

March 2023 board meeting

President Alan Sweeney called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. on March 8. All board members were present.

Before tackling the agenda, Alan mentioned the dissention that has been growing at each board meeting as one member works on her “own agenda.” It has caused a rift in the group by challenging all moves and actions not only by the current board but also policies of the IDGS in general. Infighting, he noted, is not acceptable, pointing out that the board comes from various backgrounds, religions and politics “but we all get along great... We are not broken.”

After Alan addressed some of the items she has questioned, Vice President Vicky McIntyre resigned her position, said she was quitting IDGS, and left.

One of the items Vicky had raised was whether or not IDGS should be paying sales tax on money raised at the 2022 festival. Special guest at the meeting was member Carol Joyce who has worked with IDGS treasurers in the past and is familiar with the ins and out of tax laws regarding nonprofit organizations. She contacted the Secretary of State’s office with specific questions regarding money raised in the gourd store, auction and raffle at the 2022 festival. While there will be no penalties, we are required to pay \$373.30 in sales taxes because we are a 501-C7 group (hobby nonprofit) and not a 501-C3 (charitable nonprofit). Treasurer Corlis Kent is sending a check to the state.

The scheduled agenda was then addressed.

1. The Idaho Artistry in Wood show is April 1-2 at JUMP in Boise. John Melligh is collecting signups for volunteers to work. Corlis and Janet Melligh are handling registration (deadline to enter is March 20.) Corlis has offered to transport gourds to the show as long as they are packaged securely. The artist must pick up their entries after the show. Steve Kiser is coordinating judges and he noted individuals do not have to be certified to judge.
2. The IDGS trailer is now at the home of Alan and Director Ken Gordy, but needs to be organized and shelving secured before the IAW show. Past President Ron Swank will be helping with the effort and Terry and Corlis Kent will haul it to JUMP and then take it home until after the show. The board authorized Alan to purchase two padlocks for the trailer.
3. Ken is still researching a general liability insurance policy that will cover all IDGS-sanctioned activities. Insurance companies say the trailer should fall under the liability coverage of whoever is hauling it.
4. The board voted to spend \$10 to join the Garden Clubs of Idaho. Motion was made by Corlis and seconded by Director Christy Pletcher.
5. The question of giving AGS access to our membership information was tabled.

6. IDGS will be donating \$20 each for the hobby craft and agriculture awards at the Western Idaho State Fair. It was agreed that the club would adopt the fair's "Let the Fair Times Roll" theme for the hobby award.
7. The September 2023 festival will again take place at Franz Witte and Alan solidified the \$2,500 fee for the venue.
 - a. It was decided that the classes and local teachers would be coordinated through Franz Witte.
 - b. Unsure at this time if IDGS will reap any funds from the classes. Make and Take activities will likely have a donation bowl set up – we would not have to pay sales tax on donations.
 - c. The festival handbook has been updated.
 - d. Christy has agreed to coordinate the make and take.
 - e. Webmaster Chris Peters is heading up the prospectus committee.
 - f. The board voted to spend the \$55 for a quarter page color ad about the festival in the AGS magazine. Christy made the motion and Corlis seconded it.
 - g. Chris and Corlis will be working on a budget for the festival and it will be voted on by the membership.
 - h. Membership chair Madlen Tarlton has been checking out possible alternative venues for future IDGS festivals. Her report was tabled until the April board meeting.
8. The Caldwell meeting site is not available the entire month of April so the spring general membership meeting has been moved to May (second weekend is Mother's Day so we may want to change this).
9. Arizona artist Bonnie Gibson will be teaching June 3 and 4 in Oregon. She may come to Idaho to offer classes if there is enough interest. Liz Meyer offered to have the classes at her shop.
10. Liz is considering offering a clock class at the end of April.
11. Everyone is asked to start thinking of a way to celebrate the 25th anniversary of IDGS which is this year.