

MINNESOTA QUILTERS BOD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday February 17, 2009
Meeting held at MQ Office, Textile Center, Minneapolis, MN

Attending: Mary Brandt, Yvonne Curran, Kathie Simon Frank, Linda Lysdahl, Miki Peine, Sue Sandager, Cindy Wilson, Kathleen Winters, and visitors Jill Schultz and Jan Walstrom
Absent: Sue Rutford, Char Wenger, Linda Wines, Rebecca McPeek

Call to Order and Announcements (Mary Brandt)

Mary Brandt called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. She passed around the sheet for recording volunteer hours and asked everyone to note the number of hours they volunteered in the past month.

Roll Call and Minutes (Kathie Simon Frank)

Kathie Simon Frank offered the January 2009 BOD minutes for approval. There were no corrections or additions. Kathie Simon Frank noted that between the January 2009 and February 2009 Board meetings, there was a motion made and voted on by e-mail. That motion, made by Char Wenger (Moved that the Board approve a request from the Eagan High School Quilt Exhibit Committee for \$400) and voted on by all but one board member, was appended to the January 2009 minutes with the outcome of the vote (all ayes). This motion, its second, and the recorded votes are attached to these minutes.

MOTION: Yvonne Curran moved and Kathleen Winters seconded that the January 2009 BOD minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously. Kathie Simon Frank will send a final copy of those minutes to the Board and to Rebecca McPeek for filing in the office.

Kathie Simon Frank reminded the Board that she has to miss the next meeting. Char Wenger agreed to take the minutes in her place.

Treasurer's/Finance Report (Miki Peine)

Miki Peine reviewed the Finance Committee's report.

She said that MQ's cash balance is improving.

The registrations for the 2009 show are a bit behind last year, but not bad.

Miki Peine reported that MQ will not pay bills that come in over the approved budget amount unless there is Board approval for the additional amount.

Miki Peine stressed that everyone who makes purchases on behalf of MQ needs to research the best price for an item or service and get bids for expenditures. In the past, people have used the same vendors that have always been used. We are not necessarily getting the most for our money by doing that. We need to explore the range of possibilities and go with the lowest price, assuming the service or product is equivalent.

Miki Peine reported that she and Becky McPeek are working on writing up the policies regarding records retention and written in-kind donations. The policies will be in effect beginning in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Business Manager's Report (Rebecca McPeek absent)

There was no report.

Show Coordinator's Report (Linda Lysdahl)

Linda Lysdahl brought a handout showing the kinds of ribbons that are awarded at the annual show. She proposed having consistent wording on all ribbons. This would save much time in the preparation of the ribbons each year, and thus save MQ money. The Board looked at each ribbon and approved Linda's proposed changes. There will be consistency of color from year to year in vendor, entrant, volunteer, and sponsor ribbons. This way we can order in large quantities and fully use the leftover ribbons the following years. This process will start for the 2010 show. Similarly, the ribbon for the children's entries will not include the year, so extras one year can be used the next.

Linda Lysdahl asked for permission to print new magnets announcing future show locations and dates. The Board approved her request. Because the magnets are less expensive per piece when ordered this way, Linda Lysdahl was encouraged to place a large order. For example, 25 magnets cost \$10 (40 cents each) versus 1000 magnets for \$135 (13 ½ cents each).

Show Reports (no one present from 2009 show; Jill Schultz and Jan Walstrom [2010])

Jill Schultz and Jan Walstrom (2010 Show) reported that they visited the St. Cloud show site on February 12th.

They asked the Board to consider revising the name of the 2010 show to Quilting in the Quarry (adding "g" to the end of Quiltin'). At their February 4th meeting, the 2010 show committee unanimously agreed that they preferred the name "Quilting in the Quarry". The Board approved this change, noting that no products had been ordered with the working name, the change would cost nothing, and the desire of the show chairs and show committee should be honored. The show chairs thanked the Board for approving the change.

Jill Schultz and Jan Walstrom showed three designs submitted for the 2010 raffle quilt.

MOTION: After all Board members examined all three designs, Sue Sandager moved and Kathleen Winters seconded that we accept the quilt designed by Pam Dinndorf. The Board noted that all three designs were appropriate for the theme of the show and all were very attractive. Jill Schultz will notify all three designers of the Board's decision. She will talk with Pam Dinndorf about whether she can complete the quilt by April 2009 and, if so, will give her a contract to sign. Jill Schultz will also explore with Pam Dinsdorf the possibility of using her quilt design as the basis for the show logo. The first full meeting of the 2010 committee will be on Saturday April 4th from 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

The Board discussed the insurance value for the 2009 raffle quilt. Currently Lori Allison, the 2009 raffle quilt designer, owns the 2009 raffle quilt. Ownership changes to Minnesota Quilters, Inc. in May 2009.

Further discussion followed on the need for transportation from the 2009 show site to the Depot for the fashion show. Yvonne Curran and others walked the route when they visited the Duluth show site recently and said that it was about 1 mile. This is considered too far to walk for some of those who will attend the fashion show. Kathleen Winters said she would look into transportation possibilities and the cost to users and will report back.

Yvonne Curran reported that she discovered that the Duluth quilt shops never received 2009 show registration books. Apparently the registration booklets that the Board thought were either going to be delivered there last month or mailed were not received by Duluth shops or shops enroute to Duluth. Kathie Simon Frank said she might be able to drive to Duluth next week with the delivery. Linda Lysdahl said she would check to make sure no one else had show registration booklets that they were planning to deliver.

President's Report (Mary Brandt)

Mary Brandt suggested changing the deadline for the new quilters scholarship to November 1st. The scholarship would be announced in the annual show booklet along with its application form and mention of it would be in the fall registration book. Earlier announcement and application deadline permits the winner of the scholarship to get priority registration for her/his choice of class. **MOTION:** Yvonne Curran moved and Sue Sandager seconded that the deadline for the scholarship for new quilters be changed to November 1st.

Mary Brandt asked for nominations for Minnesota Quilters 2009 Outstanding Volunteer. Three nominees were named and discussed. [Do I include these names in the minutes? The nominees were Martha Eaves, Doris Kraemer, and Pam Ronan.] The Board voted and chose Martha Eaves as Outstanding Volunteer for 2009. Mary Brandt will notify Martha Eaves of the award and ask her to attend both April meetings when the award is given. Linda Lysdahl will make a certificate for Martha Eaves. Mary Brandt will buy a frame for the certificate. Sue Sandager will purchase flowers and a gift certificate at Martha Eaves' favorite quilt shop.

Discussion concerning free memberships followed. Free memberships have been given to Board members and committee chairs as an incentive for participation. However, with the need to save money, we need to consider whether this is a wise practice. Members get a \$30 annual membership for life after volunteering for one year. The Board recently agreed to either refuse free annual membership or to donate at least the amount of the membership back to MQ annually. Mary Brandt asked Jill Schultz and Jan Walstrom to talk with the 2010 Show committee about what incentives they would like to see to inspire them to participate on that committee. Mary Brandt will write in her next President's column in the newsletter that the free membership for committee chairs will disappear effective at the beginning of the next fiscal year, October 1, 2009.

Mary Brandt reported that Minnesota Quilter meetings are scheduled for the Fourth of July weekend, July 2nd and 4th, and Labor Day weekend, September 3rd and 5th, which presents a problem. After talking with the Textile Center, our landlord, it seems other groups have reserved the following week's slots. In at least one past year, the group(s) that were scheduled for the space the following weekends did not plan to use the auditorium then. Mary Brandt will ask Sue Rufford to check soon with the groups that have room reservations for July 9th and 11th and September 10th and 12th to see if they plan to use the auditorium space or whether it might be available for Minnesota Quilters meetings those two months. Otherwise we have to seriously consider alternative plans, since the Board is concerned that few people would attend on holiday weekends.

Mary Brandt said that we should talk with the Textile Center about scheduling our meetings in 2011 so that a similar conflict with the holidays does not occur again.

Operations Directors' Report (Sue Sandager and Kathleen Winters)

No report. [Or should I write "Personnel matters were discussed."??]

Communications Directors' Report (Yvonne Curran and Cindy Wilson)

Yvonne Curran reported that she had been in touch with the State Fair personnel. Minnesota Quilters provides a maximum of \$1417 in award money for winners in quilting crafts at the State Fair. The amount varies year to year depending on the awards given. The State Fair will bill Minnesota Quilters, Inc. only for the ribbons that are awarded. Yvonne will check with them to see if they are planning to have Quilt on a Stick as a category again this year. The general feeling of the Board was that it was a successful category and we would like to see it happen again. David Shattuck keeps the stock of actual ribbons that are given to award pieces and the State Fair gets the ribbons from him.

Cindy Wilson reported about MemberClicks. She will put up a message board on MemberClicks to post announcements from people who ask MQ to contact all members. There are new links on MemberClicks to the monthly survey to make it easier for people to respond.

Cindy Wilson reported on the Business Initiative started after a recent Board strategic planning session. Along with the show booklet ad solicitation to businesses that was sent in the past couple of weeks, she sent letters announcing the upcoming business membership possibility. Responses are coming in. Many businesses were positive about having a business membership and liked its benefits. Cindy Wilson will ask Becky McPeck to develop a membership form for businesses to use for subscribing. Cindy Wilson noted that the letter was exploratory, proposing the possibility of business memberships, but that, for businesses ready to subscribe, we are not quite up and running with the program yet.

Education Director's Report (Sue Rutford absent)

No report.

Past President's Report (Linda Wines absent)

No report.

President Elect's Report (Char Wenger absent)

No report.

Mary Brandt adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, March 17, 2009 6 pm for socializing; 6:30 pm for the start of the meeting. The April meeting will be changed from Tuesday to Wednesday, April 22 , 2009.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathie Simon Frank
Draft: 23 February 2009

Corrections by e-mail:

2/24/09 Mary Brandt wrote: Kathie, please check the \$ amount of Char's grant request, it has in the past been \$500, and then in the comm. report, Minnesota is missing it's "t" [Note: I fixed this. K]

2/26/09 Char Wenger wrote: The \$400 grant request from Laura Nagel for Eagan High School is correct.