

Guelph Potter's Guild – Meeting Minutes  
Date: Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015; 7:00pm

In attendance: Hilary, Anita, John, Carol B., Eleanor, Nancy, Lisa, and Amanda  
Sorry we missed you: Joanne

Committee Updates:

**1. Membership:**

- a. Update on membership status: still available to sign up as a member during open studio times; 12 paid members so far.
- b. Need to add onto membership application that in order to view Member's Section (private viewing) on website, a member needs a gmail account;
- c. **Correction:** PSH discount of 5% for individuals does not apply; 30% group order discount still applies.
- d. Membership card: gPg logo created; going to go ahead with printing cards;
- e. Tracking sheets: Volunteer time tracking record and updated Open Studio sign in/sign out sheets; update the binder with training schedules once there has been a chance to discuss with technical team.
- f. Member technical training sessions:
  - i. DO IT NOW: keep diligent about cleaning (okay to claim volunteer time when cleaning, meanwhile running open studio); coordinate a mass clean up effort once classes are done;
  - ii. Pugging clay – step one for technical training
  - iii. Screening glazes and slip maintenance – step two
  - iv. Empty kiln – step three
  - v. Loading kiln (bisque fire) – step four
  - vi. Loading kiln (glaze fire) – step five
  - vii. Make slips – step six (workshop?)
  - viii. Make/maintain glazes – step seven

**2. Intra-studio community:**

- a. Summer hours for Open Studio: open Saturday 12-4 p.m. and Wednesday; *Sunday pending interest/demand for more time*
- b. Studio cleanup event: August 29 (AM) for a deep cleaning with individual members signing up for volunteer hours throughout summer to keep up maintenance cleaning.

**3. Communications Team:**

- a. Doodle/Monkey poll nearly ready and will be sent to general interest email list to gather feedback on website effectiveness, ease of use, topics, sections, etc.
- b. Require update on: social media, quarterly newsletter at next meeting, generic grant letter/application ideas.

**4. New Site Team:**

- a. Letter written on behalf of GPG has been sent to the City;
- b. Update on site meetings:
  - i. No new updates since last meeting;

- ii. Requirements for space: City needs to own the space (current need, not mandatory requirement), needs to be centralized, accessible, accommodating for a messy craft, parking.
  - c. Fence and main gate lock situation:
    - i. Only one entry/exit that is not accessible
    - ii. Problematic key situation to get through walkway gate (2 keys)
    - iii. Rob (Rod?) Manager of Operations is aware of the key situation and our search of new studio space; request made for additional main gate and walkway keys (Nancy).
- 5. Exhibition Team:**
- a. GPG has a mailing address! As part of the membership with the Guelph Art's Council.
  - b. No promising grants available at the moment; strong interest in the Art's Council to procure grants related to youth (will tie nicely with GPG's aim to provide a service to youth, self-esteem/mental health initiatives).
  - c. 2016 Guelph Potter's Market – GPG could offer a demonstration table, competition challenges (e.g. how tall can you go); if we were to have a table at professional shows, we would need to self-jury pieces to be able to ask professional prices. By providing a demo and challenge event, in addition to a juried GPG table, we would still be able to engage all of our members (shows don't always need to be about selling);
  - d. 2016 Spring Cheep-Cheep Sale for the whole Guild can sell at, no restrictions on prices, no jury (similar to Exhibition Show at Christmas);
  - e. Joanne Pullock – McDonald Stewart Art Centre (closed until renos are done; centre to be called Art Gallery of Guelph) has a shop we might be able to display and possibly sell through.
  - f. Crafts 4 U (Edinburgh St.) shop as another place to sell; lady who runs this shop also coordinates craft shows in Guelph for the Christmas season.
  - g. Masterpiece Gallery (Scheiz, Fife Rd.) shop as another local place

#### New Business:

**Mug Fest** – early fall/late summer; invite local coffee and tea shops to showcase their brews, while the GPG sells mugs as the tasting vessels (akin to the idea of Harvest Bowls). This would be a fundraising initiative for the GPG.

When: September 26<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> (during Jazz Festival, Lisa to contact); or Christmas Sale (create a Guild specific area); Guelph Arts Council – HATCH Program (pop-up shops, Hilary to contact)

Where: City Hall Atrium or Courtyard area; unknown

#### What/How:

- a. Sell mugs get a beverage (or coupon for discounted beverage on next visit to vendor).
- b. Guild has a stand somewhere with large thermos vats with coffees, hot water, different teas, and sell mugs.

- c. Ask vendors to donate beverages
- d. Mug displays in various coffee shops a month before Christmas sale.
- e. Different price points for mugs based on quality and complexity.
- f. Mug-making: members would play for the clay themselves (partial or full bag, pending on member's desired productivity for the cause); make the mugs, and then donate what was made; build in a workshop and promote general interest email list people to come out and join in on the fun, and also sign up as a member of the Guild
  - a. Wednesday August 19<sup>th</sup> 7-8:30pm Handle Workshop (Eleanor)
  - b. Require 3-4 leather hard mugs to participate in workshop

Joanne Mead and Amanda Kerr will switch roles as Secretary and Member at Large.

Next Meeting: July 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm  
GCPC Location