

GLPG Board Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mike Hamm, Pamela Timmons, Wenfen Pan, Tim Sime, Paul Stokstad, Barb Sears, Charlie Seebeck (ex officio), Deb Cole, Sara Laitala. Absent: Liz Meyers

Old Business:

1. Budget amendment

The board voted to increase the deferred maintenance budget to \$3,000.

2. Brick dispersal

There are 35 new hard bricks; the Guild will save them for future use. There are also a variety of older hard bricks. There are 618 soft bricks; some good, some bad, some arch bricks. The chairs of the kiln committees have already taken some to use as future peeps. All of the soft bricks are from the old soda kiln, which might make them less attractive for a reduction kiln. Sara and Pamela couldn't find a practical place to store them. The board voted to give the membership until October 22 to take the soft brick and the old hard brick; beginning on October 23, students will be able to buy them at \$1 a piece on a first-come-first-serve basis; the Guild will sell any remainders to the public for \$1 a piece. Sara and Pamela will supervise.

3. Facilities update

Duct cleaning: Barb Sears got an estimate for \$930 and will schedule the duct cleaning for early December. We will have to move all the bisqueware and the glaze carts in advance of that.

Plumbing: A sediment filter will be installed in the water heater closet for \$573. Barb will also get estimates for installing a spigot in that closet and for moving the gas pipe to the water heater so that the vertical water pipes can be moved a few inches to allow them to be insulated.

Hazardous waste disposal: Many of our glazes contain chemicals that are hazardous waste, so our glaze slop counts as hazardous waste. Clinton County takes hazardous waste for \$0.85 a pound. Other county programs may accept it as well. The Board voted to stop firing the glaze slop; we will continue to dry it and will now store the dried slop in covered buckets for disposal at a hazardous waste disposal program.

4. Car kiln update

Mike Hamm and others have made several adjustments to the car kiln: they removed 4 feet from the chimney and adjusted the target bricks and bag walls. Test firings have been improving. For now, there will be no different colored tags for firing pots (only white, no pink, blue, or yellow). The goal is to fire every Wednesday until the sale. Pots put on the shelf by the evening of Saturday, October 14, will not be charged points; after that, regular points will be charged.

5. Points issue

Large pots allowance: The board voted to lower the annual large pots allowance from 8,000 to 6,000 points.

Pots donated for community activities: The board voted to alter the policy for pots donated for community activities: pots donated to Empty Bowls continue to be fired at no charge, but there will no longer be a 2,500 bonus points for donations of ware to other community activities.

Point purchase policy: The board voted to make the point purchase policy applicable only to active founding members; the requirements and price for purchasing points remain otherwise unchanged.

Points per hour: The board voted to continue the policy that points are earned at a rate of 400 points per hour of work.

New Business:

1. Discuss and approve October Treasurer's report.

The board voted to approve the report.

2. Approve September meeting minutes.

The board voted to approve the minutes from the September meeting.

3. Restriction on personal use of certain chemicals.

Reitz Green, Shino, Spodumene, and Blue Garzio are now for member use only because they contain lithium, petalite, and spodumene, ingredients that are now unavailable or extremely expensive. Members should not use those ingredients in glazes for personal use. Gerstley Borate is also now unavailable and so should also be conserved for guild glaze recipes; we are transitioning to Gillespie Borate as a substitute and will be testing it in recipes.

4. Commemorative photo display

The board voted to start an album to hold photos of people formerly associated with the guild.

5. Create a list of major equipment

Madhu has asked for the creation of a list of equipment, high value art, and major furnishings. Paul will work with Madhu on creating that list.

6. Sales Committee update

The board voted to amend the policy regarding emeritus participation in sales. The current policy states that "An Emeritus Member may participate in Guild Sales and work a specified number of hours at the discretion of the current sales chairperson." Beginning with the May 2024 sale, the rule will return to the version that was in place when the emeritus member category was created: "An Emeritus Member may participate in Guild Sales; provided, however, that an Emeritus Member must work at the sale in which he or she participates and must work the same number of hours as an Active Member participating in the sale."

7. Schedule next meeting

Tuesday, November 14 at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.