

Membership Meeting - May 16, 2015

Hostess –Heidi Griffith – Josephine County Public Library, Grants Pass, Oregon.

Meeting called to order by President, Carole Hayne at 2:32 p.m.

Items

- Dissemination of information – the three board members at large were given the task of putting into writing how Clayfolk will spread information so that the membership is kept informed. A list was compiled of what information to send and where to send information for dissemination to the membership. Members were encouraged to take a copy of this list if they wished (a copy is available on the Clayfolk website: quick member links/Clayfolk communication avenues – password: clayfolkpotter)
Archived information is also available on the website
The list will be given to the E-news, newsletter and website chairs for guidelines.
Carole encouraged members to write articles for the newsletter.
- Recruitment for positions. Carole passed out ballots for members to write in nominations for open positions. Members were requested to nominate members they felt were qualified or might be interested in board positions or chair positions for the Clayfolk organization. The show chair appoints show chair positions. Board positions coming up for election this year – three members at large (voted in every year). See term limits of board positions which is posted on the website to see what positions will be coming up for vote soon. Current chair/points positions open – Jackson County Empty Bowls, Library Chair, members of the library committee (points given to committee members), Workshop co-chairs (share points), and Scholarship committee member.
Library Chair, Irene Stephens, gave explanation of Library Committee duties – check resources for books/DVDs purchase; check Jackson and Josephine County Library systems for current books/DVDs available; order the books and disperse to the two libraries; request forms from the Medford and Josephine County Libraries that lists the books we are giving through the Bill Morgan Memorial Library Fund; notify Bonnie Morgan that we have given books. Approximate budget for committee: \$300.
Member question: Does committee monitor amount of use of DVD and books.
Committee Chair Answer: The books/DVDs are being used quite a bit and she has been notified that DVDs are in great demand; however, does not know how much the books/DVDs are used.
Discussion tabled.
Ballots can be returned to the president today or at a later date.
The board will talk to nominees for members at large and, if they wish, these members will be on the ballot for voting by the membership.
The board will chose the chairs for open chair positions from interested parties.
- Scholarship Report – Cindra Vargas - 2015 Ellice T. Johnston Scholarship winner (\$2000) Thomas Love. Mr. Love just received an AA degree in studio arts at Shasta Community college and will use the award to pursue his BA as a ceramic student at Cal Pacific USA. Pictures of Mr. Love's work was passed around to the members present. Monies will be sent out on May 22, 2015.
Nine applicants for the scholarship were received.

Cindra thanked Ray Foster and Phil Fishwick for their expertise in helping choose the scholarship recipient.

- Discussed who to send hardcopies of the newsletter to and which newsletter to send out hardcopy. The member directory was not sent out in hardcopy. The board has requested that members indicate if they want a hardcopy of the newsletter, the membership application, the show application and the member points list. Everyone else will receive these items through email/E-news. Membership forms will indicate what pieces of information the member wishes to have hardcopy. The one hardcopy that will go to the entire membership will be the December newsletter as this includes the ballot for voting for open board member positions and the membership application.
- The board has been requested to review the term limits for board members. At the current time, the bylaws indicate voting of the board members every year. Term limits adopted by the board are: member at large - one year; treasurer - six years; secretary - three years; president and vice president - three years. These terms will be staggered so that all the board members do not change at the same time. This is posted on the website on the first page, right above the meeting schedule. Members may review this and if there are opinions/comments regarding this type of rotation in the board may let the president know for review by the board. Comments were requested.
The vice president, Jane Anderson, has been tasked with clarifying the bylaws regarding board positions and voting.
Suggestion was made that voting on the bylaws be sent out with the ballot/membership newsletter.
- Member, Susan Paul-Williams raised a question about what Clayfolk is per the bylaws: education, helping with scholarships, disseminating knowledge through the library, and the show. She encouraged that the bylaws and encouraged that the bylaws be reviewed and updated as there was no mention of the show and she felt she was competing for points with other members.
An explanation was given as to reason for using points - members/workers were need to put on the show and prior to the institution of the points system, there were not enough members willing to volunteer for jobs to make the show a success.
Susan Paul-Williams suggested that since the mission statement talks about education we should either change the mission statement or change behaviors.
Discussion/comments
We use the show as a great opportunity to education. Enlarge the demonstration area.
The girl scouts of the America sell cookies to support their mission statement, which does not include the fact that they cookies.
We sale pottery at the show so that we can have a scholarship, give books to the library, etc. The sale facilitates the mission statement of the group and benefits the potters throughout the area.
The show gives us the finances that allow us to put on workshops, purchase books, and the other things that we do to promote education.
Before a realignment of the bylaws can be made, research on what Clayfolk wants to be – continuing as an Oregon not for profit or go on and get the tax exempt status from the IRS, in which case we would have to change the structure and file with a tax lawyer on how to change the structure. We investigated this before. Ray Foster, the treasurer, informed the group that we are a member of the Oregon Corporation Commission, had a not-for-profit status for quite a while. The Clayfolk tax preparer has informed us that because of that status there are no 1099 issues and we play fewer taxes, depending on how much we give out to charity and what commission we charge the potters. This percentage was adjusted so that we paid the potters more and paid less

in taxes. The system is working well for everyone and if we want to change an investigation will need to be made to see if we would have to pay taxes, if 1099s would need to be given to the members, etc.

We need to decide if it is not broke, leave it alone.

If the mission statement were amended to mention the show as a goal for the group, would that change anything?

To change the bylaws a 2/3 (quorum) vote by the membership must be made.

A motion was made to form a committee to investigate including the show in the by-laws and make recommendations to the board.

Motion seconded and passed.

Nominations for people to be on the committee can written on the Clayfolk nomination form previously passed out and returned to Carole who will follow up and form a committee.

- Show Chair- Shirley Huft

This is the 40th year for Clayfolk.

We want to see where Clayfolk was 40 years ago. Shirley has contacted some of the long-term members and has requested photographs or visuals. The webmaster wants to do a focus each week on one of these members with an old or new photograph and what their memories are. The first show was in the rabbit area of where the current armory is now located. Request members to send information on how to access more of these photographs or memories from long-term members – contact Shirley.

We apparently have a good collection of old studios and Shirley will be asking some members to take pictures of new studios so that we can do a then and now.

Points –The points will go out the end of May 2015. Shirley encouraged members to check out their points now and make sure they are correct by the end of June so Shirley can proceed with making show assignments.

- Per the president Clayfolk has 26 new members. Introduction of new members at the meeting:

Clara Longhe

Timothy – Sally's Grandson.

Jeff Spindler – fifth meeting.

And a gentleman whose name the secretary did not get who came to the show to find out how to obtain a membership.

- Carole encouraged the members to go to the new Clayfolk.org website. Shirley encouraged members who are applying to participate in the show to check the website daily to see if your application has been received.

PROGRAM: Ruth Wendover – Hands and Other Things.

Ruth is a retired occupational/hand therapist. She gave a rousing and informative presentation on how to protect your hands, change your posture and what exercises you should be doing to prevent carpal tunnel syndrome symptoms and rounded shoulders. Thank you Ruth.

Meeting adjourned at: 3:45 p.m.