

DESERT FIBER ARTS

Regular Board Mee5ng

October 18, 2025

The board of directors of Desert Fiber Arts held a regular monthly meeting on October 18, 2025 at the DFA studio, located at 101 N. Union Street, Suite 108 in Kennewick, WA.

Attending the mee5ng were: President Kareena Anderson, Vice President Nancy Klotz (via Zoom), Treasurer Era Tschebotarjew, Past President Betsy Dickinson, Members at Large MaryAnn Mae and Karyn Watson Absent: 2nd Vice President Breanne O'Hare, Secretary Ord McConaghy. We have a quorum. Also attending were Wendy Hahn, Carol Kaminsky, Susan Schmieman, Lisa Saget, and Sue De Merchant.

The mee5ng was called to order at 1:12 PM by President Kareena Anderson.

Next board meeting will be held on **Saturday, November 22, 2025** at the DFA studio from 1-3 PM. Nancy will inform Marion Halupczok of the date for the calendar.

Nancy Klotz moved to **approve the September minutes**, MaryAnn Mae seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

REPORTS

President: The property manager was contacted regarding the proposed door monitoring system and requested more informa5on directly from the ADT representa5ve.

Vice President: Nancy Klotz requested the board consider cancelling the November General Mee5ng. **MOTION:** Betsy Dickinson moved to skip the November General Mee5ng, seconded by Mary Ann Mae. **MOTION PASSED.** Nancy will inform Marion H. of the change for the calendar.

Treasurer: Era Tschebotarjew submitted the overview of our financial balances and expenses for the month of September.

Total Assets: \$46,702.73

Income: \$975.64 Donations revenue (including Stash buster Fundraiser) \$887.15

Loss: -\$801.41

Spectrum (Wi-Fi) \$110.00

Nonprofits Insurance: \$159.39

Everstar Realty (U5li5es) \$396.78

Benton PUD (Utilities) \$140.28

Net Income: \$174.23

The Community Accelerator money was deposited.

Secretary: No report.

Past President: No report.

Members at Large: No report.

DECISIONS/APPROVALS

Sponsored Membership: Issue: It was discovered some previous members were no longer able to afford the membership dues. It was decided that a form be designed to apply for/document the sponsored member situation. **Motion:** Nancy moved that there would be a sponsored membership option that would require board approval, be granted for a single year initially and would be funded from the Sponsorship Fund. Seconded by Betsy. **PASSED**

Study Group attendee refusing to join DFA: The situation has been discussed with the individual, who denied that hardship was a concern. Betsy will write a letter addressed to the individual stating the DFA policy concerning membership benefits and need to be a member.

Donations from Local Businesses: MaryAnn suggested that DFA take advantage of local businesses that often make in-kind or monetary donations to non-profit organizations. MaryAnn will contact Jennifer Ely to request a presentation card/brochure to describe DFA's mission that could be presented to the businesses.

Humanities Washington: MaryAnn provided information about two offerings that Humanities Washington provides to non-profits in the state, if selected. They offer Grants and Speaker Presentations, funded by the organization. MaryAnn will investigate the requirements.

January General Meeting Presentation: MaryAnn has consented to be the presenter of "Folklore and Fiber" at the January 11, 2026 general meeting.

Board Member Protocols: Betsy reviewed the board responsibilities

Constant Contact: Jennifer Ely does weekly updates about the Fall Market and needs more photos submitted.

Eco Friendly Group: Susan presented a proposal for a new study group to be called **Reuse Revolution**. The focus would be the 3 R's and work with multiple fibers including paper and embroidery. The focus of the group is an ongoing process. The group would begin in January with day and time TBD. Susan and MaryAnn would be co-leaders.

Draw Loom Study Group: As of January, the day and time will change. TBD.

Fall Market: Wendy: Truck has been reserved for about \$300.

15 Road signs have been located (Nancy will attach adhesive up date for date and times). Placement of signs allowed two weeks before the event and removed two days after.

Susan explained the "Textile Talks" will not be given at this Fall Market event. Plans are being made to schedule them for future events

Cashier Training at Betsy's house, 10/19 from 1-3.

Thank You Cards: Kathy Meyer has composed the message and Kareena has card stock available for printing.

Library: Lisa has received issues of *Ply* and *Weft* which are available to read while you are at the studio. *Purl* will be available in September.

Membership: Carol and Cindy report 113 members, with 9 add on for a total of 122.

Website Update: Carol reported on the progress of the previously board approved website issues:

1. Contact information for domains in Dotster/Network Solutions has been updated to the DFA address and Gmail.
2. We have removed the paid extensions for WooCommerce. We are using the free WooCommerce plugin for things like signing up for workshops. WooCommerce is not connected to the new membership plugin. The membership plugin has its own connection to PayPal.
3. Plugins that have been removed are Gravity Forms replaced by the free Forminator plugin for forms, Userinsights, and Events Manager.
4. The free version of UpdraftPlus is being used to back up the website.

We still need to decide how and when to move the website hosting to free hosting for 501(c)(3) to Dreamhost from \$191.52 (this price is increasing) Hostgator. The biggest hurdle is reestablishing our email addresses in the new hosting account. This action could take a few days of the website being down. The Hostgator account auto-renews on 11/26.

A note from our webmaster Terry Miller: Since we did not find access to every account that was sending a bill, please let me know through Carol if you receive any invoices.

Nancy suggested exploring new internet service providers at the guild to reduce the cost and possible reduction of fees for non-profit status. She suggested looking into Ziply Fiber.

NEW BUSINESS

Thermostat Setting: Sue asked could there be a way to designate if the thermostat is on AC or Heat setting with easier visibility as the indicators are difficult to read.

Allocation of Space for Study Groups: Sue asked how storage space is allocated, as Sticks and Hooks would like to have a shelf for their supplies. Currently all the space is occupied.

Access White Board: When side tables are rearranged Sue has difficulty accessing the white board calendar. Please leave the narrow table under the white board area.

Use of DFA Communications: Karen Whooley, a DFA member and owner of a crochet business, emailed Nancy Klotz, saying: "I have a few things that I wanted to bring to the Guild's attention!"

- 1) Have you heard of PNW Fiber Connect. It is for WA, OR, and ID residents, businesses, and Guilds, too. <https://www.pnwfiberconnect.org/>. It is just getting started, but I think it would be amazing to have the guild be a part of it, as well as letting all the members know about it, too. I am planning to join.
- 2) Purlside Fiber Fest in Hermiston is returning Feb 29-March 1, 2026
<https://www.purllsidefiberfest.com/>
- 3) I am doing a Fiber cruise in June 2026. I am attaching the flyer here."

The board replied that each of these three topics may be submitted to the DFA Newsletter for member information. None of them are appropriate to be published in the DFA Blaster, which is used solely for communicating guild-specific activities and information to our members. Karen W. may bring her cruise flyers to the studio. Nancy will find out more about the PNW Fiber Connect and will also reply to Karen W. about use of DFA communications for these topics. Karen Whooley has donated the yarn used for the beautiful Sticks and Hooks Study Group Raffle Afghan.

Meeting adjourned at 3:14pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Substitute Secretary, Karyn Watson