

Desert Fiber Arts

Board Meeting

March 22, 2025

A regular board meeting was held on Saturday, March 22, 2025 at the DFA studio located at 101 North Union St. Suite 208 Kennewick WA 99338

The meeting was called to order by President Kareena Anderson at 1:05 PM with a cheer of support!

In attendance were: past president Betsy Dickinson, president Kareena Anderson, secretary Ord McConaghy, vice-president Nancy Klotz, members at large Lyn Backe, Chris Love, and Sue De Merchant. Breanne O'Hare attended via ZOOM. Also attending were Wendy Hahn, Carol Kaminski, Bruce Nichols, Lisa Saget.

Our next board meeting will be April 19, 2025 in the studio 1-3 PM

February minutes: it was moved by Betsy Dickinson to accept the February minutes, seconded by Nancy Klotz. **MOTION PASSED.**

REPORTS

President: Kareena Anderson shared that there are two different sized filter that she needs to order.

Vice presidents: April's general meeting will be on April 5th at 10 AM at the Richland library. Oskana Ison will speak about wet felting. Beanne reminds us that the Annual Meeting will be May 31, from 10:00 – 1 PM. A brunch is planned. She will confirm the reservation of the room at the Richland Library. She and Nancy are working on the possibility of having a fashion show.

Treasurer: Betsy Dickinson and Kareena Anderson met with Heather, our bookkeeper, to work out some detail to help with making a budget for next year. Betsy has done a draft budget and needs three to four others to form a finance/budget committee.

STCU account balances:

Operations account: \$45,956.19

Awards account: \$ 3,364.96

Debit card \$ 500.00

Total bank accts: \$48,821.15

Secretary: No comment

Past President: No comment

Members at large: The Afghan for the raffle at the Fall Market (2026) is coming along nicely. Tickets for the raffle will be sold at the quilt show this weekend.

DECISIONS/APPROVALS

Budget: The committee will meet in a few days.

Code of Conduct: Besty Dickinson read a draft of member expectations; a discussion ensued. No decisions were made.

DFA Banner: Nancy Klotz showed our current banner (50th Anniversary) and a few ways to reuse the existing banner by covering the words "50th Anniversary". Sue De Merchant moved that we have option number one printed for our banner. Ord McConaghy seconded the motion. There was some more discussion on how to adhere the new words to the banner. The motion was revised by Sue to read that we accept the bid from Fast Signs for the vinyl words, using the font that matches with the other words. The motion was seconded by Betsy Dickson. **MOTION PASSED.**

Setting the **May election** ballot voting timeline: It appears that we have a slate of members that have stepped forward to fill the open positions. Carol Kaminski will be on the nominating committee. Nancy Klotz is willing to do the ballot on Constant Contact. It was mentioned that we could vote by a show of hands at the annual meeting as there is no rule that we need to vote electronically.

Date of Annual Meeting: **MAY 31, 2025** at the Richland Library (in the process of being confirmed)

Facility/Studio Manager: Bruce Nichols comes to the studio once a week. During his visits he vacuums, dusts, removed/empties the trash, organizers, and observes and fixes things as needed. He also cleans the bathroom as needed.

ANWG: DFA will have a booth at the ANWG conference.

Assets. This tax has been paid, \$175 for the 2025 tax year.

Facebook: who oversees posting to our page? Perhaps Jen ELY?

Communications: Constant Contact newsletter sign up by QR code status: our contract is for 500 members and we are close to that number now. Constant Contact is kept cleaned up.

Newsletter: Candidates for the election in May should be introduced in the April Newsletter. Other items that the membership vote on at the May election should also be presented in the newsletter (i.e. Potential policy changes and 25/26 budget)

Nominating Committee: Slate of officers for the May election: President: Kareena Anderson, co vice presidents: Breanne O'Hare and Nancy Klotz, Secretary: Ord McConaghy, Treasurer: Era Tschebotarjew, Members at Large: Karyn Watson, Karen Dodson and Maryann Mae.

Tri City Quilt Show: Nancy Klotz put a sign-up sheet in the front room of the studio. Looks like everything is ready to go. Several members have brought in items to display in our booth. Set-up will be March 27th 1-3, the quilt show will be open March 28, 29 10 AM- 5 PM. Take down is March 29th, 5- 7PM. Members may check out their display items at the studio (front room).

Fall Market: Wendy Hahn is getting volunteers to take charge and get things done in preparation for next year's sale. She needs study group leaders to remind their groups to start getting things ready. Ord McConaghy will help cashier this year.

Website: Carol Kaminski reports that Marion is on vacation so send items that need to be posted to Carol. Regarding the website: We are currently using Host Gator which is paid through October 2026, the costs \$263.88 per year. This is rather costly and we don't need this program. We may want to consider moving to Dreamhost. It offers free hosting for nonprofits. We can only have one website, but that should work for us.

We have reduced the size of the website, and we qualify as a non-profit at \$59. Per year. We can save money by switching to Dreamhost. We will pay over \$400 per year if we keep things as they are. We need to think about when we change people/responsibilities we need to change contact on the website. (We can do this through the treasurer's email). We have a lot of "add ons" on the website that cannot be updated or mended. Gravity Forms (we currently have the basic license at \$59/year) - We can replace this plugin with a free forms plugin for any other forms used on the website.

Gravity Forms User Registration Add-on (included with non-profit license - \$129/year; the add-on is installed, but cannot be updated)

User Insights (we have been paying \$99/year, but the current price is \$139/year - unless they give a non-profit discount?) WooCommerce Gravity Forms Product Add-Ons (\$109/year)

Dynamic user Directory with Meta Fields Search (this plugin appears to be free, and the fields search was a one-time \$12 fee)

So, it looks like it's almost \$400 per year to keep things going with the current tools. Both the Gravity Forms and the WooCommerce add-ons are out of date and cannot be updated without purchasing the higher-level subscription for Gravity Forms and the add-on for WooCommerce. They are still working, but at some point, the code will be out of date or will cause a conflict and things will stop working.

It was agreed that these recommendations be resolved. We still need to pay Terri (web master) to do all these things. Carol will get back to Betsy regarding the cost of the website per year.

Equipment: Carol Kaminski reports that she needs to purchase Texsol buttons. She asks might she purchase small items for the equipment and be reimbursed? Yes, Carol may purchase small items and be reimbursed. The equipment budget is \$125.

Assets: The personal property tax of \$175 has been paid for the 2025 year. The management of DFA is an on-going process.

1883 Woven Blanket: a brief discussion regarding a blanket that was brought to the studio, thinking DFA might want it. It was suggested that someone at ANWG might be interested in this beautiful blanket. It was decided that the blanket would be returned to the family.

ANWG booth planning: the next meeting is in April in the studio. Nancy is involved with the Quilt show and has not yet send out a notice regarding the planning meeting. It was suggested that some of the items from the quilt show might be appropriate for the ANWG booth. No specific plans have been developed yet.

Communication: Developing the QR code is in progress.

Grants: Marion is absent. She sent an email regarding a possible grant we could make an application; the intent of the grant involved doing a specific project. We do not have a project so the board agreed we would not apply for this grant.

Library: Lisa Saget reports that she posted signs about NOT removing books with a red dot from the studio.

Study Groups: the sticks and hooks has done a couple of mini workshops; this is a new development for this group. It is going well and seems to be exciting.

Sponsorship: the board approved a member's request for \$275 toward ANWG participation.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:50PM

Recorded by

Ord McConaghy

DFA secretary