

FGS 2016 BREAKOUT MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 31, 2016

Meeting was held at Rusti Nichols' home in Melbourne Village following casual pot luck luncheon. Meeting was called to order at 12 noon. Attendees were: "Rusti" Nichols, Gail Gowdy, Nancy Conway, Therese Ferguson, Fonda Haddad, Pat Robertson, Clarice Weathers, Therese Zamoiski (via skype), Sandy Jordan (via skype) and Shari Zabroski (via skype)

Review of show goals:

education

networking

membership growth

All in agreement, no changes

Proposed dates for future breakout meetings to be the 4th Thursday following the February show, with the date of the next breakout meeting to be March 23, 2017.

Committees reporting;

Sandy Jordan gave Treasurer's report which is attached. Commented that people were joining FGS to take advantage of discounted class fees so revenue from classes were lower this year. Reporting on classes and registration, all went well, no further discussion.

Therese Zamoiski reported membership at last count was 159.

Gail Gowdy reported the number of exhibits were down this year, however there were several youth exhibits this year. The issue had been presented regarding a discrepancy in the on-line description of a division/category which Gail and Therese F. will correct.

Therese Ferguson gave report on donations and PR, noting all went well with donation take-in procedures.

Pat Robertson gave volunteers committee report, indicating that more help was needed from other patches. Discussion on how to encourage more participation included: having members of other patches work along side members of each committee to become more comfortable with volunteering for teams, or co-volunteering.

Citing Susan Nonn's approach of letting volunteers register before early registration begins, Therese Z. volunteered to send out notice that volunteers will be allowed to sign up for classes 3 days prior to early registration. Comments regarding assigning a committee to each patch. All suggestions are open to further discussion.

Fonda Haddad reported all vendor booths were filled, with vendor fees totaling \$2,545.00.

Silent Auction proposed to be extended to auctions each day. Since there will not be a Traveling Gourd, Patch Table Decorations will be Silent Auctioned and monies will go to the contributing patch. Saturday night auction: 2 suggestions, have Bob start lower for each item, or instead of an auction have Gourd Bingo with everyone purchasing cards and gourd donations will be prizes. This will be revisited following the Cherokee Gathering. Therese Z. and Sandy volunteered to come up with entertainment ideas.

T-shirt status: Still have a lot of shirts, smaller sizes. Sale of available t-shirts increased following Sandy's Fringed T Demo on Sunday; discussed have t-shirt make n take booth set up for Friday and Saturday next year; proposed projects; t-shirt pillows (Clarice volunteered to prepare shirts for project), t-shirt totes. This discussion will be open for more suggestions from patches.

Sale of the new totes went well, with 25 of the 50 totes being sold. These will be taken to the Retreat for sale there.

Decision to have a "hat parade" instead of Traveling Gourds next year. Enter theme gourd hats into the exhibits for competition.

Other fund raising activities suggested for next year included asking Connie Worrell to take photos of the exhibit gourds and transferring these to CD's to be sold at the show. Shari Zabroski volunteered to create and burn the CD's at the show. Creating tutorial CD's were discussed but concerns regarding instructor apprehension regarding people buying CD's instead of signing up for classes.

Request 2 baskets per patch to be auctioned.
Setting up a cutting & cleaning table/booth for demo.
Requesting educational materials from AGS to have on hand.
Requesting gourd seeds for “Plant & Pray” bowl and Debbie’s Booth.

Cecil Walley volunteered to conduct a pre-workshop for instructors in the use and care of various tools.

Ways to get more youth involvement in show - encourage each patch to “adopt” a school art teacher, donating gourds to a school art department, encouraging school art teachers to come to patch meetings. There is no charge for youth entries and no preregistration required.

Theme suggestions for future shows - process for choosing themes to be voted on as last time with each patch proposing 3 themes all to be voted on by the membership. Therese Zamoiski volunteered to do this again, with the one voted #1 will be theme for 2018, #2 will be the theme for 2019 and #3 will be the theme for 2020.

Fonda will be sending out advanced vendor notices.

Saturday night dinner was discussed, Location to remain the same (lounge area in Shrine Center) with Ann Sabelli (Head of Center’s wife) will take charge of the dinner preparation. Dinner menu to be Pulled Pork & Chicken, baked beans, cole slaw, and of course, an ice cream bar.

Committees for next year’s show:

Registration, instructors, classes - Sandy Jordan
Demos - Sandy Jordan
Demos Set-Up & Monitoring -
Membership - Therese Zamoiski
Exhibits - Gail Gowdy & Brevard Patch
Vendors - Fonda Haddad
Volunteer coordinator- Pat Robertson
Donation coordinator - Therese Ferguson
Logo Contest - Therese Zamoiski
Fliers, pr, graphics - Therese Ferguson

Raffle Diva - Mona Webb
Ways & Means -
Education -

The meeting was adjourned approximately 2 PM.