

CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY

Minutes

June 8, 2016

Theme: AGM

Chair

We welcomed three visitors to our meeting.

Book Arts Show

Spike reported on the success of the show. Lots of new email addresses were submitted to us. The door prize winner was Janice Fox, the prize being free admission to Bookbinding 101. Susan reported that roughly 250 people attended. She did not count young children. According to Mary, this is an improvement to the last time.

Spike would be happy to organize this event again. The facility was great. The only problem was with access to Corpus Christi School's parking lot. The lot was to have been opened at 8:00 am, but did not get opened until later in the morning. Since we paid to have use of their lot, Spike has asked for compensation. The next time this event is held, Spike will need help with promotion. Reaching the potential audience is mostly online.

The Ottawa Writers Festival takes place twice a year, in spring and fall. It was suggested that our show be held at the same time as the spring Festival.

It was noted that wording on the announcement should not discourage people from participating, by use of the word "members". People do not need to be members to attend the our meetings, workshops or show.

If we had a display of samples from past workshops, interested visitors might be encouraged to check out future workshops.

Steve's table was very popular, where people lined up to make little pamphlet books.

Website

Our website is in the process of being updated, and again, the use of the word "member" is being considered carefully.

Regarding related guilds, our members get workshops at member prices of the Calligraphy Society of Ottawa, and vice versa. Information about this reciprocal relationship will be included in the website.

10th Anniversary

We are going to be mounting an online exhibition with the use of Omeka.net, an online exhibition tool, and the help of a librarian and a University of Ottawa student, under Roxanne's direction. Roxanne has tried it out and it works well. Such exhibitions would not replace physical ones. Rules about submissions will be worked out. The goal is to have our best work from the past 10 years, and to have the works arranged by artist and type. For example, what is meant by the term "artist's book" could be defined as

Minutes - June 2016

well as list the works as examples; the artists' pages could include a text to introduce the artist. If anyone is interested in assisting, please let Roxanne know.

We will look into the possibility of subscribing to a plan, an upgraded version of Omeka.net (the one Roxanne tested was free), which would offer more storage space, plugins and templates to choose from, but may also involve more work, depending on what plugins we choose to use and what we decide to customize. The free version works well as is and may be the way to go for now. As Omeka is also a database that we can build upon, the content is searchable and can be applied in more than one exhibition or application. A plan will be devised in July, and people would have until mid-September to submit pieces, a selection committee will be put in place. Roxanne would like to have ideas over the summer, about which works would be shown and how they should be exhibited. The exhibition would be launched in November, just before our anniversary comes to an end.

Other news

Steve, Gayle and Spike will be attending the Small Book Press Fair on June 18.

AGM

Steve offered to take over the chair, with everyone's thanks. Spike was acclaimed workshop coordinator. As there is minimal work for the treasurer to do, she is willing to take on both jobs. Roxanne will continue with the website. As the site is now pretty much done in English, we can look at getting it translated into French. Gayle will help Roxanne complete the procedures and executive job descriptions.

The responsibilities of the program coordinator were outlined, mainly making sure that the program happens, by confirming the presentation, date, and requirements, and reminding the presenter ahead of time. The most efficient way is to have one person doing the job. Wendy volunteered to take on the position, again with everyone's thanks. The hardest part is setting the schedule, which usually takes place at a special meeting in May.

Program Schedule

The schedule was distributed and discussed. The plan for next year was to make meetings fun and informative. Three confirmations had not yet been set. Things will be finalized later on. An idea was put forth for movie night. Cathryn Miller, from Alberta, on National's Committee, has a blog, and there may be videos suitable for us. In past years, two meeting nights have been devoted to the swaps. Next year, only one night will be dedicated to the swap, in May. The theme for the next swap will be discussed in the fall. Everyone was in favour of the program.

Workshop Schedule

The schedule was distributed. Everyone was in favour.

We hope to run Bookbinding I on three weekends next year. Roxanne knows of 4 people who want to take it. It was noted that if we have people wanting a course, and if a teacher were available, then that course could be offered in addition to the monthly workshops.

All workshops made money last year. Two workshops in the new schedule come from suggestions at the Book Arts Show. Prices for workshops are \$80 for a one-day for non-members, and \$70 for a one-day for members. Routhier does not book too far in advance, so we will have to wait to confirm the dates. It is

hoped that we can get instructors to give descriptions and pictures early on, so that the workshops may be posted on the website, and thereby attract more interest.

Show and Tell

Steve distributed invitations, made from scrap materials, to his and Gayle's summer barbecue.

Paul will be giving a class at Lee Valley Tools this summer. Lee Valley does sell some bookbinding tools. Nancy Trottier has been in communication with them, as she is interested in a paper-making press.

One of our visitors showed his own casebound books, some bound with marbled papers. He had a suggestion for our website: links to Youtube videos of Sage Reynolds' works. Sage has good videos on books, boxes and bookcloth making. Holly showed the book she made, from old stuff, in the week-long class with Seth Apter in Carp. His philosophy is do it fast, "just do it!"

Next Meeting

September 14, 10th Anniversary celebration

17 in attendance