

TUCSON QUILTERS GUILD

BUSINESS MEETING OF June 7, 2017

Meeting called to order by President, Elaine Romanelli at 9:30 a.m.

_____12_____ Board Members Present (Quorum? Yes ___X___ No _____)

_____ 8 _____ Committee Chairs Present

_____0_____ Visitors Present

_____2_____ Members Present

Prior to the actual business portion of the meeting, President Elaine Romanelli provided an update regarding the Resistance Quilt Project that had received some protests after they last meeting. Two protest letters had been received which Elaine had responded to. She had received 10-12 notes which were very supportive after placing a copy of her response in the newsletter. Basically the Guild is encouraged to support Freedom of Speech.

It was suggested that tables be placed in the back of the room at the next General Meeting so that members could look at the Show and Tell quilts more closely and make the process more interactive. An entry form is available on line so that they can be encouraged to enter their quilt in the Show.

Secretary: Corrections to the minutes:

Minutes were disseminated by e-mail and corrections made as requested.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kathy Barton and seconded by Cathy Dargel. Motion was approved.

Treasurer: Marie Morris

As of May 31, 2017, the operating budget was \$60,901.57.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Cathy Dargel and seconded by Mary Meserve. Motion was approved.

Vice President / By-Laws: Paulette Worman

She will be visiting Sister Jose's Shelter to see what they need and will probably be asking them to submit a grant request. The Evening Guild will be asked to help out. Currently the Shelter could also use volunteers to help cover the night shift.

Endowment / Donations: Mary Meserve

The Chair reported that she has not received any requests. She did receive a Thank You from the Hope No Kill Shelter.

Quilt Show: Reilly Zoda / Helen Frost

Chairman Reilly Zoda reported that she had talked to Kate Calhoun regarding the contracts that have not been received as yet. Kate replied that she will need to follow-up and track them down.

2019 Raffle Quilt – No-one has agreed to chair this yet. Paulette Worman, Kay Hendrick, Kathy Barton, Reilly Zoda and Elaine Romanelli will volunteer to meet and pick out fabric for the quilt so that the Guild can get started on it. Cactus Quilt Shop always offers a discount on the raffle quilt fabric.

Membership: Kathy Barton

The Guild currently has 401 members – down from 450 last year. The Chair had sent out an e-blast reminder to expired members. Kathy provided an analysis of the survey questions that she had included on the membership application.

1. The average age of our members is 69.
2. The average members stays with the Guild for 14 years.
3. The retention rate for new members is only 50%.

The Guild needs to figure out a way to attract younger members. There was some discussion about why there was no “Modern Quilt” category. This may be added in the future.

The Publicity Chair, Cathy Dargel, will be asking for money to get into several publications, such as the Tucson Guide, in order to increase exposure to the Show. There was money left over from last year so she was given the approval to do so.

Member Sue Burns reminded other members that, in the past, the Guild used to assign a Sponsor to help new members acclimate to the Guild. The Guild seems to have lost the personalization aspect of membership. Another suggestion was to find them a Bee to belong to. Sue has volunteered to coordinate this process if Kathy Barton will give her a list. She will make a presentation at the meeting.

There was some discussion about how to change the look of the guild – it is not as open and friendly as it could be. Many members stay involved with their own group of friends and don't try to meet new people. This could be one reason the retention rate is so low.

Sally Dickinson mentioned that there was extra room along the wall at the convention center that could be provided to the Modern Quilt Guild so that they could have a special exhibit of their member's quilts. We may need to purchase more equipment for hanging and purchase extra drapes. This would be considered a special exhibit and they would not have to be members. They would also have to pay to attend the Show.

Programs: Karen Fisher / Denise Withrow

The Co-chairs have worked hard on reducing the budget. Program expenditures are one of the largest line items in the budget. In January 2018, there will be only one workshop per program instead of two. Also, there will be several months when there will be a lecture only: January, June and November. These are usually the busiest months, with members involved in other activities. The chairmen will also look at having more local speakers. At the end of the two year period of these co-chairs they will be providing a detailed analysis of expenditures so that the Board can look at how the budget can be better spent.

The Co-chairs mentioned that one difficulty they are experiencing in their effort to find speakers for the Guild meetings is that many speakers do not want to travel any more. There are several talented quilters here in Arizona that don't lecture, travel or do speaking engagements.

The Speakers for the Guild meetings are fully booked for the next two years. Since contracts have already been signed, there may need to be some changes made. This will be looked at on a speaker by speaker basis.

Members-at-Large: Kay Hendricks / Evelyn George

Evelyn welcomed Ann Lowery as a visiting member/guest. The comments received regarding the Resistance Quilt Project were passed on to the President.

Bears: Christine McCollum / Marie Luongo

One of the Quilt Bees here in Tucson (the Mona Lisa Bee) created 100 small quilts to be donated with the dressed bears.

Bees: Margaret Newman

There was no formal report from the Chairman but there was some discussion about the Bees. The President mentioned that she would like to meet with the Chairman to see how the Bees tie in to the Guild. Most of the Bees tend to find their own way but the Guild needs to have a better handle on the Bees and they need to be encouraged to be more affiliated with the Guild – maybe with one “mandated” project per year to benefit the Guild. Someone needs to get in touch with each of the Bees that are listed on the WebSite to see if they still exist and who the leader is.

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Meserve

Fran Needham, the Accountant for the Guild, will be sent a get well card.

Elaine Romanelli, Guild President, slipped on loose gravel and broke her ankle.

Education: No report.

Finance Committee: Sally Dickinson

The proposed budget was presented and there was some discussion and some changes made. Marie Morris moved to accept the budget as revised and Cathy Dargel seconded the motion. Motion was approved and the budget as modified will be presented to the Guild at the next meeting for approval.

Guild Pins:

Sue Burns said that the new pins are here and sold well last month and she will sell them at the meeting again this month. They will then be turned over to membership for them to sell. She will also turn over some of the boot pins and some of the older guild pins and they will be available to members. We will probably also make them available at the Quilt Show.

Historian: Cathy Dargel -- No report

Hospitality: Christine McCollum / Marie Luongo – No report

Library: Diane Hartman

The Chairman/Librarian has completed the survey of the Guild Library. The Guild needs to buy some newer books and sell off those that were published prior to 1990. VTAT is still looking for permanent space and there is an open house this month to check out some available space. It is probably premature to close out the Guild Library. Diane would like to know if there are any books that members would like to see the Library purchase.

Newsletter: Diane Hartman

Due date for this month's newsletter is June 23rd.

Nominations: Reilly Zoda – No report

Pattern of the Month: Evelyn George

This month's pattern is an American flag pattern called *Little Folk Art Flag.*

Publicity: Cathy Dargel

The Chairman plans to distribute Show flyers and other information to the libraries.

Organizations:

Quilt for a Cause – Evelyn George -- There will be updated information in the newsletter. The Quilts in the Garden fund raiser planning is going well. There will be another auction in 2019 and they welcome all quilt donations. A trip to *Road to California* is being planned.

Quilters Hall of Fame – No report

Quilt-a-Thon: Barbara Heiman

Sign-up sheets will be available at the Guild Meeting next week.

Quilting for Others: Mary Meserve / Kathy Harris

Progressing as usual.

Raffle Quilts: Colleen Babcock

2018 –

2019 –

Record Keeper: Mary Meserve

A list of current donations has been compiled for this current year and will be available on the website.

VTAT: Reilly Zoda – No report

Website: Meg Silvern – No report

OLD BUSINESS:

The tax returns are under control.

Sue Burns & Cathy Dargel will be distributing the info questionnaires to prepare for the "Meet A Member" articles for the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS: -- None