

Minutes, TSWG Meeting, January 6, 2021

Meeting called to order at noon by President Kathy Rohacek.

Members attending: Tom, Judy, Nan, Paula, Bobbie, Jan, Maggie and Kathy.

December 2020 Minutes: Melinda's notes from our December luncheon, as pertains to electing our new officers, was approved. New officers: President Kathy Rohacek, Vice-President Tom Gauthier, Secretary Melinda Floom, Treasurer Mary Ann McKenna, and Board Representative Jan Lodge.

Treasurer's report: In Mary Ann's absence, Kathy enumerated our income and expenses for the month and the year. Figures will be available in the Secretary's binder in the studio.

Reports:

Foundation and HAC. The annual board meeting will be held January 28 at 5:30 PM, by Zoom. A certain percentage of members are needed to make the meeting official, so please try to log on. Corinne will be sending an invitation to all.

The store had a very good year, and an exceptional December, with monthly sales topping \$10,000 for the first time ever. The Guild and its members sold 90 towels in December, and about 360 for the year.

Guild Studio Staffing. We are now signing up for Fridays as well as Wednesdays and Saturdays. But, please sign up if you intend to be here, so we don't exceed our "3 at a time" limit.

Guild Yarn Supply. We received a large "stash" of yarn from Sally Vinroot's studio, but we still need other items. Jan will be placing a large order with Great Northern at the beginning of next week. You can include your personal orders if you'd like. Think Spring! You can see their colors on their website. Please let Jan know (jvclodge@gmail.com) before January 11 if you'd like anything, either for your personal studio or for Guild projects.

Equipment Inventory. At our February meeting, we will inventory our large items of equipment (looms and wheels) and decide what to keep, what to weave, and what to sell.

Old Business

1. Dues are now “due.” You can give your check to Mary Ann or leave it in the yellow folder.
2. Tavern Annual Donation. This essentially is our “rent” for being able to use the studio space, and helps cover the costs of keeping the Tavern and Store open and operating. It was moved by Bobbie, seconded by Tom, and approved by all, that we donate \$5000 to the RHHT Foundation. Jan will make the presentation.
3. Pricing our Products. We reviewed our revised standard prices for our products. Towels are still \$20, unless they have some special yarn in them. Large baby blankets (36 x 36) will be \$60, small “stroller” baby blankets (24 x 24 -- preferred) will be \$45, and placemat sets of 4 are \$40, or \$10 each.
4. Coffee. Reviewed our options for coffee again; Paula offered one of the vacuum carafes from the cafe -- we can just make what amount we want, TURN OFF THE COFFEEMAKER, pour the coffee into the carafe and bring it upstairs to the yarn room. Another option would be if someone wanted to donate a Keurig, we could bring in our own pods.

New Business

1. Priorities and Goals. Kathy encouraged everyone to think about the 3 questions she posed in her recent email, and use post-its to put our ideas on her board in the studio before the next meeting.
2. Loom Status Board. Everyone is reminded to update the board when you leave the studio with the current status of what you have been working on. Example: Needs to be sleyed, use white yarn only, ready to weave, finished towel #3, someone’s personal project, corrections/repairs needed. It is also helpful to leave a note on the loom itself.
3. We decided to make the Candy Cane Christmas towels our “signature” towel, since they all sold out immediately this year. We will dedicate “Bob” to weaving these towels year-round (tie-on new warps), and have Corinne make a big announcement right after Thanksgiving that they will be available. We will also dedicate “Minnie” to weaving placemats. We will continue to weave baby blankets on Betty, and ask Bev if she could make some of those nice cards that Gerri used to use with her blankets. We need to explore a better way to display our blankets and table linens. “Sally” will be used to explore shaft-switching after Jan weaves some alpaca rugs on her.
4. We discussed the tartan samples and decided that #2, the predominantly blue one, would sell best as towels. So, Jan will proceed to get it officially registered. However,

we can still weave other colors (especially #4, the red one). Ask Jan if you would like the pattern.

5. Sandi's pattern for the wearable wrap is in the basket in the studio, along with two different size templates. This is a really neat way to "wear" what you weave, without having to cut it!

6. Tom is willing to manufacture some "lease keepers" from Jennifer Moore's blog. We will get the pattern to him. If feasible, he can make a set for every loom in the studio (and maybe for us at home, too!).

New to Ewe

We held drawings for several items in our inaugural session. Tom won the llama mug he wanted, Bobbie won some cool rug yarn, and Judy added to her stash with some linen fiber.

Show and Tell. We had a lively show and tell, with several examples of "what not to do" and some encouraging "first" projects.