

GLPG Board Meeting, November 19, 2020

Meeting convened at 9:30 AM via Zoom

Present: Anne Szilagyi, Sophie Wang, Barb Hyman, Joan Witter, Sara Laitala, Tim Candy, Barb Hranilovich, Bill Guerin, Judith Fleishman, Charlie Seebeck, Madhu Anderson and Margie Steinkamp

Approval of previous minutes (October 15, 2020 Board meeting), passed unanimously.

Madhu Anderson provided the Board with information about the financial aspects of the recent Facebook Auction. A total of 124 pots were entered in the auction and all but 10 of them sold! We collectively brought in \$6556.00. After credit card fees and sales tax, the Guild share was \$1909.00 before expenses, (\$914 through pot sales and \$995 in donations). Our patrons paid for pots via PayPal and this process ran smoothly. As a nonprofit organization the Guild was charged 2.2% of the price of the pot, plus 30 cents per transaction. Madhu will soon send out checks and post an online spreadsheet with all the financial details of the sale.

Margie Steinkamp reviewed the logistics of our Facebook Auction event and reported to the Board that this was a most successful endeavor. The Guild has approximately 2,000 regular followers and over 200 were gained from this event. Through 'boosting' the event on Facebook in the month leading up to the Auction, (cost \$150) news of the Auction reached approximately 15,000 people. Margie reported that entire process was quite 'user friendly'. It was easy for customers to place bids throughout the day, pay for the pots online, ask questions about the ware, and pick up their pots at the Guild after the event was done.

The Board discussed the possibility of future sales events. Various ideas were generated for the Sales, Social Media, and Publicity committees to review at a later date. Some of these ideas include a) refine the Facebook auction and expand to several times a year, b) use a different auction app - which we would likely have to pay for, c) set up a permanent sales link on the GLPG website, d) a combination of auctions and web site sales, e) themed flash sales of mugs only? bowls only? f) outdoor venues such as the new Meridian Township Farmers Market Pavilion, g) logistics of sharing the work load and publicizing the events.

The policy of members or VPs inviting an occasional studio guest (significant other, family member, or friend) to the Guild to work was reviewed. The Board requests that visitors adhere to previously developed protocols which include: occasional visits only, and not during peak working times. If the online sign up sheet has empty slots then members may sign up their guests the day before planned work time. Guild COVID protocols require all guests to wear a mask, wash their hands in the clean room upon entering the building, maintain cleanliness and disinfection standards, and keep their

distance from other members. A motion was made to continue allowing guests to visit the studio. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

The Board reviewed various car kiln traditions and procedures. The Board requests that members, just as in pre pandemic times, continue to leave their glaze ware on the shelves for a week for all to admire and learn from. If you have several similar pieces, leaving a representative piece on the shelves is very helpful. In addition, stackers are reminded to not slide anything under hand built or low lying pieces. Slumping and shrinking can occur causing ware to stick together.

The Board discussed holding future classes and having a spring sale during the pandemic. A motion was made to cancel both winter and spring classes in addition to the spring sale. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Bill Guerin updated the Board on the progress of the solar panel project. a) the LLC - 'Potter Power' was formed and now has a tax ID #, Fed ID # and a bank account; b) 'Potter Power' has signed contract with the 'Absolute Environmental' company who then submitted an application to Consumers Energy for interconnection net metering; c) the 'D2' financial modeling company is assisting 'Potter Power' in deciding what the appropriate price to charge the Guild for electricity will be and how member investors will be reimbursed; d) insurance needs are being looked into - whether the solar panels will be insured through the Guild's existing policy or a new separate policy is yet to be determined, and, e) installation of the solar panels will be done before the end of the year and since workers will need access to the building during this time the Guild will be closed to members for a few days.

The Board revisited the idea of installing bathroom type fans in the ceiling to increase building ventilation. Tim Candy will reach out to Chris Iott, who has expertise in this area, to discuss the feasibility of this project.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM
Next meeting: December 16 at 9:30 AM via Zoom.