

Loose Bead Society of Greater Milwaukee

Business Meeting

February 15, 2010

New Berlin Public Library

Board members in attendance: Kathy Brier, Cindy Collins, Helen Dahms, Nancy Langlas, Julie Miller, Traci Otte, Brenda Schweder, Amy Smith, Kathy Willmering.

Call to Order

President Brenda Schweder called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Officer/Committee Reportsc

President; Brenda Schweder

- The board has heard member requests for shorter business meetings, so will aim for half an hour of business. The meeting agenda will be as follows: 7:00 to 7:30, business meeting; 7:30 to 7:45, table talk; 7:45 to 8:30/8:45, program.
- Bead-a-Thon. We received a call from Jennifer Bartolotta wanting help with a project to do something spectacular as a fund-raiser. The group mobilized in less than a week, with a goal of making 5,000 bracelets – 5,400 bracelets were made, 23 members participated, and there were two events and two preparation sessions. Special thanks go to the bead spinner group. Kathy Brier reported a total of 327.5 volunteer hours. The bracelets are being sold at the Bartolotta restaurants and via their website; 100 percent of the proceeds is going to an orphanage in Haiti. All volunteers were awarded gift certificates from Bartolotta, which Brenda and Brier distributed. A tee-shirt with the project logo was raffled and Mary Wurzburg was the lucky winner.

Community Service; Kathy Brier

- New community service project. We will work on the Cinderella Project with the Gadzurik Foundation, which collects gently used prom dresses for distribution to underprivileged teenagers; our contribution will be necklaces and earrings to accompany the dresses.
- Chemo cap project. This is a continuing project; there is more information, including thank you letters, on our website.

President-Elect; Helen Dahms

- Displaying/selling member work. We will display items in the New Berlin Public Library showcase. Price tags are allowed on displayed items. Helen will try to schedule the exhibit for May.
There is another potential venue.
- Volunteer recognition. An ad hoc committee has had an initial meeting. As we grow and add activities, we will need more volunteers, and the board wants to ensure recognition for those volunteers.
- Member rummage sale. A sale that will be open to the public will be held at the end of July or early August. Ruth Maegli will help coordinate the project.

Special Events; Helen Dahms for Kat Feldman

- Bead-In. One-day Saturday events have been named Bead-Ins. There is still time to register for the Saturday, February 20 event.

- Spring retreat. The brochure for the March event is available at the membership table and on the website. There will be many goodies in the gift bags at the event.

Secretary; Julie Miller

- The Bead Dreams calendar is available for \$5.00.

Treasurer; Amy Smith

- Amy reported the January beginning and ending balances, total revenues and expenses.
- Members may e-mail or ask Amy questions about the treasury.

Membership; Kathy Willmering

- Four guests and one new member were welcomed.
- Attendance at the program: 46 members, 5 guests, and 1 speaker and 1 assistant.

Newsletter; Nancy Langlas

- The deadline for the next issue is today; please submit articles via e-mail.

Website; Traci Otte

- There is a new look to the website and changes are being made constantly. Contact Traci if you'd like to be a tester.
- Traci issued a challenge to have 70 Facebook fans by the March meeting.
- Photo policy. If you don't want your picture taken, let the photographers know. If a picture is on the website and you don't want it there, let Traci know and she'll remove it.

Programming; Cindy Collins

- The Swarovski crystals used for the last program were a gift to us; we want to pass on the gift, so will use the remaining crystals for the Cinderella Project.
- Kit policy. Only those present the night of a hands-on program will receive the free kit.
- Future programs:
 In March, Jill Erickson will demonstrate torch-fired enamel.
 In April, Jim Kelly will speak about beading in the Native American culture.
 The May meeting will feature Maggie Roschyk speaking on transitioning from execution to design; the table talk theme will be buttons.
 The June program, to be hosted by Beadalon, will be hands-on, and will be very full program, therefore there will be no table talk.

Table Talk and Announcements

- Ten members showed items with a theme of red.

Program

- Irina Miech, owner of Eclectica, discussed her just-released book on making metal clay rings and responded to questions about working with metal clay.

Julia E. Miller, Secretary