

VWS Board Meeting- January 14, 2024

In attendance: Shannon Cronin (new board member- co-communications), Michelle Maher, Anne Lalonde, Martin LaLonde, Abigail Bartell, Petey Becker, Gary Eckhart, Ann Stafford, Julie Holmes

1. **Approval** of the previous meeting's minutes

2. Then we went over the **1-year, 3-year, and 5-year goals.**

1-yr: We filled our goal of reaching higher membership. We're going to update to 250 (current membership is now 235).

We talked about increasing social media presence- also to reach out to people who don't have a gallery page to submit artwork.

Do we want to interface more- share outreach with other art organizations. Abigail brought up a new arts organization: 802-arts house. (802artshouse.org)

We need to get people to volunteer- we still need a **Hub Director**. Also we talked about volunteer opportunities that are not actually board positions- like someone to spearhead **a student show-** (a student show could help draw more young artists into the organization. Also Martha Elmes at [Satellite Gallery in Lyndonville](#) : melmelts@yahoo.com- would be a possible contact for a student show.

3-yr goals: The main gist of the 3-yr goals is figuring out how we are going to get some assets. Fundraising? Increased membership? We'll keep the 3 and 5 year goals as is.

3. **Treasurer report (Anne Lalonde)**

\$18,650. = current assets, but that number is declining each year. The Westside Hub has been inactive. A reminder that we have eliminated the hub balance carry-over from year to year. So there is incentive to use the money each year.

4. **Exhibitions report (Gary Eckhart)**

The Spring 2024 show will be in the South Burlington town office space. The date of reception will be Saturday, March 16, 1-3 pm. This larger venue is conducive to larger pieces of work- minimum of 16". We'll keep the entry fee to \$15. There will be an opportunity to show 40 paintings.

Fall show will be at Artist Tree in Pomfret
2025 Awards show possibly at Montpelier Statehouse.

We need to update website - add prospectus. Ann Stafford will write a call to Artist.

5. **Program Director Report (Abigail)**

We will continue to hold the spring meeting virtually. The meeting will be a Saturday in April. One possible artist Abigail has contacted is Javid Tabatabai. www.javidwatercolor.com/gallery
Andy Evanston and Sharon Nullmeyer are other artist ideas. Any **other ideas of artist** you would like to have demo?? Please forward or share any other possibilities.

In the Fall, Lynn Cummings will do the demo since she had to cancel last year. Ideas for venues are Lake Morey Resort, Highland Lodge (they were very responsive, maybe also for a summer workshop). Middlebury Inn will be good for fall so we can take turns doing the in-person workshops on both sides of the state.

Also, there was talk of Shannon Cronin taking on some of the social media and website communications so Abigail could focus on the programs. She seemed open to that.

6. Next board meeting was scheduled for Sunday April 14, 2024 11 am.