

February 8, 2023, board meeting

1. President Alan Sweeney called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. He noted that Karen would be continuing writing the quarterly IDGS chapter news article for the AGS magazine.
2. Treasurer Corlis Kent reported as of Jan. 30, 2023, IDGS has \$8,434.96 in the bank. Chris made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and that Corlis will continue to do the books as she has for the next 11 months, at which time she plans to retire from the office. Steve Kiser seconded it and all were in favor except Vicky McIntire who abstained.
3. Whether or not to have the 2023 festival at Franz Witte led to a lively discussion on the \$2,500 fee we would be charged. Madlen will look into the cost of renting the St. Paul's Catholic Church hall in Nampa. Drawback at Franz Witte is the fee, but Alan and Ken pointed out in the past IDGS has paid \$4,000 for a facility. Franz Witte will provide the tables and chairs, all the radio, TV and newspaper advertising and fall decorations. Director Christy Pletcher suggested we spend the \$2,500 for a couple of years – money we have due to canceled festivals during Covid – and see how it goes.

Liz noted that if outside teachers come, that could add to money raised. Vicky said the auction and gourd store need to make enough to compensate for the fee to Franz Witte. Bill said soliciting donations for the auction and raffle can be factored in, as well.

Corlis stressed the festival has not been a big money-maker, but is to have fun, bring people in and educate them about gourds.

Alan said there is no way to know attendance or money raised from year to year. "We have to go on faith and hope we make enough to cover expenses."

Christy moved to hold the 2023 festival at Franz Witte and Chris Peters added to authorize Alan and Ken to spend up to \$2,500 to secure the Sept. 21-23 dates. Vicky seconded the motion and all present voted to approve.

4. It was agreed that Carolyn Frazier should continue writing the festival and Idaho Artistry int Wood (IAW) articles for AGS and the IDGS newsletter. A designated photographer to be assigned.
5. Deciding on a date for the spring general membership meeting was postponed since the regular meeting location is unavailable.
6. The utility trailer purchased and being kept at Alan and Ken's property is licensed. Liability at present is covered under the insurance of whoever is driving it. Christy proposed IDGS get a general liability insurance policy that would cover all sanctioned activities and the trailer.
7. The annual picnic is set June 10 on the outside patio of the Agricultural Extension building in Caldwell. All voted to authorize past president Ron Swank to purchase and barbecue the meat. Attendees will supply their own paper goods, utensils, beverages and provide a potluck dish to share.
8. Kris McCracken is looking for gourd artists to display their work at the Eagle Library. Several other libraries have done away with their display cases.
9. Vicky moved and Karen seconded that IDGS donate \$20 each to the AGS Artistry and Jim Story awards. Motion passed.

10. The board voted to provide \$20 each to the hobby craft theme and AG awards at the Western Idaho State Fair, Aug. 18-27. The fair has requested us to do demos. Corlis will be the liaison from IDGS.
11. The Canyon County Fair is July 27-30. Alan will coordinate the requested demos.
12. No decision was made on paying the \$10 associate membership to the Garden Clubs of Idaho.
13. Chris reported the \$19.95 fee to maintain our domain name and \$144 (note: in the meeting Chris inadvertently said the cost was \$120) for annual Web Hosting service have been renewed.
14. The board, following Chris's motion, voted to let Alan and Ken handle the festival venue contract with Franz Witte.
15. No decision was made on sharing membership information with AGS. Vicky is going to check on privacy laws with the Idaho Attorney General or Secretary of State.
16. IAW planning is underway. IDGS oversees the raffle and gets three donations from each of the member organizations. More is coming.
17. It was unanimously voted to take Peggy Jarod's name off the auditor position since she only volunteered to help the past treasurer in an unofficial capacity. The motion was made to get rid of the auditor position at this time, but that an audit will be done every two years. Vicky opposed, but the motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m., with the reminder that the monthly general meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 18.