

WPW Board Meetings
Online via Zoom
February 3 and 5, 2021

Members in attendance February 3: Judith Heim, Pam Beer, Susan Miller, Sandra Kahler, Ellen Busteded, Beth Betker, Julie Fisco, Judy Kalin, Sharon Grader, Sarah Guthrie, Judy Perry, and Nancy Grigsby.

President Judith Heim called the meeting to order at 10:06am. She began by addressing the issue Nancy Grigsby raised in the January Board meeting regarding the establishment of a permanent home for WPW and the capital campaign to fund it. The resulting discussion was prolonged. Salient points included:

- We do already have the WPW Gallery, where we are able to both exhibit and meet, and its availability has not changed despite multiple changes in building ownership. That being said, the future is unpredictable and there is merit to giving thought about what we would do if the space were no longer available.
- We are a statewide group and value the opportunity to utilize meeting and exhibit spaces around the state. Our focus is on fellowship and taking art into the community. Judith spoke to her experience on the Kirkland Art Center board as they switched their focus to fundraising to acquire a historical building and the negative impact it had on them.
- Establishing relationships with city organizations could be a positive step going forward, e.g., the arrangement for studio space that some artists have with the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce, as explained by Judy Perry,
- WPW is not a non-profit organization and that status impacts fiscal decisions. Treasurer Sandra Kahler said that buying a building, and all the associated maintenance, insurance, etc. costs are way out of our range.

Beth Betker moved that we establish a Long-term Exploratory Committee to consider multiple aspects of WPW's future. Judy Perry seconded the motion and it was passed. Nancy Grigsby volunteered to chair the committee. (However, the motion was later rescinded - see below.)

Regarding the **Nominating Committee**, Pam Beer is not able to assume the Presidency, so Judith is willing to continue as President for a second year. Additionally, Ellen Busteded is unable to continue as Exhibits Chair and will be replaced by Co-Chairs Carol Ross and Susan Walker. Pam will continue to work on filling the rest of the slate of nominees for the coming year.

Treasurer Sandra Kahler reported:

CD Balance as of 1/31/21:	\$6,083,79
Checking Balance as of 1/31/21:	\$17,361.00
(includes \$3,197 awards allocation)	
2021 Gallery Sales (1)	\$500
Also 3 cards; no catalogs	

Sandra briefly reviewed the adjusted-for-Covid 2020 budget, which was emailed in advance to Board members. The proposed income was \$19,500 and the actual was \$19,300. Expected expenses were \$20,400, while the actuals were \$13,500.

She pointed out that in the proposed 2021 budget, the speaker fee for the coming year has been raised from \$250 to \$300. The proposed income for the year is \$21,313 and expenses total \$21,449. With over \$18,000 in the bank at the beginning of 2021, WPW remains on solid financial footing. Board members will have the next month to comment on the proposed budget before voting to approve it at the March meeting.

Exhibits Chair Ellen Busted reported that “The Legacy Continues” closes 2/6. Eastern WA has a detailed pick up plan. Western WA artists can pick up their paintings at Phoenix Art Restoration on February 9. Three paintings sold.

Ellen reminded us that entries for the Spring 2021 show “Reflections” close February 10. To date, 14 members have submitted 40 paintings. Ellen will be emailing reminders. She said that several artists had inquired about gallery sitting for the show and that she and Julie have decided that participants will be asked to sit, but will not be required to do so. Having the awards presentation for the show as part of the April meeting is under consideration. Julie will be arranging for a virtual tour of the show to be filmed.

Gallery Chair Julie Fisco added that two more paintings (in addition to the one Sandra had to report) have sold. She is going into the gallery once every week or so. She said that there have only been 23 views of the virtual tour, but it was not up on Facebook yet. She noted that from August to December parking will be free for gallery sitters. Ideally, she would like the gallery to be open every day at lunch or twice a week, but says that there is still not much happening in the building.

Programs Chair Sarah Guthrie reported that oil painter and teacher Valerie Collymore will speak to the group next Wednesday, focusing on her process for converting her

French Impressionism style classes from in-person to online. The March speaker is Karla Matzke, speaking about her gallery. The April meeting is still TBD.

New Membership Committee Chair Kathy Collins was not in attendance. Judith said that as of 1/28, there were six new applicants.

Newsletter editor Sharon Grader noted that publication is running increasingly smoothly. The deadline remains the 15th of the month and, while she will send out review copies, she will assume there are no changes if she does not hear back from contributors.

Judith adjourned the February 4, 2021 meeting at 10.55am.

The Executive Board reconvened via Zoom on Friday, February 5, 2021. In attendance were: Judith Heim, Susan Miller, Sandra Kahler, and Julie Fisco.

Judith called the meeting to order at 9:56am. She explained that this follow-on meeting was called because several Board members, in the immediate aftermath of the February 4 meeting, felt that the time pressure of that meeting had resulted in (1) a motion being made and approved with undue haste; and (2) inadequate time for the presentation and discussion of the 2021 budget.

Susan Miller moved to rescind the motion to establish a Long-term Exploratory Committee. Judith Heim seconded the motion. The motion to rescind passed unanimously, including six votes made in absentia by email.

Judith will create a list of parameters for Nancy Grigsby to use in creating a written proposal outlining the vision and scope of an “exploratory” mission to present to the Board at a later date. Judith noted that any activity should always align with the WPW mission statement and reflect our current stable relationships both with our Gallery building owners and with various organizations around the state.

New Business: Judith said that Susanne Werner had a request from our awards sponsors to have access to our members list and Susanne said that we have done this in the past. Susan said she remembered it having been done and Julie said that that courtesy had been extended to David Martin when we had a show at Cascadia Museum. It was agreed to provide that information to sponsors (e.g., Winsor & Newton, Gamblin).

Update to **New Membership Committee** report: when applications closed on 1/31, seven (7) new applications had been received.

Treasurer Sandra Kahler reported two concerns raised about the 2021 budget. One was the proposed publicity expense of \$3000. In response, Sandra did a breakdown of all the individual expenses (posters, Art Access, Constant Contact, etc) and they totaled \$2920, so she is keeping \$3000 as the proposed figure. The second concern was the increase of speakers fees from \$250 to \$300. The reasoning behind the increase was that Sarah has been successful in obtaining some high-octane speakers, who in many cases normally charge \$1000 or more per engagement. The last increase in the fee was from \$200 to \$250 in 2017.

Sandra said the rest of the budget was about the same as the previous one, but there are a few changes this year, including:

- New expense: \$170/year for the professional version of Zoom
- New expense: \$1875 for parking, allowing gallery sitters to park for free from Aug-Dec.
- Reduced expense: WPW Gallery rent, maintenance and security has been averaging \$1800 since 2018, so that expense is reduced from \$2200
- Insurance cost keeps rising.

As there was not a quorum, formal budget approval will be in March.

Judith adjourned the meeting at 10:37am

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Miller
Recording Secretary