

WeGO Executive Board Meeting

Fall 2024

October 17, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Donna Wilson (President) at 1 pm on October 17, 2024 via Zoom.

Roll Call By Donna Wilson

Present:

Executive Board members: Donna Wilson (President), Karen Sieradski (Vice President), Annali Cross (Treasurer), Lisa Krebs (Communication) Dorald Stoltz (Oregon State Fair), Pam Sullivan, (State Fair Demonstrations), Sarah Mostkoff (Long Range Planning, Interim Secretary)

Absent:

Leann Meyer (Education, Workshop Coordinato

Vice President Report by Karen Sieradski. Reported on the Scholarship program. One outstanding scholarship. She will reach out to them and request a letter outlining why they need an extension so there is a paper trail.

Treasurer Report by Annali Cross:

Annali reviewed several financial reports in detail including WeGO Budget 2024; Form Profit and Loss; and the Balance Sheet and is awaiting final reports from the Accountant before reporting on the final numbers for the ANWG Conference. The Zoom account is activated when necessary for one month at a time for \$15.99 per month.

Long Range Planning (10 year plan) Report by Sarah Mostkoff

Certificate of Merit proposal: Create a template which the guild representative will give to the event fiber judge to present to a selected artist in acknowledgement of their work. This would require a volunteer to design the template to reflect the WeGO organization. When requested by a Representative, the Secretary would email it to the Representative to fill in the event name and the winner.

Workshops: 2023 was the last workshop featuring Patty Huffer's Rigid Heddle class with a budget of \$2,000. The prior workshop was in 2018 with \$1,650 spent. Workshops are presented every 2 years with the exception of the COVID interruption. Leann Meyer is the present Workshop Coordinator and Marlene Lloyd was the previous coordinator.

Membership: Check with Cassandra to see how many members are in each guild. The secretary is responsible for that information. The decision was made to add Guild President information to the Membership Form as a second contact.

Mission Statement: A proposal was made to add the following highlighted final sentence to the Mission Statement. "The purpose of WeGO is to encourage weaving and related fiber arts in Oregon; to foster inter-guild cooperation and communication; and to to provide educational opportunities.

WeGO supports diversity and inclusivity."

Discussion:

- WeGO is an organization of fiber artists, how can we be more inclusive of spinners and other fiber artists?
- Perhaps add a subset under the WeGO logo to include the fiber artists.
- We have some guilds that are spinners, or a combination weaving and spinning guild.
- Discussion about bringing more spinners and other fiber artists into our guilds. Aurora Colony Handspinners Guild as an example of a spinning guild and participates in the Scholarship Program.
- Sarah will send out the list of WeGO benefits to review how it includes spinners.

Judging: Remove references to judging from the Long Range Plan.

Miscellaneous:

- WeGO earnings from ANWG benefits guilds in workshops, scholarships, State Fair and Education, including The Traveling Show.
- Changes in Guild Representative Form is on the website. Fill out and send to the Secretary. Send a copy to the Communications person.
- Lisa Krebs will discuss with Annali what needs posted on the website.
- Review Long Range Planning on a regular basis to measure goal achievement.

Voting Rights Discussion by Donna

- Some people hold multiple positions in WeGO.
- Some guilds have more than 1 person in WeGO
- Bigger builds possibly could end up having a larger percentage of the voting power.
- The decision was made to leave voting rights as is, one person, one vote.
- Donna only votes as President when there is a tie.
- Annali will review bylaws on voting and report back to the Executive Board at the next board meeting if needed.
- Raising dues was discussed without resolution.

Traveling Show - by Sarah

The Bylaws state that The Traveling Show will be held every 3-5 years. A committee will be appointed. It was recommended to have 4 people on the committee if possible.

Handweavers Guild of America (HGA) - by Sarah

The previous workshop on leadership building and recruitment suggested growing membership, mentoring people to rise up through the organizations, and identify them for future leadership roles. It is important to have a informed transition for the new person in the role. Usually this is done by the former person in the role; but if necessary can be addressed by the Executive Board. HGA is working on rewriting their Weaving Certificate of Excellence.

Nominating Committee - by Sarah

- We were unable to present a candidate for President. Donna graciously agreed to continue as President while we continue our search.
- Annali suggested contacting past office holders of WeGO to maintain good stewardship in the role of President and for the good of the organization.
- Sarah volunteered to fill the Secretary nominee position.
- Donna will contact Cassandra Del Nero for Secretary records.
- Annali to review IRS requirements of the 501c3 in the event we drop a position.

Mentoring - Reported by Sarah

The discussion was of how to mentor guilds that were having trouble recruiting members and incorporating virtual technology in their guilds. The decision was made that it is not feasible for Wego to appoint a traveling representative at this time due to travel time and costs.

Donna asked Annali to set up another Executive Board meeting and invite committee chairs to a work session on the budget and problem solving for the future allowing us to bring information to the General Meeting in the spring 2025.

Donna Wilson concluded the meeting.

October 17, 2024

Submitted by Sarah Mostkoff