

NWFA JANUARY 19TH, 2016 MEETING
12 Noon, The Gallery, 210 River St. in Cook MN

President, Shawna Kishel called the meeting to order at 12 noon with only 9 members present and one guest: Shawna, secretary Judith Ulseth, treasurer Lisa Hyppa, gallery mgr. Lisa Simensen, Alberta Whitenack, Lois Garbisch, Priscilla Hiipakka, Sue Wolfe, Kelly Dahl and Wendy Purdy representing the non profit corporation, The Orr Resource and Recreation Center.

Minutes of the Dec. 15th meeting were summarized and a motion was made and passed unanimously by 9 persons to accept the minutes as circulated by email in Dec to almost all 142 members.

The Treasurer's report was distributed and presented by Lisa Hyppa. NWFA's available cash totals \$24,618.

The sales tax was filed and paid January 8, 2016.

NWFA's 2015 net income is \$4,000. Income was \$1000 less than budgeted but the expenses were less than planned as well.

Memberships were \$616 short of prediction but we were lacking a membership chair this year so the membership drive did not take off as scheduled.

All agreed that NWFA had a very productive 2015 with excellent special events and The Gallery and artists of course. Lois Garbisch made a motion to approve the financial report with a second from Priscilla Hiipakka. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2016 budget was distributed to the board to study and be ready to finish at the Feb. 16th meeting.

The Membership Report was given by Shawna and Lois who worked it out via email with Linda Freeman, the new membership chair:

Total Members = 142 (hoping for 160)	
Sustainer	9
Business	21 (3 were business sponsors)
Family	31
Individual	73
Student	8

Total Non-Renew = 56	
Sustainer	2
Business	4 (no business sponsors)
Family	18
Individual	31
Student	none listed

The new membership drive will begin in spring, March and into Spring Art Expo.

SPECIAL GUEST, WENDY PURDY, PRESENTED INFORMATION ON THE ORR RESOURCE AND RECREATION CENTER.

The non profit 501 c3 is intended to be a regional center for sustainable living, arts and recreation. They are working with all near by schools, cities and counties to network to organize and construct the center in the old Orr school. This "green" environmental center will house aquaponic gardens with fish, a youth camping center operational 10 weeks a year, bowling, library, fitness center, art studios, laser tag and a fully functioning commercial kitchen. Year round gardening could be a possibility! It will be an emergency shelter in case of loss of electrical power.

Orr Center has plans for space for making art: Pottery, weaving with looms and baskets...three connecting rooms available for art of all kinds on the second floor of the building. There is also a gymnasium with a stage.

During the 3rd week in August there will be a festival or fair with classes in art and sustainable living with venders.

Very soon there will be a fundraising event so stay tuned for the 30/30 fundraiser!

[Tours are available by appointment by calling Wendy at 218 780-5300 and her office hours are Monday and Thurs. from 12 to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.](#)

OLD BUSINESS

STRATEGIC PLANNING is moving forward despite busy volunteers and the holidays. Patty Mester, our coordinator, has fulfilled her contract already. The board believes we are not done so we are requesting more time. L. Garbisch made a motion to procure Patty Mester for additional meeting time at \$85 per hour. J. Ulseth seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The next strategic planning is Feb. 2 at The Gallery from Noon to 4 p.m.

The Miltich Concert is scheduled for July and the contract has been discussed. Kelly Dahl is waiting for a response from Sam M...

The summer learning grant was tabled by Lisa Hyppa and Lynn Reed. Looking for a different plan.

A discussion was held about awarding **Gallery coupons** for artist members who perform unusual duties for NWFA.

The Photo Contest is in progress. PR has gone out regularly including other arts organizations in the region. The registration form should be on the NWFA website.

NEW BUSINESS

SPRING ART EXPO 2016 planning must begin for the two weeks in June including Cook Timber Days. Calling all volunteers! Contact NWFA at 666-2975 or nwfamn.org@gmail.com. Priscilla H. is ready to work on the youth portion of the Expo starting two weeks in June and will contact others for help. NWFA would like to work with North Woods School art teacher, Rachel Latuff, on student art though out the year.

Music In the Park was discussed in terms of enhancing the Wed. evening with art demos and displays and activities by NWFA. **Need artist volunteers!**

Domain Names ownership (we have 3) on the internet must be renewed this spring. Our Web master is Troy Swanson. Shawna, Kelly and Judith will discuss again and contact Troy.

PAINTING CLASSES were discussed with Alberta W. about Mary Beth and Georgia instructing...One may be April but we need a gallery space large enough to have a decent number participating...Cook community center, Beatty Town Hall or Alango???

Empty Bowls, the 4th annual, will take place Feb. 26 (4:30 to 7 p.m.) at North Woods School. Lisa Simensen volunteered to prepare a soup for NWFA for the fundraiser for the Cook and Orr food shelves. The art students make ceramic bowls and community members purchase the bowls and a bowl of soup.

The next meeting for the month of February will be Tues., Feb. 16, 2016 at 12 noon at The Gallery. All members and guests are welcome at meetings.

Respectfully submitted by,

Judith Tuuri Ulseth, secretary