

Local Clay Meeting Minutes, January 28, 2009

In attendance: Avi Harriman, SarahLyn Brooks, Josh Allen, Barb Haddad, Molly Buckles, Jessica Criser, Ziggy Blum, Merry Newcomer. Susan Fishel, Connie Wagner, Anne Glancy, Claire Delffs, Rhoda Fleischman, Frank Gosar, Michael Fromme, Paula Mance, Leslie Friedman

Michael Fromme called the meeting to order. Frank moved for approval of the minutes and Rhoda seconded.

Treasurer's Report: Frank reported that Total Income for the period is \$525.00 with Expenses of \$1303.15 (Bookkeeper, Secretary, Clay in Education, and Workshops) leaving a Balance forward for 1/19/09 of \$ 5,278.07. An additional deposit of 270.00 for 2009 memberships credited 1/26/09, after close of this statement.

Empty Bowls: Josh brought Jessica Criser from Food for Lane County to discuss the sale and auction. The Empty Bowls Throw-A-Thon will be held at Clay Space on March 21-22. Bowls will be made on Saturday and trimmed on Sunday. They'll be glazed at LCC and returned to Clay Space for the Empty Bowls Sale on May 29.

Jessica Criser, a new employee of Food for Lane County, said that the Empty Bowls Sale brings them \$10-12,000. She appreciates Local Clay for our organizational skills, efficiency and enthusiasm regarding the Empty Bowls fundraisers. She announced that the Empty Bowls Auction will be will be different this year. Instead of auctioning a bowl at each table, 5 will be chosen for the live auction. Everything else will be sold either at the silent auction or sold with price tags. She asked for input on previous sales and auctions.

The Valley River Center sale and online auction a few years ago was fun and brought our pottery into the community (although scheduling volunteers every hour became unwieldy).

Did the table bowls at the live auction raise more money than the bowls in the silent auction?

Jessica also asked for feedback regarding the artist split, which hasn't been determined for this year. Please send your ideas to jcriser@foodforlanecounty.org.

Clay in Ed: no report

Clay Fest: Long and loud applause was given for Paula's fine job running Clay Fest the past few years! Avi expressed confidence in his new role because he learned by emulating Paula. Avi reported that Clay Fest 2008 lost \$2,040. Clay Fest 2007 made \$2,050. Give the state of the economy during October, we did OK. Analysis of the event shows that the Friday night opening made up for money that we might have lost in the over-all scheme of things. The Clay Fest Board moved to continue the Friday Night opening for at least one more year. The 2009 Clay Fest will be held the same weekend as the Home Show, October 9, 10, 11.

Participation by professional potters was down last year. There were more new potters and not enough heavy hitters from the past. Discussion included a variable point system with points given for past attendance. Changes to the point system will be an ongoing discussion throughout the year.

Clay Fest will have a web album with photos on clayfest@gmail.com. It's a private album by invitation only to Local Clay members.

Next year, we'll have a mandatory meeting two hours before the show opens so everyone knows the rules, e.g. electricity, fire extinguishers, etc. The meeting will go over information that people may have overlooked in the move-in packet.

Fire extinguishers are now available for \$5 rental. Every booth must have a certified fire extinguisher in order to open the show.

Liability issue - Kids Clay should have a sign saying that we allow no unaccompanied children (of any age). We should find out the policy used by OPA Showcase and Art in the Pearl. Sabrina at Maude Kearns may also have a suggestion.

A budget will be established in February and reported at the next Local Clay meeting.

Webmaster: no report

Workshops: Rhoda reported that the Lisa Orr workshop in November was highly successful. Paula, Rhoda, and Merry brought samples of pottery they've made using Lisa Orr's techniques. Rhoda took many photos which will be posted on the Local Clay website.

Brad Mildrexler will lead a one-day workshop on January 31 at LCC, 10 am-4 pm. Bring a sack lunch. Brad makes large sculptural pieces and works outside the box.

Linda Rothschild, a 2-D artist will lead a computer-related workshop in March 2009. More information will be forthcoming.

Terry Inokuma, Craig Martelli, Dennis Minor are possible artists being considered for workshops to be held later this year and next year.

Workshops are usually scheduled a year in advance. Rhoda invites members to consider becoming 2010 Workshop Committee Trainee, and taking over the committee in 2011.

Instead of a demo following the March 19 Local Clay meeting, Rhoda will show Lisa Orr's video of Mexican pottery. It shows them making, glazing and firing pots, using very unique methods. Bring popcorn!

Elections: Everyone on the slate ran unopposed.

President - Michael Fromme
President-Elect - Vacant
Secretary - Leslie Friedman
Treasurer - Frank Gosar
Clay in Education - Maryanne Smith
Clay Fest - Avi Harriman
Empty Bowls - Josh Allen
Web Master - Tim Sheehan
Workshops - Rhoda Fleischman

Michael, Frank and Rhoda have each held the office of President twice. They encourage someone new to step up to the President-Elect slot. Rhoda said that the job of President is actually easier than most of the other jobs. The main responsibility is planning the meeting agendas (5 times/year). Responsibilities of the Pres-Elect include correlating info from the application forms (workshop interests, committees) and forwarding email.

Frank moved that we vote by acclamation. Ziggy seconded.

Rhoda moved that we adjourn. Frank seconded.

The potluck was a fun party and the food was really good - as usual!