

GMRHG Board Meeting

April 15, 2020 9AM
Met virtually through Zoom

Present: Gina Steen, Biffie Gallant, Barb Ackemann, Sharon O'Neill, Suz Brown, Donna Dulude, Sandy Grant, Sue Girouard, Janice McKnight, Jennifer Davey, Carol Gibson

1. Voted unanimously to accept Gina Steen's resignation
2. Voted unanimously to accept Gina Steen as a Member-at-Large.
3. Unanimously voted for Suz Brown to take over the Presidency.
4. Also noted that we will look for new people to join the Board and take over for leaving members so we can help train them. Jennifer Davey will write something for the newsletter to encourage someone to shadow her to learn how to manage the Show (though it is a team effort not just she that does this) and Biffie Gallant will write up a request for someone to learn the Treasurer's job. They are both stepping down from those positions. Virtual participation makes it easier now.
5. Spring and Summer Hook-ins will not take place in person (unanimous vote). Sharon O'Neill will cancel the church reservation and let Nancy Thun know (she was to be our speaker).
6. In lieu of a live hook-in we will try a virtual Show and Tell on April 25th using Zoom. Sharon will organize this. It will start at 10AM and up to 200 people can participate. If it goes well, we will perhaps schedule more of these.
7. In essence, we decided to postpone the Show due to the Corona virus pandemic and the fact that even by October we may be practicing social distancing. This was unanimously decided.
8. Gina will speak with the Expo to see if we can get almost \$4000 back from our deposit there. Jennifer suggested she speak with Sandy Haller because her husband is on the Board at the Expo. If there seems to be an issue maybe he can help us.
9. Jennifer will contact the workshop teachers and the Featured artists and let them know it is postponed. **Any registered students will get refunds.**
10. Sharon will contact all the hotels and cancel them.
11. Barb will deal with the ads and make sure something gets out saying it is postponed (RHM and ATHA).
- 12. Carol will contact the vendors and any who have paid will get refunds.**
13. postcards will be stored for now.
14. cancelling the Show means we have lost up to \$6000 unless we get the Expo deposit back so we will have the Scrappy Rug raffle and do it virtually. **Gina will get a good picture of the rug.** Barb suggested a platform called Accel Events and she will explore it. Our tickets are 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20. We will pick the winner on Wed Oct 7 2020 when we will have a virtual cocktail party at 7PM. We may also do a silent auction for other things **(like the bin of wool and other items donated by Dayl's daughter from Maine that Sharon has)** and perhaps also raffle the Hinesburg rug but Sue Girouard will contact that group and see what they are planning.

15. Barb Ackemann suggested we have a virtual Show preceded by getting rugs professionally photographed. We liked the idea but tabled it for now while we figure out our next steps.
16. Next Newsletter will go out around May 5 and articles and such should be given to Barb no later than April 30th. Barb will look for the November photos that Sharon sent her (the ones in her draft are from the Fiber Bees). Vendor ads can stay in the newsletter for now including the vendors who signed up to do the Show. If they want to pay us, fine, but no bills will be sent this year.
17. We now have 273 active members which is quite low compared to the past.
18. Barb and Sharon will send out an email blast telling people about the cancelled live hook-ins and about the virtual replacements. **The zoom address will be included so people can log on if they want to without RSVPing Sharon.** The message will be about THAT only and then just send them to the website and newsletter for further info about the Show, etc.. Sharon took a photo of our Zoom gathering to use as a promo.
19. Board members need to check out the website and how each of us is presented. We might want to send new photos and descriptions to Barb. certainly everyone should be on there with a photo at least.
20. The Board will meet again by Zoom on Wed. May 13 at 9AM and the specific topic will be the website. We should all check out the website beforehand and come prepared to discuss changes.
21. Wed. June 10th at 9AM will be the following meeting about the Show only. Those are always long discussions.
22. Sharon will write an article about learning how the guild works. She never knew how much was involved and is glad she was drawn in. yahoo!
23. We all need to participate more in Facebook and Newsletter outreach!
24. Meeting adjourned around 11AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Davey
Secretary.