

Attendance: Jim Sahr, Anita Parish, Kim Allen, Sue Theolass, Diane McWhorter, Cathy Coulson-Keegan, Vince LaRochelle Other Participants: James Nason, Jeff Allen, Bill Wright, Samantha Backer

Guests: Nancy Hogan, who has sold for many years, came to find out what to do about her hair-braiding booth. She is the booth rep but there have always been others who also braid hair. They are supposed to all jury and be approved. She is not sure if she is a craft or an esoteric service. She would like to pass on the booth rep position but new hair-braiders are not successfully jurying in, after years of trying. She was confused about what crew or committee was involved in telling her how to proceed last year and she felt frustrated.

Members advised that the applicants should create a spectacular hair arrangement for the digital photos for the jury process, with a really good fifty word description. She could try calling Jeff Harrison for advice, particularly about the answer on whether to jury as a craft or an esoteric service.

Minutes Approval: Minutes of February 12.

***Motion:Accept the minutes as written (Cathy/Vince) Approved 5-0-1

Board Liaison Report: Sue reported on the February meeting when we read our letter to the Board, which got mixed responses. Many supported us, but one Board member chose to react negatively and lectured people to watch the video of the guidelines discussion. There were several discussions after the meeting which seemed supportive of craft committee, and the reaction might have just been a misunderstanding of Craft Committee intent.

A workshop with the Board and the new GM could happen post-Fair, an explanation of our work and a chance for Board members to bring their ideas to the Committee. They aren't as aware of the complaints and problems as we are, and we could help them by offering tools and solutions. We can frame it as CC wanting to know what will help them do their jobs better, as well as supporting crews and management. They need to see the big picture of the crafts world as crafters see it. Their job is to uphold the bylaws and make policy, and they can't do that well without committee support. Trust relationships need to be built. Information needs to be shared. Sue will see about reserving Alice's in September.

Board Report: We need to send in a plain report of what we have been doing. Diane will write one and send it around for approval.

Packet Letter: We want a friendly letter including information we have gathered about how to navigate the system, lots of things crafters will want to know. Fire extinguishers, etc. We don't have to talk about the New Area except to mention it, but it would be good to encourage people to share the guidelines with others in their booths. Mention the signs again, sound concerns, and tell them that Craft Inventory will be their contacts during Fair. Talk about imports and expectations. Rewrite last year's to seem different. Invite people to come to our meetings. Give the email address.

Craft Committee Letter: A half-sheet note could be handed out by the pathwalkers to each crafter. Booth reps often don't communicate with the other crafters, assuming Registration has told them everything. Pathwalkers could hand out a form to each crafter when they check the pink sheet. This doesn't seem like the right time to put this additional item in place, since it will involve more work for CI. The feedback form will suffice. The Peach Pit mentions the feedback form. We can talk about it again next month.

Craft Policy Document: The working group held the last meeting until post-Fair. They separated out a draft policy for a Review Panel and a draft policy for a Sanctions process, and have about an 8-page compilation of craft policy. It seems like a good plan to introduce the documents in July, for discussion in August, so Charlie can get some credit for starting the process and can speak in support. Setting up a workshop on a September Sunday (the 13th) could work.

Review Panel: Suggestions included adding a scribe to the list of participants. Guidelines should be written for the review process, and some info for the sanctioned person as to what to prepare. There should be protection in place for whistleblowers and for the sanctioned crafter as well. Experts in different craft areas will be important; maybe consultants could be brought in according to what type of crafter is being reviewed. It would be important to not bring in a competitor with self-interest, but someone to ask the right questions will be essential. Having people who aren't craft-proficient will make it hard to make an informed decision. There would have to be at least three to five crafters to make it work. There should be a quorum of at least six or seven. The panel would only meet when needed, not be a standing committee, with its purpose being to follow up on sanctions placed by CI and not easily resolved.

Question for the GM hiring process: The aim is to draw out craft supporters from people who know little about craft issues. Maybe include Article II or part of the mission statement. Sue will craft something and send it around by email.

Meeting Evaluation: Very productive meeting, with little dialoging. A lot was accomplished.