

The Handicraft Club Board Meeting
April 20, 2020
Held by Zoom

Members Attending: Amabel Allen, Kitt Barnum, Bobbie Binder, Sara Carcieri, Lisa Churchville, Jay Connelly, Deb Drinker, Kate Farrington, Janet Jagger, Margaret Lederer, Liza McCahan, Trish Poirrier, Heather Rae Roberts, Marilyn Shealey, Helene Shapiro

Members Absent: Mary Reineman

The meeting was called to order at 11:03 am by President Fran Gammell-Roach.

Secretary's Report: Sara Carcieri noted that the email vote approved in February included \$10,300 for a water heater and pipe insulation. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Lisa Churchville and seconded by Liza McCahan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda: Deb Drinker noted that some teachers were teaching remotely while others are handling individual students through Facetime and email. In terms of money submitted for spring classes, 44% of students requested refunds while 30% donated their money and 26% asked for a credit for future classes. A motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted was proposed by Margaret Lederer and seconded by Helene Shapiro. It passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Sara Carcieri noted that the Treasurer's report for March does not reflect the effect of Covid-19 on the club. \$3,500 has been donated to the Truman-Beckwith fund. The club has \$58,000 remaining from this year's draw. She discussed the proposed budget which had previously been emailed to board members. The new budget reflects some personnel changes. Kate expressed some concern over the membership numbers, wondering if the Covid 19 virus would impact membership. Sara noted membership numbers have been kept at the same level. Consideration was given to holding some classes over the summer, perhaps through Zoom. Teachers will be surveyed about this. A motion from the Finance Committee was unanimously passed:

To approve the 2020-2021 budget as presented

Task Forces:

Food/Kitchen: Margaret reported that the task force is continuing to look at options for lunch service, including outside caterers.

Transportation: Marilyn reported that the task force's final report was submitted. The recommendation is to continue with Truman's Trolley as long as class attendance warrants it. If numbers drop, Corporate Uber is a good alternative.

Personnel: At 12:35 pm, the board entered Executive session to discuss personnel issues. A motion to accept the Personnel task for report was made by Lisa, seconded by Heather and passed unanimously. The executive session ended at 1:00 pm.

Space Utilization Task Force: Fran presented findings from Alice Beckwith and the Space Utilization task force. Questions about using the basement space have continually arisen but the board affirmed its position that it is unsafe to use due to the stairs and the mold. The physical construction of the house prevents mold from being permanently abated. Suggestions were made that this task force continue their work by being more specific as to how rooms might be creatively used. Concerns included use of the tearoom, the current lunchroom space and office space on the first floor. Kit will research a lighting expert to make recommendations about improved lighting in the tearoom and installing light dimmers in the living room.

Annual Meeting: The following motion was made by Bobbie and seconded by Sara; it passed unanimously:

To not hold the annual meeting in May this year.

Fran reported we are consulting a lawyer as to how to legally hold a vote remotely to elect the incoming slate. Annual reports should be sent to Rebecca by May 15.

Other Business: Discussion was held about the progress in hiring a new basket teacher. One prospect had decided not to take the position. Class chairs are still looking. Fran reported that the Art Club has offered to make available their take-out menu to Handicraft Club members. It was agreed that an upcoming email blast will include this as well as options available from other nearby clubs and restaurants.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Shealey, Recording Secretary