

Yakima Valley Artists Association
General Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024

- 5:30 p.m. – Social Time
6:00 p.m. – Welcome. Jack Cannon, Membership chair, welcomed new and first attending members.
He thanked Lyn Lewis and Larissa Bjurlin for providing refreshments for this meeting.
6:10 p.m. – Presentation: Carole Huls, Davis High School Art Teacher; Davis High School Art Show is May 22, 2024.
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 Member Jack Cannon, Kris Knight, Gary Hughes, and Stephen Stokesberry.

Meldra called the meeting to order and asked guests and new members to introduce themselves, Kamet Biege, Kathy Campbell, and Jenny Snyder.

Treasury Report: The balance as of Jan. 1, 2024, was \$1,565.09 with \$728.00 income and no expenses, leaving a balance on Jan.31, 2024 of \$2,293.09.

New Board Members: Gary Hughes and Stephen Stokesberry were introduced as new board members.

Dues: Meldra reminded those who wish to join yet to pay their dues as only members will be able to vote for motions made at the meetings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership & Hospitality Committee: Jack explained the duties of the committee and asked for volunteers.

Fresh Air Committee: Kate summarized the committee's fresh air activity in January and announced that the next gathering would be Feb. 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Glenwood Square.

Live Shows Committee:

- Mary provided key points to the Earth Day Yakima/YVAA Art Competition. A Call to Artists flier was sent to all YVAA members and is also available on the YVAA website.
- Meldra reported that the Tour of Studios is still in the plans for the year, but an indoor venue is needed. Anyone with suggestions for a "home" for YVAA shows may contact board members.
- Doug Lewis spoke about the developments in planning for the "Inspired! Poetry and Art" show that is to be held Jan. 11, 2025, at the Larson Gallery with poetry readings at both the opening and closing receptions. A call to poets has gone out and committee members are needed for judges. The selected poems will be placed on the YVAA website for all artists to access and decide which to illustrate with their art. David Lynx, former Larson Gallery director, will be the judge for the artwork. Committee members are also needed to seek out sponsorships.

Virtual Shows Committee: The following are the dates for the YVAA online virtual shows for 2024:
"Nature: Art Inspired by the Earth" Deadline for entries, April 8; online show begins April 20

“Abstract Art: Colors in Motion” Deadline for entries, June 3; online show begins June 10
“Beyond the Frame” Deadline for entries, Aug. 5; online show begins Aug. 12
“Whimsy & Wonder: Whimsical Showcase” Deadline for entries, Oct. 7; online show begins Oct. 14

Social Media & Website Committee: Currently Facebook has 272 followers and Instagram has 411 followers.

Presentations Committee: Kris announced that Darci Roberts will provide an introduction to pastels at the March meeting. AnaLi Gresham will introduce members to woodburning at a summer session. Kris asked that members interested in providing programs to contact her or Kathy Birdwell.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

501c3 Status: Meldra announced that a round-table discussion will be held this Spring for those interested in this topic. More will be announced as planning is completed.

Art Instructors Listed on Website: Mary asked those interested in having their names provided on the website for those looking for instructors to add the needed information to the sign-up sheet being passed around. She stated that this would provide an access to community members seeking instructors for sip-and-paint and other teaching opportunities.

NEW BUSINESS:

State Fair Bench Painting: Autumn Britt reminded members that more fair benches will be painted in early June for those interested in assisting. There will be a \$200 stipend for time and materials. Those painting the benches may work individually or in groups.

Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser: Heather Hein, creative director at Habitat for Humanity, Yakima, presented a small bench that is an example of the benches that Habitat is hoping will be painted by YVAA members on a volunteer basis for a Habitat for Humanity fundraiser. She invited those interested to take a bench home as she had arrived with several in a truck. The deadline for the painting will be April 15. The end result must be a bench or chair for sitting. Those interested in painting a bench may contact her at: heather@yakimahabitat.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Barbed Wire Sculpture: Those interested may contact Doug Lewis.

Cat Rescue Fundraiser: Leslie Yamada announced a sip-and-paint event on Sunday, Feb. 18 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at AntoLin Cellars to raise funds for veterinary bills. She modeled a jacket that was one of several door prizes. Those interested may contact Leslie directly.

ADJOURNMENT:

Without further business, Meldra adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Mary S. Jepsen, Secretary