

GLPG Board Meeting, October 15, 2020

Meeting convened at 10:00 AM via Zoom

Present: Anne Szilagy, Sophie Wang, Barb Hyman, Joan Witter, Sara Laitala, Tim Candy, Barb Hranalovich, Bill Guerin, Judith Fleishman, Charlie Seebeck

Approval of previous minutes, (September 4th, 2020 Board meeting), passed unanimously.

Barb Hran discussed methods for the Guild to stay connected to the community through social media. She has spearheaded the idea of a Guild Newsletter. A motion was made by Barb Hran that a Newsletter would go out via email, on a semi-regular basis, with news/updates on various Guild activities. Using 'Mail Chimp' (which we already pay for), it would reach out to all those people who are on our sales email list and also our student email list. A prototype of the first Newsletter was reviewed by the Board. It includes information about our "19 for 19 Pots of Gratitude" project, the upcoming Auction, and the launching of our new website. The motion to send out this first newsletter was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Bill Guerin updated the Board on the Guilds' Solar Instillation project overseen by Barb Sears. This project, besides the obvious environmental advantages and social good, aims to substantially reduce the Guilds electricity costs in the long term. A specific group of Guild members will form an LLC and invest their own private funds to finance the project.

Bill explained that due to some very generous, time sensitive tax rebate incentives, it would be critical to begin the project before this years' end. He therefore made a motion requesting that the Board move to approve the preliminary steps of this project. These preliminary steps will include: a) the formation of an LLC, made up of Guild members who will manage this project (a completely separate entity from the Guild itself), b) the choosing of a company to install the solar panels, (there are 3 estimates to date, ranging from \$39-47,000), c) the drawing up of an agreement between the Guild and the LLC, which will include a 'Power Purchase Agreement' (PPA). This is an arrangement between the Guild and the LLC, whereby the Guild agrees to purchase all the power generated by the LLC's solar array, albeit at a discounted rate. (Of note - the Guild will eventually assume ownership of the system several years down the line), and d) the purchasing of the requisite materials. The D2 Solar Company is assisting with Legal/Accounting help. The motion was seconded and approved with all in favor.

Bill Guerin reviewed another aspect of the solar panel project: the Guild roof. Since the solar panels will be installed on the roof, it was necessary to evaluate the condition of our existing roof. Three estimates were obtained and all 3 roofing specialists found the roof to be in good repair with an estimated need for replacement in 10 years time. Bill

made the motion that the project proceed on the current roof. The motion was seconded with all in favor.

Of note - the roof is owned by the Guild, rather than the LLC, therefore, the Guild takes financial responsibility for roof maintenance and repair. When the roof needs to be replaced in the future, the panels will have to be removed and then re installed.

With winter approaching Barb Hyman requested that the Board review/update the Guilds' COVID protocols. Upon discussion it was decided that our current protocols will remain in place but with the following changes:

a) WINDOWS will now remain closed during the winter.

On a related window issue – the Board is requesting that IF windows are opened, when locking them please only lock the bottom latch. This will allow the more diminutive among us not to have to jump up on a stool each time a window needs to be re-opened. This request applies to windows in the Glaze room. As before, both top and bottom window latches should continue to be locked in the main room.

b) HEAT will be set to 65 degrees at night and a maximum of 68 degrees when members are working. Bill will post instructions about how to operate the thermostat.

c) HAND WASHING - A new sign will be placed on the bulletin board in the lobby reminding all Guild members to PLEASE wash their hands in the clean room prior to entering the main work spaces.

d) PERSONAL SPACE - The further away we are from each other, the safer we remain. So please adopt the policy of always asking your fellow Guilder about their degree of comfort when sharing a space. This is especially necessary in the GLAZE ROOM. If you are waxing or decorating and don't need to be in the confines of the Glaze room, please fan out into the main room, or the clay room, to complete your work.

To increase building ventilation in the winter months, Tim Candy suggested that we turn on the fan in the bathroom. Discussion took place about adding more bathroom type fans that would vent to the outside. Tim will look into prices and feasibility.

Charlie reviewed the type of filters being used in the Guild furnace. We are using the recommended accordion filters with a 13 MERV rating.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM
Next meeting: November 19 at 9:30 AM via Zoom.

