

**Virginia Watercolor Society
Annual General Meeting
October 14, 2017**

Call to Order

Gwen Bragg called the AGM to order at 9:33 a.m.

Standing board members were recognized:

- Gwen Bragg, president
- Lynn Hosegood, treasurer
- Jane Frank, historian
- Dr. William Frable and Jean Miller, Waterlogue editors
- Karen Schwartz, membership and webmaster
- Susan Stuller, Creasy-Johnson Fund

Recognition and thanks were expressed to area representatives Debra Conn, Pat Cook, David Eakin, Lynn Hosegood, Brenda Hounshell, Jane Iten, MaryAnn Katz, Julie Read, Chee Ricketts, Angela Shields, Pam Doss, and Garry-Lou Upton.

Past Meeting Minutes – Gwen Bragg

Gwen asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the May 21, 2016, minutes as copies of the minutes were provided at the meeting. Motion was made and seconded and the minutes were approved as written by acclamation.

Reports

Treasurer Report – Lynn Hosegood (copies of detailed account sheets were provided at the meeting)

- Operating Account - \$47,756.39

Membership Report – Karen Schwartz

- Currently 319 members for period spanning 2017 and 2018 (267 renewing and 52 new members). Of the 52 new members, 5 are provisional members from West Virginia.
- Survey sent to previous members whose membership had lapsed; 24 renewed after receiving survey (details regarding survey discussed in New Business).
- Procedures were enacted this year to accept dues payments online. 157 members used the online payment option and 36 of the 157 were new members.
- Members were asked to add VWS watercolor emails addresses to their trusted senders email address lists, and to check spam filters for VWS messages.

Creasy-Johnson Fund Report – Gwen Bragg on behalf of Susan Stuller

The board granted two requests this year:

\$1,285 to Washington and Lee High School, Arlington – reached more than 50 students and one teacher who utilized the services of an artist to instruct on transparent watercolor.

\$2,400 38th VWS exhibition, Winchester – used to fund seven workshops during year promoting watermedia to varied age groups (ages 4 up to adult) and utilized the services of four artist instructors who taught a variety of topics, including abstracts and painting the sense of light.

Total amount distributed - \$3,685

Creasy-Johnson Fund Balance - \$11,425

Request was made to members to spread word about availability of funds for advocating on behalf of the medium and introducing students to watercolor. Also, please let local teachers know they may apply for these grants. Application period is October through early February.

Fund mission has also been enlarged to include a scholarship for a college student at a Virginia institution seeking a degree that involves watercolor. Information about the scholarship is available on the VWS website.

Old Business

None to discuss

New business

Bylaws revision proposals – Lynn Hosegood

The bylaws revisions were explained by Lynn Hosegood. Revisions to Bylaws were drafted to keep up with technology and operational practices. Proposed changes were previously announced and made available to members on the website, www.virginiawatercolorociety.org. Copies were also available prior to the meeting. Summary of these previously published revision proposals included:

- Updates to job descriptions of board members
- Addition of Creasy-Johnson Fund Chair to VWS board
- Procedures for scheduling future board meetings
- Ability to request interim approval of bylaws amendments by email, with final approval still to be made at annual meeting
- Increase of annual dues to \$35.

An additional bylaws change was proposed by Lynn Hosegood during the meeting:

- Increase the exhibition entry fee to \$35 as well, to keep fee equal to annual dues fee.

Motion was made and seconded to approve all the proposed bylaws amendments, and motion passed by acclamation.

Results of membership survey – Lynn Hosegood

Lynn Hosegood presented the results of the membership survey and noted the most common request was for additional VWS membership benefits.

As a result of the survey results, Lynn proposed an additional bylaws revision:

- Create a program director position on the VWS board, who would work with area representatives to plan special programs, workshops, travel shows, etc.

Motion was made and seconded to revise the bylaws to create the program director position, and motion passed by acclamation.

39th Annual Exhibition – Roanoke/Salem -- Gwen Bragg on behalf of Nancy Stark

- Exhibition will be Sept. 7 – Oct. 7, 2018, at Roanoke College
- Opening Reception on Friday, Sept. 7, 2018
- Annual meeting, events and award dinner on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018
- Kathleen Conover will be the juror and workshop instructor.
- Kathleen Conover workshop will be Sept. 9 – 13, 2018.

38th Annual Exhibition – Winchester – Julie Read

- Julie Read reported great feedback from Mike Bailey workshop participants, and thanked all who entered the exhibition and participated in the exhibition events.

Nominating Committee -- Gwen Bragg, followed by Elaine Nunnally

- Gwen Bragg expressed appreciation to members for their support during her 5-year tenure. Gwen was also thanked for her service as president and Karen Schwartz presented Gwen with a gift.
- Committee members Gwen Bragg, Eleanor Cox, Brenda Hounshell and Jill Chafin submitted the nomination of Elaine Nunley to be the next VWS president. Motion to accept the nomination was made and seconded and motion passed by acclamation.
- Elaine Nunnally addressed meeting as new VWS president, thanking VWS members for their faith and support, and asked that members contact her as she wishes to meet and talk with as many members as possible as she begins her term as president.

Adjourned 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen Colebank, VWS Acting Secretary
2017 Exhibition Committee member