

The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers Steering Committee Minutes

Date: 10/23/2013 at 6:00 PM

Recorded by Alan Saffron, Secretary

Location: Cobb Hill Construction, 206 N. State St., Concord

Attendees

Alan Saffron Peter James Bob Wyatt Harvey Best Dave Frechette Steve Colello Roger Myers
Jim Seroskie Bob Couch Claude Dupuis Victor Betts Dave Michaels Jon Siegel Peter Breu

Secretary's Report

A motion to accept the September minutes was supported by Dave Frechette, seconded by Peter James, and passed.

Treasurer's Report

Dave Frechette to check a \$5000 difference in the general fund balance from last month. Peter James motioned to table the treasurer's report until next month. Victor Betts seconded, and the motion then passed.

Membership

Dave Michaels reporting.

Dave gave the current membership at 521 members with 20 pending renewals.

Bob Couch presented a summary of new members by geographic area around the state. A brief discussion yielded no new insights.

Dave working on demonstrators for WoodCraft Saturdays in November.

Subgroups

Jon Siegel looking into interest in a subgroup for carving and possible leaders.

Claude reported that Nate Carey, citing personal reasons, resigned his membership in the Guild, leaving the Boat Builders subgroup without a lead. Jon to query the subgroup members for a replacement.

Scholarships/Grants

Peter Breu expressed several concerns regarding the SC's decision to reduce the Scholarship Committee's \$5000 grant recommendation for Elaine Hamel's Girls at Work program to \$1000. He cited being surprised by having a committee recommendation not followed, not understanding the SC's decision regarding Girls at Work, and asked for clarification regarding policy and process. The SC sees grants going to individuals and organizations whose primary purpose is woodworking education, and used for investments like tools, costs for travel, or other educational opportunities. Also considered is the recipient's ability to 'give back', as well as give recognition to the Guild. The \$1000 amount was based on the Girls program's primary purpose as helping girls in trouble and the money would be used for operating expenses. The SC noted that the Guild may support the program again in the future.

It was noted that the Scholarship Committee was welcome to question the SC regarding decisions contrary to their recommendations. It was also suggested that the Committee make presentations at SC meetings to support important recommendations.

November General Meeting

Victor Betts reporting.

The November meeting will be held at Scott Ruesswick's shop in Canterbury. Citing feedback that meetings have more skills based demonstrations, Victor arranged three such demonstrations for the morning session, including log optimization, bowl turning, and leg fluting.

Bob Couch reported contacting Brad Wolcott, the featured speaker, regarding the audio and video requirements of his presentation, as well as checking with Scott Reusswick regarding his shop.

After the SC acknowledged a level of unfairness to women members regarding the shop's lack of plumbing facilities, Claude volunteered to arrange for a portable toilet rental.

Girls at Work Auction

Claude explained the program's fundraising event and the opportunity for Guild members to donate items to the organization for their auction.

Small Meetings

Steve Colello reporting.

The October meetings went well. Although only three members attended the toy making meeting, Harvey Best, one of those attending, said it went well and was very interesting.

The next meetings are scheduled for March 15th. Steve will again try to arrange six options.

Touchups/Journal/Website

Jim Seroskie reporting.

Jim noted members' open rate of the TouchUps email at 62%.

The next issue of The Journal will publish in early December.

Recalling problems when dealing with small businesses on shaky footing, a printer of the TOS, Jim reported that Commonplaces, the website services vendor Jim has been working with for the past year, has moved to larger quarters indicating their success and their ability to support the Guild ongoing.

Miscellaneous Business

Claude will offer the Guild policy of 10 minutes at a general meeting in reply to a request to market a new woodworking item to the Guild membership.

A thank you note from Roy Noyes was circulated around the table. The SC was pleased the presentation and award meant so much to Roy.

The SC agreed to reschedule the November SC meeting to 11/20 from 11/27, the night before Thanksgiving.

TOS

Discussion continued from last month regarding Jim Seroskie's proposal to change TOS back to a printed piece. Steve Colello offered a motion to continue to publish TOS online, but on a two month schedule, for the next year and do an analysis and evaluation at that time. After Bob Couch seconded it and some further discussion, the motion passed with one abstention.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00.