

NCECA Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 26, 2016
Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA

In attendance: Executive Committee Board members Deb Bedwell, Cindy Bracker, Mary Cloonan, Steve Hilton, Reena Kashyap, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Jill Oberman, and Chris Staley, and NCECA Executive Director Josh Green,

9:06 am meeting called to order by NCECA President Chris Staley

Chris took a few moments to welcome the Board, and asked us all to reflect on 2016 and to share what we thought we were doing well, and where we could improve. Strengths included hosting a great Kansas City Conference, and areas to improve included more support towards diversity, education, and our digital presence.

Finance

NCECA Accountant Helen Anderson virtually joined the meeting to discuss NCECA finances. The Board went into a brief executive session to discuss the impact of the FLSA (Federal Labor Standards Act) on staff overtime.

The board meeting then continued to discuss our current finances and our recent audit. Financial standing is good.

Development

Deb Bedwell reported on Development. She reminded us all that NCECA is a 501c3 not for profit organization, and asked us all to help with our upcoming fundraising ask. Our current strategic planning will also shape future fundraising project.

Strategic Planning

The Executive Committee then spent two hours on Strategic Planning. Before the meeting, each board member participated in a conversation with Marilyn Coleman, who introduced and led further discussion on themes and concerns that arose from those initial conversations.

Future Conference Programming

Chris and Mary led a discussion on ways to improve our methods for creating conference programming. Each Board member must come prepared to the spring meeting, and will rank every proposal before group discussions. We will also make improvements to program strands, allowing each program to be represented in more than one category. Jill and Mary will work on this and submit for Board approval.

The meeting was recessed at 4:55 p

Strategic Planning

The full board joined the EC and Marilyn Coleman for a working dinner to review

and discuss the progress of the Strategic Planning.

NCECA Full Board Meeting
Thursday, October 27, 2016
Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA

In attendance: NCECA Board Members: Dylan Beck, Deb Bedwell, Brett Binford, Cindy Bracker, Naomi Clement, Mary Cloonan, Steve Hilton, Reena Kashyap, Roberto Lugo, Shalya Marsh, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Jill Oberman, Shoji Satake, Jane Shellenbarger, Chris Staley, and Russell Wrangle, and NCECA Staff Josh Green and Dori Nielsen

9:05 am meeting called to order by Chris Staley

Chris welcomed the full Board to the meeting, and participated in a brief roundtable catch-up.

Reflections on Strategic Planning

The Board was in support of the beginning directions that our Strategic Planning was going in. We agreed that upon completion, we would have to work together to really understand our mission statement, our action items, and to be true advocates of our Plan. There was also discussion on how to include the input of our student members, and those who would like to contribute, but do not know how.

Conflict of Interest Forms

In the interest of disclosure and transparency, the Board took a few moments to fill out any possible conflicts of interests.

Keynote Speakers

The Board discussed the status of both the keynote for the Portland Conference and the Pittsburgh Conference.

Future Programming and Proposal Review Process

The Full Board discussed changes and improvements to our programming for future conferences.

Portland Conference Update

Dylan and Brett shared an update for the upcoming Portland conference. Exhibitions are in great shape, and the Bus tours are being set. Keynote, Randall Session, Round Table, NCECA Dance, Clay Stories all being in good shape, or being finalized in the next few weeks.

NCECA Annual Exhibitions

Leigh updated the Board on the NCECA Annual exhibitions. Gail M. Brown has been selected as the juror of the annual, *The Evocative Garden*. She has chosen 5 artists to

represent this theme, and the juried in 30 additional artists from our NCECA call. This represents the first exhibition of our new model, and are optimistic that it will be another great NCECA exhibition.

Shalya and Naomi facilitated jurors Linda Arbuckle and Justin Novak with their selections for the NSJE. In a unique situation, Linda Arbuckle is both the juror for the NSJE and is being recognized as an Honorary Member of NCECA this year, both that offer a free NCECA pass. In addition to granting Linda a pass, the Board agreed to reimburse her for one night of lodging at the conference hotel rate, for the night the jurors are asked to be present at the exhibition and to select awardees.

The call for entries for the Pittsburgh Annual should be out soon. This exhibition will be hosted by the Society for Contemporary Craft, and will be curated/juried by Winnie Owens Hart.

Collectors Tour

Planning for the Collectors Tour is well underway. Leslie Ferrin will be assisting with the tour again this year, and working with Linda Ganstrom.

2018 Pittsburgh Conference

Shoji reported on the status of the 2018 Pittsburgh Conference. Exhibition spaces are being secured, and many arts organizations in Pittsburgh are interested in taking part in our conference. The theme is *Crosscurrents, Clay, and Culture*.

Opening NSJE to International Students

Naomi asked the Board to consider opening up the NSJE call to international students, perhaps even by starting with Canada first. There are limited opportunities for international students to show their work in the US, and the NSJE is the premier student showcase for our field. After discussion in support of this idea, but recognizing real obstacles such as customs and shipping, the Board agreed that Leigh, Shalya, and Naomi would further research the feasibility of this idea, specifically how we might need to change our prospectus, and what the Canadian and international requirements are for shipping artwork via USPS or UPS/FedEx.

Finance

Reena reported that our finances are doing well, and asked the Board to review the audit report and our 990. Josh and Reena will be working on creating a policy on how to best use our investments to advance our mission.

Future Web Development

Josh shared that in the past, there was some interest in having NCECA host a web page that would act as a digital gallery for our members. After some discussion, the Board agreed that there was no longer an urgent need for this, as there are multiple opportunities for members to share their work online. The Board did consider hosting a page of older, historical work by artists who have made an important contribution to our field.

Green Task Force

The NCECA Green Task Force will have a table in the resource hall again this year. In hopes to revive the presence and impact of the task force, Josh and Mary will draft a proposal for Green Task Force programming for the Pittsburgh conference.

Nominations Recommendations

Steve updated the Board on the recent actions of the Nominations Committee (comprised of Steward to the Board Steve Hilton, Past President Deb Bedwell, DAL Roberto Lugo, SDAL Naomi Clement, NCECA Fellow Judith Schwartz, and NCECA member at large Sana Musasama). The committee solicited nominations online, and identified potential candidates for nominations.

Candidates/Nominees

The Board approved to the following recommendations made by the Nominations Committee:

Honors and Awards

Fellows of the Council (up to 2 awards given each year)

- Linda Ganstrom
- Patsy Cox

Honorary Members (up to 2 award given each year)

- Kurt Weiser
- Akio Takamori
- Magdalene Odundo

Excellence in Teaching Award (up to 2 awards given each year)

- To be revisited by the Nominations committee. The Board agreed that the Nominations committee would reconvene to consider applicants for the Excellence in Teaching Award from the last three years for consideration for the Award in 2017.

NCECA Board Nominations (to be voted on by our membership in the spring of 2017)

Director at Large Candidates (2 candidates were ratified by the Board, as required by our bylaws)

- Naomi Cleary
- Julia Galloway

Student Director at Large Candidates

- Emily Reason
- Brandon Schnur

The Board also agreed to strike from all NCECA publications the annual limit for nominations for honors, fellows, and teachers each year, as that requirement does not appear anywhere in our bylaws or guide to the board.

The meeting was recessed at 4:58 pm and the Board attended a reception at the Society for Contemporary Craft to view Edward Eberle's Retrospective exhibition

**NCECA Full Board Meeting
Friday, October 28, 2016
Hilton Portland and Executive Tower, Portland, OR**

In attendance: NCECA Board Members: Dylan Beck, Deb Bedwell, Brett Binford, Cindy Bracker, Naomi Clement, Mary Cloonan, Steve Hilton, Reena Kashyap, Roberto Lugo, Shalya Marsh, Leigh Taylor Mickelson, Jill Oberman, Shoji Satake, Jane Shellenbarger, Chris Staley, and Russell Wrangle, and NCECA Staff Josh Green and Dori Nielsen

9:05 am meeting called to order by Chris Staley

Reception recap

The Board briefly discussed their experiences at the reception at the Society for Contemporary Craft the night before.

Development Committee

Deb reported on the activities of the Development Committee, and advised us all on expectations for Board participating with letter signing for the 2016 year-end ask.

50th anniversary video project

Cindy reported on the status of the video project. After preparing a short video "teaser", and being paid for that work only, our hired videographer pulled out of the project. The money budgeted for this project was not spent, but reserved in a contingency fund. The Board agreed to approve a budget variance of \$6500 from our contingency fund to be used to pay for the completion of our 50th anniversary video.

Regional Award, Outstanding Achievement Award

Dylan and Brett recommended, and the Board approved, that the 2017 Regional Award for Excellence be presented to Thomas Orr and to the Museum of Contemporary Craft, 1937-2016 (to be accepted by Namita Gupta Wiggers and Nicole Nathan). The Board also approved the nomination of Frank and Jane Boyden, for founding the Sitka Center, for the 2017 Outstanding Achievement Award.

Future Conference Sites

The Board discussed options for future NCECA conference sites. The Board approved the site for the 2022 conference (To be publically announced at a future date). Sites have now

been chosen for 2017 (Portland, OR), 2018 (Pittsburgh, PA), 2019, 2020, and 2022 (to be announced in the future), and plans are being made for 2021 (to be announced in the future).

Dissolution Clause

Because NCECA is a 501c3 organization, and tax-exempt benefits change state by state, we are required to reapply each year our conference is in a new state. In a few cases, we have been denied tax-exempt status. In order to protect NCECA, the Board has been advised to update our dissolution clause in our bylaws. The Board agreed to the following bylaw change:

Article XVII. Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the corporation or the organization, the Board of Directors or governing staff shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation or organization, dispose of all the assets of the corporation or organization in such manner, or to such organization(s) organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, and/or artistic purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization(s) under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors or governing staff shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation or organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Collectors Tour

Further discussion was held concerning the future of the Collectors Tour. The Board entered executive session to discuss possible format changes and names of possible tour guides, collections, and audience targets. The Board agreed to allow Brett to move forward investigating options for a one-day tour with Nike employees at the Portland Conference.

Board Business

The Board agreed to reappoint Jill Oberman as NCECA Secretary for a second term, 2017-2020.

The Board approved submitted Board and Staff Reports, May-October 2016.

The Board spent some time signing letter to our membership for our annual year-end Development ask.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Jill Oberman, NCECA Secretary
Please contact me at joberman.nceca@gmail.com*