

Board Retreat  
September 14, 2022  
Hope Club

Present~ Liza McCahan, Co-President, Stacy Emanuel, Co-President, Sara Carcieri, Vice President, Lisa Churchville, Treasurer, Susanne Toothaker, Recording Secretary, Fran Gammell-Roach, Investments, Anne Jackson and Emily Morgan, Co-Chairs of Classes, Kerry Sweeney and Amabel Allen, Co-Chairs of Membership, Sharleen Bowen, Giving Society, Tammy Bolotow, Events Chair, Sue Pakula, Buildings and Grounds, Kate Farrington, Communications Chair, Margaret Lederer, Former Board President and Helen Bingham, General Manager.

Absent~ Mary Reineman, Kathy Bourque and Anne Snyder

Welcome from Liza and introductions Liza and Stacy spent a lot of time this summer meeting with all committees, working on clarifying processes for efficient workings. They expressed their gratitude for everyone's time.

The budget process for requesting extra funds beyond individual budgets will be to send an email to the Finance Committee. They will discuss it and bring it to the Board for a vote.

They are also encouraging consent agendas to make meetings more efficient.

Confidentiality~ Conversations at Board Meetings are confidential and should not be shared before they are ready to be shared.

Try not to reply REPLY ALL if not necessary

The Board minutes from June 24, 2022 were seconded by Kate Farrington and approved.

Treasurer's Report~ was placed on file.

Finance Committee~ has approved spending \$6,885.15 on mold remediation. This was approved by the Board.

President's Report~ Liza and Stacy enjoyed meeting with everyone this summer. Goals for the year are:

1. Membership~ positive growth
2. Streamline processes at the Club. Any ideas are welcomed.
3. Find software that integrates all working parts of the Club.
4. Buildings and Grounds, financial concerns~

General Manager's Report~ Please refer to Consent Agenda

Buildings and Grounds~ Sue wants to get the Club as safe as possible. Windows in the carriage house might need to be replaced. Thought needs to be put in how to get moisture out of the house. We are keeping a running tally on all the expenses we are spending to keep the Club going.

Classes~ Income from classes is around \$24,000.00 at this point with another week to go before classes start. Small discussion on how to support classes that are not filled up.

Communication~ Will be creating a banner for the RISD Fair; thinking of getting the schedule for Gallery Night tours in Providence (last Thursday of the month). Will need volunteers for sitting at the table during RISD Fair.

Events~ Refer to consent agenda~

Giving Society~ Sharleen and her committee are questioning whether the "Giving Society" luncheon is doing what we would like it to do. It's a "friends" event but it is quite expensive. Sharleen has also had conversations with the Rhode Island Foundation about marketing ideas.

Investment Committee~ there is a need to discuss a planned giving campaign.

Nominating Committee~ refer to consent agenda.

Membership~ Growth ideas based on RETENTION, REINSTATEMENT and REFERRALS~

Thank you, postcards, sent to members who have recently resigned saying thank you for their membership.

Quick review of new referral program, where, if you refer someone and they either become a member or a GPS, you will receive credit for a free class, up to \$160.00. This is good for 2 successful referrals through December 31, 2022.

Approved new membership for Kristen Madden and Dawn Clifton Tripp~

**Caren Orlick and Nan Quinlan (GPS) have had their names put forward for posting~** Postings should be right where people walk in for more visibility.

There was a suggestion to have proposed new members be highlighted with a blurb in our newsletter.

**Holly Smith voted in for reinstatement~**

It was suggested let instructors know if there are new members or guests in the class.

In depth discussion of new ideas from Board members for attracting new members and keeping existing ones. Please refer to handout from Kerry and Amabel. We then voted on what we thought were the best and most doable.

the top vote getters were:

- 1) Offer weekend classes (26 votes)
- 2) Diversify our membership (22)
- 3) Convene a Membership Outreach Committee(18 votes)

This is a tremendous ongoing effort with many opportunities for more input from our membership.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susanne Toothaker, Recording Secretary