

## GNSI-NE Meeting Minutes January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

In attendance: Wendy Chadbourne, Nancy Minnigerode, Tony Gerardi, Laurie Bebick, Sue Breault, Francis Topping, and Wendy Berube

1. Meeting began at 10:08am with an introduction of members in attendance.
2. Treasurer's Report from Tony Gerardi:
  - a. Account balance is \$2934 in the bank
  - b. There are 44 active members (12 new members last year).
  - c. One check was written for \$1173 to Marla Greenfield for her botanical art workshop. Cost was \$50 for members and \$70 for nonmembers with 16 in attendance.
  - d. New membership forms were created and emailed, including an interest survey.
  - e. Tony noted that funds have been decreasing each year. Increasing dues was discussed, but the group decided to work on getting the guild in order and to offer incentives to current members this year.
3. Election of Officers: a ballot was sent out to the guild and all members of GNSI-NE and the National Guild are encouraged to vote by Friday, Jan 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. Wendy Chadbourne – President (2 year term)
  - b. Wendy Berube – Secretary (1 year term)
  - c. Tony Gerardi – Treasurer (2 year term)
4. Upcoming Guild events:
  - a. MA Migration Exhibit update
    - i. Spring 2018 for 1-2 months at the Lakeville Great Ponds Gallery
    - ii. Wendy C has submitted paperwork and is waiting for a definitive date
    - iii. Information will be placed on Facebook (FB) page and the website when it becomes available
    - iv. A list of species available will also be placed on the FB page and website – members can sign up for a species to avoid duplication
    - v. The goal is for this to be an educational exhibit including a kiosk with a map of the world. The kiosk will consist of text explaining migratory routes of the animals in the show, information about the reasons for migration (e.g, to seek food?) and the timeline of the species' migration and return. Members will provide the bio of their animal to assist with this.
    - vi. Exhibit will focus on species that migrate to/from New England or more specifically, Massachusetts.
    - vii. Will be looking for help with kiosk, member bios, posters, etc.
    - viii. When the exhibit is finished, perhaps we can move to another venue

- ix. Work may be sold, but must stay with the exhibit for the duration
  - b. Laurie Bebeck suggested a show at the Alternatives Gallery
    - i. Located in Northbridge, MA
    - ii. Small, intimate location in an old mill
  - c. Sue Breault suggested the NH Art Institute as another option
  - d. Laurie also thought of Peterboro, NH which is a high tourist area
5. Planning for the Year:
- a. February – Joint meeting with NESBA
    - i. Saturday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 – 12:30
    - ii. Frances, Wendy C and Dorie may do a 15 minutes presentation
    - iii. The Guild will share the cost of lunch
    - iv. NESBA is looking for volunteers to bring snacks
  - b. March 12<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) Roger Williams Park Botanical Center sketching event
    - i. 1000 Elmwood Ave, Providence, RI
    - ii. Opens at 11:00am
    - iii. There is a small entrance fee
  - c. April 23<sup>rd</sup> (Sunday) – Wendy C will arrange for a speaker to discuss migratory birds. Plan B is to sketch at the Roger Williams Park Zoo
  - d. May 13<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)– Business Meeting
    - i. Will also include a sketching roundtable
    - ii. Bring in travel sketching tips and set ups to share with group
  - e. June 11<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) – Sketching at Wendy C's property (exit 4 or 5 off 495)
    - i. Subjects include 3 acres of plant life and Wendy's horse
    - ii. Potluck lunch
    - iii. Will relocate to Lakeville's Betty's Neck and will try and get a local naturalist to join us on a botany walk
  - f. July – GNSI National Conference. If anyone is going, let Wendy C. know. She is looking for a representative for the NE chapter.
  - g. Remaining events will be planned at the May meeting. If anyone is planning an impromptu sketching outing, use Eventbrite or Facebook to invite the group
  - h. One possible event could be a roundtable about contracts, how to negotiate a price for your art, does the company need full rights, etc.
6. Next meeting is the joint meeting with NESBA. Feb 4<sup>th</sup>. See email from Joan Pierce – portfolio sharing, speakers, demos and lunch
7. The meeting concluded at 11:45, and then Wendy C shared a fun and interesting project she is working on. Her project consisted of placing a dead fisher cat in a decomposition box for 2 years in her back yard. The decomp box allowed for drainage and for insects to enter. After 2 years, the fisher cat was reduced to a skeleton. Wendy then carefully

organized the bones and will soon reassemble them using wire and using technical manuals for guidance. Her comments on the project:

“This little side project is a hobby of mine, studying and articulating skeletons for anatomical studies and to include in future animal anatomy classes. This particular skeleton is from an adult male fisher cat, and it is in the process of being cleaned and prepped for articulation. I will be posting blog entries as this project progresses on my website [www.inkmousestudios.com](http://www.inkmousestudios.com).“