

Tavern Spinners and Weavers Guild

Meeting Minutes - January 22, 2025

Members in attendance: Jan, Becky, Mary Ann, Sandi, Laurie, Carol B, Elizabeth, Mike, Kathy, Carol R



Show and Tell: Mary Ann discussed that she should have used Fiberworks for one of her warps. This led to discussion about another training session.

Call to Order by Jan at 10:40 am

December Minutes – Kathy moved / Sandi seconded, and minutes were unanimously approved.

Reports

Treasurer – Sandi advised that our income for December was \$1444.14 which included \$854.25 in shop sales, outgoing funds of \$1411.63 for the purchase of a loom (Rose) and the holiday luncheon. Current balance is \$11,024.39, including \$248.00 in donations and \$1045.50 for December shop sales. Sandi proposed that the TSWG donate \$9000.00 to the RHHT Foundation leaving a balance of approximately \$2000.00. After discussion about weaving classes, instructor payment, additional classes, Sandi moved to donate \$9000.00 to the Foundation, Becky seconded, donation was unanimously accepted.

Foundation – Becky reminded the group that the Annual Foundation meeting will be on Tuesday, January 28, with presentation of the strategic plan, followed by a potluck meal. Corinne will be on vacation from January 30 to February 22. The search continues for someone to fill her position or possibly positions as Corinne wants to retire. There is a job description and an increased effort to find a replacement. December sales at the Heritage Arts Center were \$9600.00.

Upcoming events include February 8: Valentine gift shopping with chocolates (still need additional candy makers), February 16: George Washington event, and March 23: one of the lectures from the NNK 250 lecture series will be held at RHHT (Dr. Kathleen Brown).

Studio/Yarn Status – Jan encouraged members to start weaving. The AVL loom, “Bill,” is in use and everyone is encouraged to try it out. Jan plans to place an order with MoPurl as soon as possible. There are 2 notebooks in the yarn room with samples of colors, different gauges, and available products to assist in making selections. Kathy has placed the order for the adhesive rulers. They will be shipped on Monday. Becky was able to purchase the treasury tags from the UK (Kathy showed us how they can replace binder rings on lease sticks at a prior meeting), 51 mm with metal ends work best for lease sticks. Becky plans to share them with the guild and other members. Jan reported that Janice Stewart (one of the artisans who works with paper goods and a motivated volunteer) had expressed an interest in purchasing the wall hanging outside the studio along the stairs. Suggested asking price was \$350.00

MAFA/Other Guilds – MAFA conference June 26-29: TSWG has 4 members planning to attend, both Becky and Laurie obtained scholarships as first-time attendees (yay!). Sandi will not be attending because she will be in the process of moving to Arizona (Boo).

Williamsburg guild: Sandi will be teaching a class at their March meeting on sewing with hand-woven cloth

Five Rivers Fiber Guild: Sandi reported that planned presentation for the January meeting by Celeste Johnson on teaching how to spin paper and fabric was postponed until the April meeting. Sandi will attend and then teach us if there is interest.

Equipment – Tom is building a castle for the new 8-shaft Baby Wolf, Rose. Please use the AVL as it will be used for weaving towels but is also wide enough for baby blankets.

Old Business The guild donation to the Foundation was previously decided.

New Business

New methodology for looms for sale: Jan proposed formalizing the buying and selling process for the guild. Melinda had suggested 1) if various persons are interested in purchasing the same loom that this could be done randomly (drawing a name) and 2) start a standing list of equipment that people are interested in locating/purchasing in case the equipment comes available. Jan suggested forming a committee of 1-3 people to facilitate online advertising of equipment the guild would like to sell. Dennis has agreed to assist with the internet posting and Tom and George were drafted to help with descriptions and research on appropriate pricing.

Discussion about the offer from Betty Jacobsen to the guild to sell her studio equipment including her Harrisville loom and all related materials. The guild plans to purchase her yarn for \$100.00 and books for \$100.00. Ms. Jacobsen is asking \$2300.00 for her loom and other equipment. Guild member, Cheryl Ambrose, has expressed interest in purchasing the equipment.

Alternate to book report: Jan reported that annual subscription for Handweaving.net is \$39/year and is accessible on the guild computer. This computer/laptop also has the software for Fiberworks and access to the TSWG website. Carol B suggested a “Next Steps” class or seminar to teach less experienced weavers about Fiberworks and its use. Kathy taught 3 classes on the program and has posted them on the guild website. There was discussion about offering more advanced classes possibly partnering with other area guilds to limit expenses. Jan proposed renewing Handweaving and instead of a book report, a member could present a “draft of the month” to the group. Becky volunteered to present at the February meeting.

Book Report –*Sublime Light* by Navajo tapestry artist, D.Y. Begay presented by Laurie. Currently Ms Begay’s work is being exhibited at the National Museum of the American Indian in

Washington, D.C. until July 13, 2025. Her book described all the aspects Begay utilizes in creating her tapestries. From raising sheep to shearing, spinning, dying, and weaving Begay uses her native roots and the landscape to bring life to her art.

Lessons Learned/Tidbits – Converting a 4-shaft draft to an 8-shaft draft will be deferred to next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

Submitted by,

Carol Roberts, standing in for Melinda (guild secretary)