

VWS Meeting Minutes

DATE: December 10, 2016

LOCATION: Randolph, VT

PARTICIPANTS: Tony Conner, Martin Lalonde, Carlton Annis, Victoria Jefferies, Ric Feeney, Caitlin Glaser, Adrienne Fisher, Michelle LeBoeuf, Joey Bibeau, Judith Selin, Mark Nielsen

- **Meeting Schedule for 2017 set to include:**

- January 21, 9am-12pm Conference call
- April 22, 9am-12pm Conference call (discuss spring meeting preparations)
- June 4, 9am-3pm Annual Spring meeting at Landgrove Inn, Landgrove, VT
- July 7, 9am-3pm meeting in Randolph, VT
- September 16, 9am-3pm meeting in Randolph, VT
- October 21, 9am-3pm Annual Fall meeting at Middlebury Inn, Middlebury, VT
- November 11, 9am-3pm Strategic Planning meeting in Randolph, VT

- Some discussion about future conference calls via “Google Hangout” or “Go to Meeting”. Tony is looking into this.

- **Revision of VWS Goals for the 2017 year:**

- Goal 1: Enhance the VWS membership experience by providing education and development opportunities for all abilities and skill levels.
- Goal 2: Raise awareness and appreciation of Watercolor Painting to the larger community.
- Goal 3: Promote volunteer spirit within the VWS organization.

Tony would like to see a second revision of these goals for the year 2018 whereby the wording of goals would be measurable statements rather than just a restatement of the VWS mission statement in general. He also asks that all Board Members review their job descriptions and document them for future incoming Board members.

- **Revision of Board Member Objectives:**

- Tony Conner: Add two additional goals.
 - #4. Maximize Value of Membership for members by Enhancing and/or reorganize HUBS.
 - #5. Enhance communication between all members and Board members including the meetings themselves.
- Martin LaLonde: Add one additional goal.
 - #3. Provide backup assistance to Joey Bibeau, Director of Education & Programs and Judith Selin, Co-Director of Communications
 - discussion about whether all future Annual Spring meetings might benefit by being tied into the Workshop offering using instructor for workshop as demonstrator for the Spring meeting.
- Carlton Annis:
 - discussed possibility of writing an end of year thank you letter to all members in addition to a request for end-of-year donations to the organization

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- Goal #3 can be eliminated. No work has been done in this area of grant writing.
- Asked for assistance with Goal #4.
- Asked that the Board find a replacement for him after this year of service. He estimates his job position requires about 2-3 hours/month for check writing etc, followed by more hours for the year end balance as well as meeting attendance time.
- Shared brief analysis of membership trends whereby attendance at annual meetings is declining while participation in shows is on the rise.
- Merchant Bank accounts need updating. Account for **Education and Operating Expense Account** must have Tony Connors name added and Mark Nielsen's name subtracted. The **Reserve Money Market Savings Account** must have Tony Connors name added and Claudia Carl's name subtracted. Mark Nielsen will stay on this account as well.
- Donations are a 501C tax deduction
- Victoria Jefferies:
 - Eliminate goals 3 through 7.
 - Consider future "moral booster" to members via an un-juried members show.
 - discussed difficulty in securing venues for shows — should online shows be considered as fall back position?
 - 2017 locations - Spring: June Waitsfield , VT (award show)
Fall: 1 week Nontraditional location in Bennington Area followed by a 3 week online show.
 - 2018 locations - Spring: Governor's Gallery, Montpelier, VT
Fall: SVAC, Manchester, VT
 - 2019 locations - Spring: Supreme Court, Montpelier, VT
- Caitlin Glaser:
 - #5 Goal needs attention:
- Adrienne Fisher:
 - Add Goal #5: "Volunteer of the Month" submission to SNIPPETS.
 - Remove Goal #3
- Michelle LeBoeuf:
 - Add Goal #4: Document and update all tasks of Director of Membership position
- Joey Bibeau:
 - Eliminate Goal #3
 - Document annual meeting ideas to be passed on in future
 - Review VWS "archives" to revive successful events from past meetings such as a Book Exchange table
 - New meeting ideas to include: dessert partner swap, Board members and/or HUB members to conduct member survey for each table, HUB "show and tell" tables
- Judith Selin
 - Eliminate Goals #1, #3, #4
 - possible renaming of SNIPPETS
 - Snippets is too long! New formatting required.
 - Review comprehensive member email addresses for both newsletter and website
 - Keep email listing up to date.