Fiber & Fiber Products Committee (FiberCom)

Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2015

Meeting: Conference Call—May 4, 2015, 8:00 p.m. EDT

Members: Stacy Heydt, Chair
Launda Soper, Secretary
Stacie Chavez
B-J Ellis
Ruth Fuqua
Chris Reachard

Board Liaison: Dianna Jordan

Staff Representative: Andrea Harrington

1.0 Meeting Opening: Meeting began at 8:00 p.m. EDT.

1.1 Approval of April Minutes: B-J motioned to approve, Ruth seconded, motion passed unanimously.

2.0 Old Business:

2.1 Student Design Competition (SDC): Ruth stated the judging for the essay portion of the SDC just finished. We are all going to call and email affiliates to try to obtain sponsorships for the SDC.

2.2 National Fleece Conference Update: June 26–28, 2015, Denver, Colorado

2.2.1 Stacy told us that she is the superintendent for the Spin-Off , Fiber Arts, and Skeins competitions. She said there are already over 100 entries. She asked Dianna why there had not been a superintendent in place prior to the announcement of the show and Dianna said she thought perhaps things had gotten pushed to the back burner but felt certain that for our next show things would be in order well in advance as she already has a timeline in place. No entries yet for fiber arts or skeins. A question was raised if the Spin-Off , Fiber Arts, and Skeins entries would be displayed at the meet and greet. Stacy said that the Fiber Arts and Skeins entries may not be finished judging in time to be displayed. Andrea said that she will look into borrowing displays for the show from GWAS or renting them.

Andrea let us know there will be a separate room for the fleece and fiber arts judging.

Registration is open for those who want to enter cottage fleece but spin-off is closed.

2.2.2 Stacy suggested that we record the seminars as there are so many informative topics being given. Andrea said that there was no funding to video tape the seminars.

2.2.3 The subject arose again pertaining to selling fleece at the show and having entrants mark their entries for sale. At the Carolina show the fleeces were double tagged and volunteers sold the fleeces and turned in the tags on the sold items. Show got 5% commission. Fleeces were displayed in boxes and stacked in a small area for viewing.

Chris was concerned that many people would not want their show fleeces to be sold, so there would be limited fleeces available for sale. It was then discussed if other fleeces should be brought in and be available for sale as in a wool market. Andrea said that there is limited space available for a special viewing area for fleeces. Ruth felt we should not follow this path but remove it from the website and look at it again for next year.

2.2.4 Chris asked what was being done to get the general public and fiber artists into the show. Andrea said a press release would go out inviting the public to attend on Sunday after all the educational events were finished. Andrea told us that the PR person is working on advertising in the area and B-J let us know there are 33 guilds in the area that she feels would be excited about the opportunity to come to the show. If we could put together a contact list the PR person could send them a press release.

Andrea will be finalizing the list of vendors.

2.2.5 It was suggested that ABR be asked to help with projects. Stacie will check to see if they can hold fleeces for the show.

2.2.6 Chris suggested that the Judges Choice wins a free entry in the 2016 show as an incentive and Andrea said she will ask if that is something we can offer.

2.2.7 The question was raised about providing fiber art demonstrations. Andrea will be checking to see if there will be enough space for demonstrations to be going on. If so, it will be on Sunday when it is open to the public.

2.2.8 Andrea said a local celebrity will be attending the show and the students will be touring his studio. His name will be released at a later date if this moves forward.

2.3 Fashion Show: Sponsors are still a factor for the fashion show. Without proper sponsorship the fashion show portion will need to be tabled for another time. After much discussion we felt there was not enough time to properly put together the fashion show and we will revisit this idea next year.

Ruth felt there should be more focus on the students. Stacy asked Ruth if the students will be with their displays and Ruth said usually only for taking pictures and that they prefer to mingle.

3.0 New Business:

3.1 Spin-Off Judge's Certification Program: Stacy let us know that the spin-off judge's certification program will be moving forward. There will be some revision of the scoring sheets. There will be training for the new people, testing online and sending in work, a clinic in the fall, etc. A way to grandfather in current judges will be discussed. If approved by the JTCC, the program will be announced at the National Conference.

3.2 *Fiber as a Business* Brochure: We will submit a proposal to the board regarding a *Fiber as a Business* brochure after the Fleece Conference.

4.0 Meeting Wrap:

4.1 Next Meeting: Monday, June 1, 2015, 8:00 p.m. EDT.

4.2 Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Ruth and seconded by Stacy. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. EDT.