

Guelph Potter's Guild – Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday, May 27th, 2015; 7:00pm

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

Committee Updates:

1. Membership:

- a. Information: Update on membership status: still available to sign up as a member during open studio times; 11 paid members so far.
- b. Information: Update on Membership card: good to go; need to create a simple but impactful logo, as current logo is City's logo, members to brainstorm and decision to be made at next board meeting
- c. Information: Tracking sheets: Volunteer time tracking record and updated Open Studio sign in/sign out sheets; AK to put everything in a nice bright binder this weekend (May 3/31) and update the binder with training schedules once there has been a chance to discuss with technical team.
- d. Discussion: Member technical training sessions: order of steps listed, some members have already completed some steps, need for working in pairs until competent before moving up through steps,
 - 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 - mid-June
 - ii. Pugging clay for guild community – 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?) - expensive process, need consultation about cost
 - viii. Make/maintain glazes – step seven

2. Intra-studio community:

- a. Information: Summer hours for Open Studio: Sundays to be confirmed, for sure open Saturday and Wednesday

3. Communications Team:

- a. Information: Open Studio schedule now transitioned over to Guelph Potters Guild site, see sidebar (Lisa to post message on O.S. site driving attention to Guild site)
- b. Information: Doodle/Monkey poll to follow to gather member feedback on website effectiveness, ease of use, topics, sections, etc.

- c. Require update on: social media, quarterly newsletter at next meeting, generic grant letter/application ideas.

4. **New Site Team:**

- a. Information: Letter written on behalf of GPG to the city, explaining the need for Delhi, now that renovations including a studio at Victoria Road Rec Centre are no longer in the budget due to unforeseen constraints
- b. Information: John's update on site meetings:
 - i. Definitely not apart of the South End Centre (not a centralized location);
 - ii. Budget constraints to accommodate accessibility issues at Victoria Road Rec Centre (no room for GCPC);
 - iii. Back building of Delhi of interest too us (front building being renovated for someone else). The primary studio space would be in the basement, and would mirror previous set up, likely;
 - iv. No definitive answers yet, and no open books of city accounts, very serious discussions about space for re-location;
 - v. Requirements for space: City needs to own the space, needs to be centralized, accessible, able to accommodate conditions created by clay use, parking.

5. **Exhibition Team:**

- a. Information: GPG has a mailing address! As part of the membership with the Guelph Arts Council. No promising grants available at the moment; strong interest in the Arts 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).
- b. Discussion: 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);
- c. Discussion: 2016 Spring Cheep-Cheep Sale for the whole Guild can sell at, no restrictions on prices, no jury (similar to Exhibition Show at Christmas);
- d. Discussion: Suggested outlets to sell our work - 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; **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; **Masterpiece Gallery** (Scheiz, Fife Rd.) shop as another possible local place to sell.

Treasurer's Summary			
	Balances	Debits	Credits
Balance Ending April	\$90	\$5 bank fee; \$25 contribution to Credit Union Member Share deposit	
Balances Ending May	\$60 (to confirm?)	\$50 Guelph Arts Council membership; \$10 for receipt book	Membership fees: 9@ \$30 (April to May fees contribution)

New Business:

Studio Budget: costs of running the current studio space is increasing for both classes and Open Studio time, for various reasons. Once all of the figures have been formally reviewed, there will be a more accurate perspective on changes needed, if any, regarding studio time fees, clay fees, etc. No actions will be taken until all aspects have been accounted for – no red flag concerns!

Discussion: Possible fundraiser for GPG - 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).

Information and Creative Inspiration: Hilary presented a summary of a 3 Day tile-making workshop she attended at the Moravian Pottery and Tile Works in Doylestown, Pennsylvania in May. She shared some of the tilemaking moulds she had made and the unfired, pressed tiles which resulted. She will post the accompanying slideshow on the website under News and Events for those interested in the process.

Next Meeting: June 24th, at 7:00 pm
GPC Location