

The Handicraft Club Board Meeting

April 16, 2019

Members Present: Kit Barnum, Bobbie Binder, Sharleen Bowen, Sara Carcieri, Jay Connelly, Deb Drinker, Margie Edwards, Kate Farrington, Fran Gammell-Roach, Janet Jagger, Margaret Lederer, Mary Reinenman, Marilyn Shealey, Sally Whitin

Members Absent: Pamela Gardner, Sharon Linder, Jozy Mainelli, Trish Poirrier, Sandy Richter

Guests Present: Susan Tash (newsletter), Alice Beckwith

President Fran Gammell-Roach called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the February board meeting were unanimously approved as submitted. The motion was made by Sharleen Bowen and seconded by Margie Edwards.

Board Observer: Sara Carcieri will serve as observer for the remainder of the board meeting,

Consent Agenda: The reports from the Program, Corresponding Secretary, Preview Party, and Archives/Historian were accepted with no additions. In addition, copies of the following reports were included: The Hope Club Agreement letter, SAH annual meeting visit to Providence, and correspondence from members were included as well. A motion to accept the reports of the consent agenda was made by Jay Connelly and seconded by Bobbie Binder. It passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Sara Carcieri reviewed the current Treasurer's Report, noting that class tuition fees are ahead by 10%, most likely due to both increased enrollment and higher fees. The report was approved without additions, with a motion to accept made by Janet Jagger and seconded by Jay Connelly.

Sara reviewed the line items in the budget for the coming year. Comments were made about Truman's Trolley and how it might be funded in the future. The budget passed unanimously with the motion seconded by Kit Barnum.

Sara then presented the following motion from the Finance Committee:

To withdraw an additional \$5,040 from the Investment Account to cover additional expenses due to electrical repairs that had been needed in the house.

Kate Farrington seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee: On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Sharleen Bowen read the proposed slate for the 2019-2020 year. Sharleen proposed the following motion:

That the board accept the single slate for the officers of the Handicraft Club proposed by the Nominating Committee become the slate. A motion to accept the slate as presented passed unanimously.

Long Range Planning Committee: Sharleen Bowen reported that concerns had been raised about aspects of the plan the committee had presented in previous meetings. Discussion centered on whether the club should hire an outside consultant to help in this task and the effect this would have on the coming year's budget. Sharleen, Fran, and Janice Panoff have met with a consultant who does this type of work, and will interview a second. The following motion was proposed by Sharleen Bowen and seconded by Mary Farrington:

To consider hiring a consultant to develop and execute a member survey process, with a budget of \$8,000. The motion passed unanimously.

By-Laws Committee: Bobbie Binder described the process the committee has used to examine and update the Club's by-laws, including speaking with Jill from the Rhode Island Foundation and having several members review the changes. Significant changes include:

- 1.. Committee Co-Chairs will each have a vote.
2. The President has the right to vote on Committees.
3. Article 6 outlines the formation of an Executive Committee.
4. The Endowment fund will be renamed the Investment Fund, as it more accurately reflects the unrestricted nature of the fund.
5. There should be clearer pathways for the board to make policies. Current by-laws contain many policies along with the by-laws.
6. A Conflict of Interest section has been added.

The changes have been made in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. More work needs to be done to clarify quorum policies. More discussion centered on forming policies and the procedures which then follow, the situations in which board members may vote remotely and the need to record that vote in the minutes, the formation of ad hoc committees and their relation to the board, and whether the President should have a vote on committees. Additional discussion centered on possible membership categories.

The following motion was proposed and passed unanimously.

To accept the by-law revisions as presented by the By-Laws Committee.

President's Report: Please send reports for the annual meeting (to be held on May 17) to Rebecca by May 7. The next board meeting will be held on May 21 at 10 am.

Board Self-Awareness: Sara Carcieri reported that the board was very participatory and followed the rules.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Shealey, Recording Secretary