



Conference of Northern California Handweavers, Inc.
P.O. Box 191119
Sacramento CA 95819-1119

Advisory Council Meeting
Zoom
May 7, 2023 10:00 AM

1. Call to Order

Barbie Paulsen

Meeting called to order at 10:08AM
Quorum not present at this time

Old Business:

1. CNCH 2024

Mary Ann Parker

Contracts out to all ten teachers, seven returned, will nudge the remaining three by email tomorrow. Limited meeting space at the Doubletree in Rohnert Park so the limit is ten teachers. Now have a contact at hotel. Meeting first week in June with her and the planning committee; they will look at the venue at that time. The planning committee is a "good group of people," one from Humboldt, the rest from Redwood and Silverado. Tamalpais happy to help later, but not willing to take on leadership roles. There are weekly meetings; Tam. is not joining.

We now have a quorum:

Area 1: Joan Near (Secretary), Barbie Paulsen (President) Gail Wilson (Alt)

Area 2: Kay Thorne

Area 3: Nancy Williams-Baron, Reba Siero

Area 4: Suzanne Woodhead (Treasurer)

Area 5: Lotus Baker

Erin Maclean (Executive Director)

Melissa Plummer (Website Manager)

Cathy Koos (CNCHNet Editor)

Eugenia Gwathney (2022 Co-Chair)

2. Approval of Minutes, January 21, 2022

Joan Near

Motion to approve with no changes, made by Suzanne, Nancy seconds, motion passes on voice vote.

3. Treasurer's Report

Suzanne Woodhead

See Balance Sheet and P & L.

Money will be moved to the checking account to cover payment to Cathy for the newsletter. Question of whether Golden Valley and Fresno's treasuries were fully designated to the grant fund or not. Those funds have not yet been moved.

Mailchimp issue: the price is going up. Melissa has begun culling some of the email recipients. 2,500 on the list will keep us in the correct pricing tier. There are people who have never opened a single email. Some of them are being unsubscribed, not dropped.

4. Old Business

a) Dues increase - Liaison Outreach Reports

Barbie Paulsen

Area 1: All in favor of \$5 to \$7

Area 3: Pushback for \$7. Unanimous that \$5 is warranted. Some guilds don't want to pass it on and will raise the money elsewhere. Also, regular 5 year hikes would be better.

Area 4: Hangtown & Chico approve \$5. Foothill no meetings yet, will discuss this month. Sacramento: most don't attend conferences, they are an independent 501 c-3, don't feel they need CNCH. Will look into their own insurance. We gave them our insurance policy. They will vote May 23. These guilds say they want conferences every other year. Reno: far north in Nevada, say they don't need CNCH, but didn't have a quorum to vote. Suzanne will send out an email to advocate for the hike. Lassen is good with the increase, but not many go to conferences.

Area 5: Lotus hasn't contacted anyone. Her guild might go up a little but there are only 7 members.

Long discussion about factors like Zoom, Covid, loss of community. Erin: Probably too late for this year. Joan: If so, she suggests a carpetbag campaign in the fall to visit every guild and sell the value of CNCH. Barbie tabled the issue and wants to revisit.

5) New Business

a) Google Workspace update

Barbie Paulsen

Our practices are still based on paper and single-database. The idea is to create a membership spreadsheet that each guild can use and membership changes are immediately reflected on a master roster. This will sort guilds, members, duplicates, multiple-guild members. Decisions will have to be made - for instance, phones: specify cell and landline or not?

Eugenia: cell number as #1, land line as #2. Much agreement on that detail.

b) CNCH 2023

Kay Thorne

Kay is again having internet issues so Suzanne reports: 171 registered by day 2. Today the number is 180. From Southern CA guilds: 42.

c) Officer Elections

Barbie Paulsen

Barbie is stepping down to concentrate on the database, history, consolidation, putting the green binder on Google. Lotus quits, does not have a replacement so a new Area 5 rep is needed. Suzanne stays as Treasurer. Joan stays as Secretary. Nancy Williams-Baron is the new President. Barbie will be Historian. We still need a Parliamentarian, Erin will cover this position for now. Suzanne makes the motion for the new slate. Lotus seconds. Unanimous approval.

d) Mid-year Membership Dues policy

Barbie Paulsen

If a guild adds a member during the year, do they collect dues and send late dues? Erin says yes. But she doesn't know. It affects the list of who is a member when it comes to conference registration. The issue remains undecided.

e) Southern California Guild Membership

Suzanne Woodhead

Bringing these guilds into the fold makes sense financially. Some changes would have to be made to the bylaws, and possibly a re-drawing of geographic Areas. The possibility of two Areas combining for conferences came up, especially if we decide to change to an every-other-year format. There might be a benefit to a single conference location used consistently. To that end, Suzanne is exploring venues, especially colleges. See the following:

f) CNCH Conference location

Suzanne Woodhead

Erin provided a list including Dominican, St. Mary's, Mills, SF Arts & Crafts, and others.. Sac state is a no, they won't let us move the desks. Suz & Joan will meet by Zoom with Dominican on May 16th. Mills rep is on vacation for 2 weeks. Suzanne contacted a St. Mary's teacher who will try to get the event coordinator, but she has not heard back.

Discussion:

Lotus: How about camps? University camps have conferences. Davis.

Another issue: guilds are not keen on dorms, but want cheaper conferences (hotel prices are sky high) but how unrealistic is this attitude?

Erin: Asilomar should be on the list; it always sells out despite the complaints.

Sonoma State was good but lots of walking.

How about a survey, do guilds prefer a dorm or hotel?

Eugenia: we should drop the vendors from conferences. No money made, not supported by registrants. Most of us agreed with this.

Cathy: for the Sutter Creek conference, a high school was used for classes and nearby hotels for housing. How about a community college where there are cheaper accommodation nearby?

Suz: many community colleges have school going all year, so access to classrooms is a problem. The vendor issue was revisited with a suggestion of a grass-roots sales night, for registrants, guilds and teachers, the vendors being consignees with the conference as money-taker. Many of us liked this concept.

g) Conference Grant Winners

Erin Maclean

All five areas applied, all applications were high-quality. Tough choices but great job by the committee. Every grant winner has registered.

They are:

Area 1: Fawn Mackey, Carmel & Santa Cruz; Area 2: Guadalupe Beanway, Central Coast; Area 3: Carol Grey, Diablo, Treadles to Threads, Spindles & Flyers; Area 4: Jennifer Jay, Reno; Area 5: Trudie Folsom, Redwood.

h) Other new business: Conference Banking

Suzanne Woodhead

We have advanced \$10,000 in seed money to the 2024 conference for the Doubletree deposit. Karen May is Chairperson and she will also be the Treasurer. Suzanne will open a bank account with Karen's signature. Mary Ann Parker is the Program Chair. Karen will be the only signator. We will need unused checks back from the last conference Treasurer, Reba. Reba says she will give them to Karen at CNCH 2023 in August. If 2024 needs money before that, Suzanne will pay directly from the CNCH accounts.

6) Adjourn

Barbie Paulsen

Meeting Adjourns at 12.57. Lotus moves to adjourn, Suzanne seconds, the motion passes on a voice vote.