

VIRGINIA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER, LORTON
SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Co-President, Rachel Collins, who welcomed the attendees.

The minutes of the 2008 Annual Business Meeting were circulated. Referring to the 6th paragraph that noted a request to change the state residence ruling to qualify for VWS membership. Nancy Stark proposed that the second sentence be amended as follows: "After discussion, it was felt that artist members who move out of state may retain membership in VWS." The minutes would then reflect the change to this by law that had already been passed.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Tricia DeWeese, seconded by Judy Antico, and approved by all members present.

Treasurer's report: VWS has 425 current members. 20 first time members participated in this year's exhibit and 98 members are from the Northern Virginia area.

Creasy/Johnson Fund: Established in the early 1900's, this fund awards grants through the schools in Virginia to promote the use of watercolor. The deadline for receipt of applications was changed to January 31 in order to give instructors time to write grants after the Christmas holidays. Three partial grants were awarded this year: \$700 to Lisa Gooden, parent volunteer, on behalf of Elkton, VA Middle School for six weeks of instruction of watercolor; \$650 to Martha Yankey, art teacher, on behalf of Elkton, VA Middle School for a week long art camp for grades K-4; \$740 to Pat Carr, art teacher, on behalf of Cave Spring High School Art Department in Roanoke, VA for two 3-hour workshops for art students. Members were encouraged to identify potential applicants. Jane Iten and her committee were recognized for their work in managing this fund.

30th Anniversary Exhibit report: 599 entries were received from 238 artists. Tony Van Hasselt accepted 101. Gwen Bragg thanked her co-president and various committees for their hard work and invited attendees to tour the Lorton facility which is celebrating its first year in operation this month.

Old Business: A proposal was submitted to add a life-membership category to the membership criteria. The suggested wording is as follows: "Artist members who have been artist members in good standing for 20 years or more and artist members who are 75 years old and who have been artist members for at least 5 years. The dues requirement is waived for Life Members." Because this requires a change to the bylaws, it will be presented and voted on at the 2010 annual meeting in Richmond. This announcement serves as a notice of the possible change, and the proposed wording will be printed in the *Waterlogue* newsletter.

New business: Rachel Collins reported that hosts for the 2011 and 2013 exhibits are needed. Lynchburg had volunteered to host the 2011 show but the only venue available in that area is slated for renovation and will be closed indefinitely. Julie Reed reported on the possibility of using the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester and will meet with the curator in the coming week. Area representatives have been alerted to the need for filling the hosting gaps and Carolyn Gawarecki suggested approaching those who have hosted exhibits in past years. Lassie Corbett mentioned possible new space in Herndon and Concetta Scott suggested we explore an art center in Farmville. The 2010 exhibit will be in Richmond in the Spring. Members were reminded that any venue needs to be able to accommodate 80-100 paintings.

Carolyn Gawarecki suggested that awards be announced in time for the opening reception, especially when the various weekend events are held in separate buildings. Nancy Stark pointed out that a ruling is not needed because it is up to the discretion of each individual hosting board. The award winners will be announced on the website as quickly as possible after the banquet.

Marge Alderson asked about the response to the requirement for digital entries. Jean Gill reported that it had not

affected the number who submitted. There were 20-30 more entries this year which is typical when the exhibit is held in Northern Virginia. Digital entries will make it easier for the webmaster and will allow us to include all accepted paintings in the catalog. Jean also noted that the digital images were generally less bright than the actual paintings and suggested that members work on getting the images as accurate as possible in the future. Chris Krupinski brought her laptop to the gallery in order to make any color corrections to the images for the catalog and website. After a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of slides, photographs, and digital entries, Nancy Stark reminded members that it is up to jurors to decide on the format they prefer.

Door Prizes: A drawing for the door prizes followed.

Recognition of VWS standing officers and directors: Officers and directors are primarily based in Roanoke and their responsibilities carry over from year to year. The exhibiting board changes each year.

State Treasurer:	Jack Hooker
Membership Chair:	Martha Rhodes
Waterlogue Editor:	Pam Ogden
Postal Secretary:	Gari Stephenson
Webmaster:	Karen Schwartz
Historian:	Judy Bates
Creasy/Johnson Fund:	Jane Iten

Presentation of slate of candidates to serve as officers and directors of the 2010 Exhibit Board:

Co-Presidents:	Susan Stuller and Beverly Perdue Jennings
Co-Vice Presidents:	Eleanor Cox and Kathy Miller
Recording Secretary:	Linda Holland
Exhibition Treasurer:	Jill Chafin
Directors at Large:	Pat Angevine, Jane Delsack, Marti Franks, Bill Kinsey, Patrice Reese, Christopher Wynn

Harriet Westfall moved that the above candidates be elected, Tricia DeWeese seconded, and all present voted in favor.

The gavel was passed to Susan Stuller who reported that the spring date for the 2010 exhibit was chosen because it was more convenient for the Glen Allen Cultural Arts Center. Gerald Brommer will be the juror. 5" x 7" glossy photographs will be required and accepted artists will be asked to submit CD's of selected works. They will follow this year's tradition of including all accepted paintings in the catalog. The following dates were announced:

Deadline for entries:	February 1
Notification cards sent:	March 15
Workshop:	May 10-14
Opening Reception:	May 14

Business meeting, Juror's walk-through, and awards banquet: May 15

There will also be a "Salon des Refuses" for those paintings that were not accepted.

There will be no fee for this.

A motion to adjourn was made and approved. The meeting ended at 10:45 am and the juror's walk-through followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Barthell
Secretary