

## VWS Fall Members Meeting Minutes

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### Agenda

Tony called the meeting to order at 10:07. He opened the meeting with welcoming remarks, stressing the volunteer nature of the organization and the need for members to become more active.

### VWS Business

\* Approval of the Minutes from the 10/27/2018 meeting.

Kristina Bielenberg made the motion to approve the minutes, with the correction of the spelling of her name. Monique Dewyea seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### \* Review/Approval of the 2020 Budget

The discussion centered around Juried Show expenses and fees for membership and conference registration. Included in the proposed budget of \$5,500 for the Juried show are three VWS sponsored awards. (\$250, \$150, \$100 for first second and third acknowledgements for excellence.) It was also suggested that we inquire if awards donated by outside organizations be allocated according to the judgement of the Director of Exhibitions.

Jean Cannon made a motion to increase the amount of money available for awards from \$500 to \$1000, changing the amount allocated for Juried shows from \$5,500 to \$2300 on that line item. Lauren Wooden seconded the motion. The merit awards will be allocated for first, second and third place as : \$500, \$350, \$150. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion about increasing attendance for our Spring and Fall meetings. The board will look into preparing a survey to try to discover the reasons why members do not attend. In addition, the group felt that there were few perks for new member to join. To eliminate money as a deterrent to attend the Fall meeting, it was suggested that the cost of attending be reduced.

Judith Selin made a motion to reduce the cost of attending the fall meeting from \$35 to \$20, which would add \$600 to the Fall meeting expenses line item (from \$1600 to \$2200). Lyn DuMoulin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kristina Bielenberg made a motion to accept the 2020 Budget as amended. Fran Williams seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Tony noted that by implementing the motions, the deficit would increase from \$985 to \$2,085. He also cautioned that being a non-profit organization did not encourage us to be a money making organization, we could not continue to run a deficit for too long. The question of raising the dues was mentioned, without any action taken.

### Directors' Reports

#### Director of Membership - Lauren Wooden

This Membership report is for the period from 8-1-19 to 11-8-19.

Saturday, November 9, 2019

VWS Membership Data as of 11-8-19 Members

– Current (Paid through 2019)	201
Student Members (free):	31
Members - Unpaid for this year (Paid thru 2018)	15
Lapsed Members (last paid for 2017 dues)	10
New Members	0
Total:	257

**Hub Memberships**

Burlington/St. Albans Hub:	57 plus 1 student
Central/NEK Hub:	36 plus 28 students
Connecticut River Hub:	77
Westside Hub:	40 plus 1 student
No Hub/Out of State:	16 plus 1 student

226 members

31 student members

257 VWS members

Hub Director's Report - Jane Sandburg

I have mailed the updated Hub Guides, Support Group tutorial and the new Request for Funds form to the Hub leaders. Westside Hub is having their second workshop. Cynthia Rosen is presenting a Plein Air workshop on August 8th to 11 participants. Free to Westside Hub members, \$35 to no members.

The Connecticut Valley Hub planned three plein air days: in June to Hildene, July to St. Gaudens, and August to The Fells in NH. They talked about having a show at the South Londonderry Library in the fall. They will have a hub show in late fall in Tunbridge. An October 31 workshop with Shari Blaukopf is planned.

Jane will be stepping down from this position as of December 31, 2019. Angie Parlin volunteered to take Jane's place.

Exhibition Director's Report - Jean Cannon

The fall awards show at the Festival Gallery is up until Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> and is worth seeing - beautiful paintings, beautifully displayed. The gallery did a good job of publicity for the show, which I supplemented with postcards.

50 artists entered 87 pieces in the show. 30 paintings were chosen by our juror, Jeanne McGuire. 9 awards were given out by the awards juror, Susan Abbott. The opening was attended by 50-60 people. There has been one sale, as far as I know. 3 people approached me at the show inquiring about VWS membership and I directed them to the website.

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My goals in assuming the position of exhibition director were to get more members to submit work to shows and to get more of the public to attend our shows. I am pleased with the submissions and turnout for this show. I am also pleased that we were able to offer more awards than usual and I hope that we will be able to increase our award offerings because it inspires high quality submissions.

The spring show is scheduled to be at the Gruppe Gallery in Jericho from April 26<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. It will have a theme, yet to be determined.

The fall 2020 show is will be at the Chaffee Art Center in Rutland. Charles Norris-Brown has been helping me to find venues for future shows, and I am grateful for his help. I could use a co-director to help with the many details necessary to organize exhibitions.

#### **Nominations/Election of Officers**

Lynn Pratt made a motion to accept Jean Cannon as Director of Exhibitions, Lauren Wooden as Director of Membership, and Angie Parlin as Director of Hubs for the upcoming term. Annelein Beukenkamp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **WEBSITE MIGRATION / Member Gallery Migration Proposal for 2019**

Migration of the WS Website from the old platform to the new platform (Square Space) was completed in mid-June. Pay pal has been integrated on to the site for online payments.

So far there are 7 member galleries on line. We encourage our 257 members to submit images.

#### **2020 Regional Open Exhibit Update**

The planned location for our 2020 Regional Open Exhibit is currently closed. If we have a regional open exhibit, it will be in 2021 at the earliest.

#### **New Member Data Base Project for 2020**

The plan is to merge our two local data bases to track information about our members (Membership and Signature Membership in 2020).

#### **I Can Paint Program**

The Board will discuss if and how to continue reaching out to provide to the larger community, which is part of our mission and non-profit status. Our exhibits, both juried and non-juried shows count.

11:58 Karen Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Charles Norris Brown seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

12:00 – Lunch

1:00 – 3:00 – Painting demonstration by Peter Huntoon

Respectfully Submitted,  
Adrienne Fisher, Secretary