

Yakima Valley Artists Association

General Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2024 – Harman Center

5:30 p.m. – Social Time

6:00 p.m. – Welcome. Jack Cannon, Membership chair, welcomed new and first attending members. He thanked Debby Stanard for providing refreshments for this meeting.

6:10 p.m. – Presentation: Paul Henderson, Composition

7:00 p.m. – Business Meeting

BUSINESS MEETING:

Board members present: Meldra Driscoll, president; Kate Bowditch, vice-president; Mary Jepsen, secretary; Kathy Birdwell, treasurer; Board Members Jack Cannon, Kris Knight, Gary Hughes, and Stephen Stokesberry.

Meldra called the meeting to order. She thanked Paul for the presentation in which he used his own pieces to demonstrate composition guidelines.

Secretary Report:

The minutes are located on the YVAA website for members and the public.

Treasury Report:

The balance as of March 1, 2024 was \$2,748.09 with \$196.00 income from dues and no expenses, leaving a balance on March 31, 2024 of \$2,944.09. There are approximately 54 dues-paying members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership & Hospitality Committee:

Jack introduced the committee to all members and welcomed any new members if interested. Volunteers to bring refreshments in May, June and August were noted.

Presentations Committee:

Kris reported that the May presentation will be given by Greg Haste, Selah Middle School Art Instructor, who will speak on abstract art. Ana Li Gresham will give a demonstration on wood-burning art at a summer meeting. Kris asked that any members interested in presenting a program at a meeting to contact her or Kathy Birdwell.

Fresh Air Committee:

Kate stated the March plein air was held at Glenwood Square and several paintings were brought to this meeting to share. The April plein air will be held April 18th, the location to be determined. Those interested are to contact Kate for time and location.

Live Shows Committee:

- Mary reported that the Earth Day Yakima/YVAA Art Competition is over as of this date with 15 artists submitting 24 pieces. All entries will be forwarded to the judges later this date and announcement of the four award winners will be provided on Friday, April 12.
- Doug Lewis stated that 25 poems have been placed on the YVAA website for the “Inspired! Poetry and Art” show, set for Jan. 11, 2025 at the Larson Gallery. The formal call to artists will be issued in September and the deadline to submit artwork will be in November. A link has been set up on the Larson Gallery website to take those interested to the YVAA website where the poems can be read by artists planning to enter the show.

Social Media & Website Committee:

Mike Mullen presented the next virtual show on the YVAA website, "Nature: Art Inspired by the Earth," which is the same theme as for the Earth Day Yakima/YVAA Art Competition. All entries to the competition will be added to the virtual show and all will be featured on the website for 3 months.

Tour of Studios:

Meldra announced that the YVAA "studio" this year will be located at Stephen Stokesberry's home, also near several other studios in the Labor Day tour. Stephen told the group that there was room for about 10-12 booths. Meldra sent around a sign-up sheet for the event.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

Habitat Fundraiser:

Mary announced that 7 club members have taken benches or chairs to paint for the June fundraiser. The preferred deadline is April 15, but Habitat will continue to take the painted benches and chairs until May 15. Those submitting chairs or benches to the fundraiser have been asked to take photos of their work before they return them to Habitat. The photos will be gathered and placed on the YVAA website.

Historian:

Kate asked members to send her photos of club events via her email address:
kbowditch60@gmail.com

NEW BUSINESS:

June Fest:

Meldra told members that there were still openings for those interested in having a booth in the June Fest at the Chalet Mall. Booth fees are \$100, but booths may be shared. Those interested may apply on the June Fest website.

Promoting YVAA:

Stephen talked to members about the Sun Fair Parade which is held the second day of the Central Washington State Fair in Yakima, and described possible float ideas that the club could create to be in the parade. Jack Cannon and Geri Ham volunteered to be on a planning committee for the float.

By-Laws Committee:

Mary explained a discussion held at the recent board meeting about increasing the officers to two secretaries and adding an assistant treasurer. She announced that the By-Laws committee, including Stephen, Sheila Phelps and Kate Bowditch and herself, will meet to come up with the wording for the by-law changes to be done prior to a Nominating Committee developing a slate of nominees for board positions. Anyone interested in joining the By-Laws Committee may contact Mary:
jepsenm@charter.net.

Nominating Committee:

Mary also explained the current by-laws regarding developing a Nominating Committee of all general members, to seek those wishing to run for the board positions and to create a slate to be presented in June. Election is in July. Lyn Lewis, Debby Stanard, and Geri Ham volunteered to participate on the Nominating Committee

Financial Committee:

Kathy talked about the need for a Financial Committee to be formed on a temporary basis to complete an audit of the club's treasury shortly after the end of the fiscal year, which is the end of July. Doug Lewis and Cindy Frudd volunteered to be the two general members on the committee. Two board members will complete the committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Davis High School Art Show:

Meldra told the group about the upcoming Davis High School Art Show starting in the student kiva on the school's campus. The show will be open from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on May 22 and be available to view for the next 10 days. Carole Huls is the Davis High School art teacher.

YVAA Library:

Lyn Lewis reminded members that there are a great number of books on a variety of art topics that can be borrowed. She also reminded those who have had books checked out for some time to return them soon.

ADJOURNMENT:

Without further business, Kate adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Mary S. Jepsen, Secretary