May Museum, Chair: Diane Sewell, November 3 - December 5.
 - Take-in November 2; Take-down December 8
 - Exhibit title ideas will be emailed to the Board Members for votes and will be announced to members at the October General Meeting.

There was discussion about the Exhibit Dates scheduled for 2022. Exhibits will only happen if we have an Exhibit Coordinator and Exhibit Chairs. A board member asked about the May Exhibit at the May Museum, this needs to be verified*. If so, Soon Warren may be able to judge the May Exhibit as she will be here for her scheduled workshop/Demo at that time.

*There is currently no exhibit booked for May; we do have an exhibit scheduled for Artown, at the May Museum, with Take-in on July 5, and Take-down on August 10. But without an Exhibit Coordinator and a Show Chair, this exhibit will not happen.

Challenges: Judy Berland

October Challenge for October 16 General Meeting: "Celebration!"

January Challenge for January 15 General Meeting: "Use It or Lose It"

Traditionally, January's challenge is to "Make a Silk Purse out of a Sow's Ear" - take an old painting and improve upon it. This time, let's use an existing painting as a background, and then develop it further. More information will be provided at the October General Meeting.

Board Meeting Calendar, 2021: Location: Reno Artist Co-op, 9:30 to 11 a.m. Dates for the last SWS Board Meeting in 2021 is: November 13. **2022 dates are:** February 12; April 9; July 9; September 10; November 12.

General Meeting Calendar, 2021: Location: Temple Sinai 10:30 a.m. Dates for the last SWS General Meeting in 2021 is: October 16; December 4 is the annual Holiday Pot-Luck at the May Museum. **2022 dates are:** January 15; March 12; May 14; August 20; October 22; December 3 (Holiday Party).

Other Discussions/Announcements:

Vickie Behrens will not be able to attend the October 16 General Meeting.

Motion to Adjourn:

Nancy Podewils-Baba made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 11:06 p.m. seconded by Anette Rink, which was approved unanimously.