



Georgia Gourd Society



Official Meeting Minutes--February 8th, 2020

- **Meeting was called to order at approximately 1:25 pm by President Jane Ballou**
 - Present were Jane Ballou, Tom & Diane Ricker, Troy Tatum, Kay Rozea, , Holly Gallagher; via telephone-Tina Handrop & Beth Westberry;
 - Secretary's report emailed prior-President asked if any corrections of Minutes from meeting 11/2/2019- -one correction to be made regarding show theme --
 - Troy Motion to accept with stated correction; 2nd by Tom; vote to accept
 - Treasures report mailed earlier- by Tom Ricker
 - Motion to accept Holly; 2nd by Troy; voted to accept;
- **Old Business discussed-**
 - GGS New Members Drive-
 - Currently list shows 46 paid member, however, not sure of date last updated, will follow up with Janet;
 - All executive board are required to be members, we discussed giving receipts when paid at the show, seems that is where there are some discrepancies;
 - suggested to send out old member list with new member list & divide up to call or email, in attempt to bring members back; will discuss further;
 - **2020 GourdFest**
 - Theme-“Gourds on the Go
 - Date---9/26-9/27;
 - doors will open on **Friday, 9/25**, at 9 a.m. for set-up preparations, competition pieces will be accepted between noon and 5pm, followed by vendor & volunteers dinner and competition judging.
 - Show Hours open to the public-- Sat-9-6; Sun-11-6
 - Security/Cleanup— We agree to not charge admission to the gourd show; Troy explained the Kiwanis Center has given a \$1000 discount for the inconvenience we will have during the fair; it was agreed we will use those funds to hire security & cleanup crews on Sunday
 - Raffles or Silent Auctions-
 - Discussed getting patches to put together baskets_for raffling off at show, or silent auction; to be further discussed;
 - Food & Snacks-
 - Friday night Vendor dinner

- No dinner meeting Saturday night
 - GGS membership meeting Sunday 9:30am-no food or door prizes
- Classes-discussion & agree to offer classes as follows; (choice of 2 hour classes on either day)
 - Sat am-9-1/pm-2-6pm classes
 - Sun 11-1 & 1:30-5:30; Students who are GGS members will get \$5 discount on classes-NON GGS members will pay additional \$5 fee per class; Classes will be solicited and then voted on by the executive board prior to being posted; our intent is to offer quality classes at all levels of experience; Holly & Troy will assess class locations to determine how many classes may be accepted for each time slot;
- Vendors-apps for vendors will go out this month, we will be encouraging vendors to do demos or make it take it booths as well; we will limit to 2 gourd growers, but invite various arts or hand made product vendors, not to be limited to gourd arts or crafts;
- Competition-we had much discussion on consolidating categories; discussion of creating another category for “display” only-the Grand Masters who no longer wish to be in the competitive ribbon winning arena, but wish to display their art. These issues were tabled to be investigated further by the committee chair-when committees are named;
- Committee Chair/Volunteers-the following committees are recommended to have a more successful show-
 - Show Chair-Troy & Holly will shadow
 - Vendor Chair-Troy & Holly
 - Competition Chair-Karin Anderson & Beth Westberry
 - Publicity Chair-
 - Classes Chair-Tina & Kay will assist
 - Make it/Take it Committee-Diane Ricker
 - Volunteers-
 - Demos-Jane
 - Food Chair-Sue Ingle
 - Apparel/Promo items to sell-Diane
 - Set up/Take down/Clean up-Troy/Tom/Holly
 - Membership-Janet
 - Welcome-Tom
- Storage Unit Lock box-tabled-troy will investigate and share more info next meeting
- Hotel Discounts-Troy & Holly will look into this and share more info next meeting
- Other possible Sponsors-Troy suggests to get with various vendors like Home Depot to be sponsors at our show; we provide advertising areas
- Promo items to sell-much discussion on various items; to be tabled for committee
- **New Business**
 - Bylaws Revisions discussed will be sent out to the membership for vote per bylaws requirements- The goal of this proposal is to change the By Laws to remove the

Membership and Editor positions as officers and move the two positions to additional directors. The Membership and Editor will become chair positions and can be filled by any member. Motion to amend the By-Laws of the Georgia Gourd Society are as follows:

- ARTICLE IV Officers, Directors and Executive Board Section 1: Officers are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, **Membership Secretary, and Editor. (Remove Membership Secretary and Editor)** Both would become positions to be filled by either officers, directors or members at large Section 3; Six (Eight) Directors are elected from the Membership. This will keep the board at 12 people
- ARTICLE VIII Officers' and Directors' Terms Section 2: President, **Secretary**, Treasurer, and **three (four)** Directors are elected on odd-numbered years at the fall or winter Membership Meeting; Vice-President, **Membership Secretary, Editor**, (Secretary,) and **three (four)** Directors are elected on even-numbered years at the fall or winter Membership Meeting .
- ARTICLE IX Officers and Duties **Section 5: The Membership Secretary maintains an up-to-date membership roll and notifies members (individually or via official media) before expiration of their annual membership. Upon receipt of dues, he/she sends membership cards or other official credentials. The Membership Secretary provides membership lists to Society members as appropriate for official Society business. Delete Section 6: The Editor publishes the official newsletter of the Georgia Gourd Society. Delete Section 7 (5):** The Directors participate in all Executive Board meetings and assume additional duties as requested by the President. At Board meetings, the Directors serve as members-at-large, representing the interests of members from diverse geographic areas of Georgia.
- ARTICLE XI Committees Section I. Committees may include, but are not limited to, Nominating, Auditing, Event, Publicity, **and Budget.** (Budget, Membership and Editor) **Add Membership and Editor** (Section 7: The Membership Chairperson will maintains an up-to-date membership roll and notifies members (individually or via official media) before expiration of their annual membership. Upon receipt of dues, he/she sends membership cards or other official credentials. The Membership Chairperson provides membership lists to Society members as appropriate for official Society business.) **Add new Section 7** (Section 8: The Editor publishes the official newsletter of the Georgia Gourd Society.) **Add new Section 8**
- Article X, add Section 4 – “ Executive Board members are required to attend a majority of annual Executive Board meetings, either in person or electronically.”
- GED updates-
 - GED are scheduled in Griffin hosted by Flint River in March & May, Holly is overseeing these;
 - Troy suggested for future we need to try to focus on Augusta, Savannah & Columbus areas to recruit new gourders interest;

- Tina suggested contacting Wrens Gourds about a joint GED, also Gourd Pile in Morven, Ga would be good GED location if they are interested
- Mock Competition-Beth discussed if this is needed to keep up with our Judges credentials; Troy plans to teach a judging class in July at FlintRiver-details forthcoming;
- Perry Fair-will be October 8-18, 2020-Members are strongly encouraged to participate with demo exhibits, even if only a few hours; we will have a booth the first weekend, members should be encouraged to participate in competition as well as our booth-items can be sold at booth and in competition;
- Website issues- Tina suggested to include this in Presidents letter-take applications for someone and advertise how much we can pay for this position;
- Blooming Gourd & Social Media Editor- Tina suggested to include this in Presidents letter also; we have member to step up if not part of a board position;
- Cherokee Scholarships-much discussion, to be tabled for next meeting;
- AGS News-awards, posters, adds
 - Artistry award-\$40 to AGS for Jim Story Award & Artistry awards; Holly made motion made to send money; Troy 2nd; vote passed;
 - Troy will look into purchasing back page add for spring issue of magazine to promote our gourd festival
- GGS Displays-
 - Looking for areas to promote gourd art thru displaying pieces—Griffin to have a display March 19th display & sale if you wish;

Meeting was adjourned at 4:07PM