

The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers

Steering Committee Minutes

Date: 9/27/2017 at 6:00 PM

Recorded by Alan Saffron, Secretary

Location: Concordia Lutheran Church

Attendees

Alan Saffron Jim Forbes Peter James Michael Moore Robert Wyatt Jim Seroskie
Steve Costain Dave Foote Mike DiMaggio Tony Immorlica

Guest

Dick Davis

Opening

Dave Foote opened the meeting, expressing excitement for the new year. With the growth of the Guild, he also expressed the need to identify issues so that their discussion could be better planned, allowing the SC meetings to be better planned and productive.

Dave introduced Dick Davis, explaining that Dick and Jim Seroskie have been working on selling Guild apparel online, and in consideration of our guest, we would discuss their work before going on to other matters.

Online Apparel Sales

Jim Seroskie began by talking about USPS shipping costs, which he concluded were high. The USPS still seemed to be the best alternative due to convenience, flexibility, and cost predictability.

He added that he could set up the ordering capability on the public site, which is suited for it, and gives more people access to buying Guild apparel. He would also have options for the payment mechanics.

Drupal, the website software, would send Jim an email with each order. Jim would forward the order to Dick for fulfillment, and copy the customer as an order confirmation. Dick would then be reimbursed for all shipping costs. Dick assured the SC that this procedure would not be a problem for him.

Dave Foote talked about more active promotion at general and subgroup meetings, as well as in TouchUps.

Michael Moore expressed concern for pricing in regards to shipping costs. Michael made a motion with Tony Immorlica seconding, that pricing should be determined by adding 15% to the item's cost and rounding up to the nearest dollar. After some discussion the motion was amended to specify that the public site be used, and the pricing would be the most recent highest price as determined by Jim and Dick, and rounded up 15%. The motion passed.

The issue of inventory was tabled for a future meeting.

Secretary's Report

Alan Saffron explained that due to a technical issue with his laptop, it died, the August minutes would be completed for the September meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Forbes distributed the monthly Treasurer's Report as of September 26 MTD. Jim reported no unusual or significant activity occurred during the month, but did advise the SC to watch our budget variances.

Balances as of September 26, 2017

General Fund	\$14,609
Grants Funds	
Unallocated	\$19,121
Subgroups	\$5,961
App Grants	(\$529)

Guild programs \$0
Total Guild \$39,162

Grants

Dave Schlinnlinger at Mascoma High submitted an urgent request \$3000 for a special buy on a lathe. Peter James was able to verify this opportunity. There was some discussion regarding town's' responsibility to equip their own shops at the Guild's expense. Michael Moore made a motion to approve the grant, and with Steve Costain's second, the motion was approved.

Programs

Tony Immorlica reported the September meeting went well; the Lie-Nielsen presentation was very well received. The facility was also good. Having the flea market again will be revisited, and the 50/50 raised \$90 for the general fund. The November general meeting will be held on the 18th at Scott Ruesswick's shop in Canterbury.

Turning Symposium

Jim Seroskie, having attended a recent symposium planning meeting, voiced some concern regarding the progress made in arranging the symposium. He suggested that the SC may wish to decide at the October SC meeting whether the Guild should go ahead with the symposium or not, depending on the progress made at that time.

Mike DiMaggio Initiatives

Mike reported that at the SEptember meeting 18 people signed up to participate in the developing Sanborn Farms woodworking program, and 15 people signed up to participate in Dave Emerson's Wood Days at the Canterbury Shaker Village. Mike also has a black smith lined up to demonstrate his craft to the Guild.

The antique tools tour in Exeter will be held on October 15th.

Mike will write letters expressing the Guild's appreciation to Roger Myers and Owain Harris for their attention to the Guild during the Furniture Masters October events.

Insurance

After receiving no comments or questions, Jim Forbes suggested to the group that they review the Guild's new insurance policy he distributed earlier, especially in regards the SC members responsibilities and liabilities.

Furniture Masters Walk Through

Owain Harris notified the Guild that the walk through, due to late arrangements, had to be scheduled for September 30. Due to the short notice, the Guild will not be able to participate and will cancel our participation.

Membership

Jim Seroskie reported membership at 540. Since July Jim reported the Guild lost 31 members, some of which may be due to the website renewal capability being down.

Website

Jim Seroskie noted his current work has been Drupal public site. He has done somew reformatting and updated and refromatted the Quick Links.

Jim asked for guidance on revising the posting of The Journals. It was decided to post four good issues as samples and not change them. All issues will have their covers posted which will indicate the range of topics covers.

SC minutes will be actually on the Drupal site but access will be limited to members through iMIS.

Jim explained his process to ensure the Guild's website is accessible to the many different devices and operating systems out there. He noted that access through tablets and phones is up to 40%.

Amazon Smile

The SC consensus was that even though it generated free money, promoting purchasing through Amazon conflicted with our sponsors' interests and may lead to a loss of membership discounts. It was decided not to have their link on our website. Jim Forbes made a motion to remain on Amazon's Favorite Charities list, but not to promote it. With Peter James second, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04.