

Local Clay Minutes 11/13/14

Present: Ziggy Blum, Karen Washburn, Maryanne Smith, Avi Harriman, Cecile Haworth, Annie Heron, Robin Russell, Merry Newcomer

Old Business

Treasurer's Report : Robin Russell submitted the Treasurer's report. Total inflows for the year so far come to \$4047.84; total outflows are \$1551.22. Net balance is \$2456.62. It was noted that the report she submitted needed correcting in the Clay in Ed. inflows; the above figures represent the corrected total.

Clay in Education report: Maryanne Smith suggested that we consider raising the amount we pay artists, as this has remained the same for years, and perhaps a higher rate would inspire more people to get out into the community to teach.

Webmaster report: Merry brought up a concern about Network Solutions – they have billed us for services we did not request.

New Business

As we approached the topic of nominations for this year's board, we had a discussion of the feasibility of melding the positions of program, workshops, social media and Empty Bowls. Due to a decreased attendance at our meetings and budgetary pinches, the positions of both program and workshops seem to require less (i.e. not many people showing up for the programs/meetings or workshops).

It was moved and seconded that we combine the offices of Program Chair, Workshop Chair, Social Media Chair and Empty Bowls Chair into one position, to be called Program Chair, and that the by-laws be changed to reflect this. The motion passed by unanimous consent of all those present.

There followed a general discussion of Local Clay – its past and future. Cecile Haworth articulated the original vision of bringing clay artists together to share, and to represent the clay community in the larger community. We speculated on whether these needs are being met in other ways (Clay Space, LCC, etc.), continuing a previous discussion on why we have seen so much attrition from meetings and gatherings. Cecile queried as to what functions in our mission statement besides Clay in Education are not being met, and Karen responded from the By-Laws, “To serve as a professional liaison to the public, galleries, businesses, publications and arts agencies.” Cecile recently spoke with a business group, at their request, and said she thought there was more demand for this type of networking and outreach in the community at large.

It was then moved and seconded that we create a new board position of Outreach Chair, to fulfill this need. This was

unanimously approved by the members present.

The board nominations for 2015 were as follows:

President: Ziggy Blum

Secretary: Annie Heron

Treasurer: Robin Russell

Clay in Education: Maryanne Smith

Clay Fest Chair: Karen Washburn

Program Chair: Avi Harriman

Webmaster: Merry Newcomer

Outreach Chair: Cecile Haworth

After concluding the nominations, we spent some time in brainstorming outreach ideas.

We then set the date for the first general meeting of the new year, January 21, 2015. This will involve a general election, and continued discussion of the future of Local Clay. It was suggested by Annie that we send out, through the newsletter, a summary of some of the ideas presented at this meeting, so that if there are responses from the membership they will have a chance to voice them.

Meeting was adjourned.

Annie Heron
Local Clay Secretary