

The Clay Club Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2024

Officers Present: Mary Murck, Renee Ford, Jill Varley,
Officers Absent: Robert Dufur, Linda Block
Renee Romano substituted as secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 1pm by President Mary Murck. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2023.

Presidents Report: Mary Murck

Mary welcomed everyone, especially new members and guests. She told the group that this meeting is an open dialogue, don't hesitate to step forward and make your opinion known. Members are always telling her items they'd like to see in the club. Be sure to put the requests in writing by putting them on the wish list.

One of Mary's goals this year is to increase volunteerism. Some people don't feel qualified or experienced, but she said there is an apprenticeship for all positions so don't be afraid. The board is going to appoint a volunteer coordinator to recruit volunteers and keep track of volunteers.

Sign-ins for December 669, Hours 998 with 88 active members.

Treasurer's Report: Renee Ford

We have 88 renewals for 2024. The balance is \$5107.22. We are a little under projection on income, dues, and clay sales. There is a \$415 unexpected expense for the website. There will be an audit conducted for last year and our president will appoint an audit committee. All memberships will expire as of January 31, if your membership lapses you will lose your space. Kenn and Renee will redistribute the spaces. She said that the extra space in the glaze room is an additional \$15 per year. Pam Curren asked if we could have an electronic payment system such as Venmo. Renee said she'd look into it.

Glaze Team: Mary Thul

Reported that the team will be mixing glazes in the future. There was a discussion about the fact that there are some chemicals that are no longer available. Bob Arms mentioned that there are some chemicals that can be acquired at a more reasonable rate than Marjon's. Mary Murck said that we would work through those issues as best we can.

Kiln Team: Renee Ford

Reported that the Kiln Team has been doing an excellent job and we had 19 Bisque and 19 Glaze firings in the month of December.

Glaze Orientation: Jill Varley

reported that the next glaze orientation is January 9 and the next general orientation is January 22.

Display Windows: Barbara Petersen

Thanked everyone for signing up for windows and encourages future sign-ups. She also encourages people to put a card in front of the piece to describe what glazes are used.

Recycle Team: Pam Curren & Bob Arms

Pam Curren and Bob Arms have been doing the recycling. The pug mill is making the clay smoother, 675 lbs. of recycled clay was generated in 2023.

Studio Maintenance: Bonnie Klenda and Joanne Wheeler

Reported that they got more people at the last clean-up day. Bonnie reminded everyone to clean tools when they use them, and Pam Curren gave a demonstration of how to clean the Griffin Grip. Also, clean the wires on the wedging table.

Social Team: Kathy Minck

Reported that another social activity would be planned for April.

Clay Inventory:

Jean Van Arnam will be taking the lead on clay inventory so please help her out when she needs help storing the clay.

The Education Team:

Team leader position is open.

Deb Jones thanked everyone who came to her classes and put their work in the window.

Communications Team:

Regarding the website, Jill does the calendar on the website so make sure you let her know when classes are scheduled.

The Art League:

Display in the Activity Center will be changing on January 31. If you want to display or sell something, bring it to the activities center at 1pm that day.

Old Business:

We will not approach the association to pay for the pug mill. A vote was taken to spend \$400 of Clay Club funds to purchase the pug mill.

There was a lengthy discussion of whether we should pay members to give classes. The discussion ensued about what the criteria would be if someone would be paid for a class, such as signing a contract approved by the SCOV association. Some people were concerned that if we paid people, it would change the nature of the club so that members could not ask one another

for help. The group took a vote about whether we would change the bylaws to allow teachers to be paid and 18 people voted NO, 12 people voted YES. On that basis we will not change the bylaws.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 2:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee Romano, Substitute Secretary