

Minutes of the Northern Virginia Bead Society  
General [Zoom] Meeting – December 3, 2020

The business meeting was called to order at 7:29 pm by president Sherry Ellis.

An email was sent to the membership that our next meeting would be held as a virtual meeting via Zoom. Approximately 18 members participated.

#### Business Meeting

As this was our virtual holiday party, there was very little official NVBS business to discuss. There were, however, several discussions about a variety of matters, bead related and otherwise.

There was further discussion about the Swarovski company's decisions to limit marketing, aiming more toward the high end, luxury market, and minimizing access for bead workers and other craft and design areas. Preciosa crystals were also mentioned; several have found Preciosa an acceptable substitution, given that both companies have different colors and styles of crystals.

There was a request for possible ideas for our January meeting, as we do not have any visiting artists scheduled for January. We will not be doing outreach during the meeting, as in person meetings are on hold for the foreseeable future. However, if anyone wants to do outreach on her own, arrangements can be made.

Paulette brought up the topic of bead squares for the new Museum of Beadwork that will be located in Portland, Maine. The Museum and bead artists and enthusiasts are being solicited to create and donate squares to the Museum. The squares are to be collected and displayed there. Individuals can make a square, or a group of beaders can collaborate on a single square. Any variety of beadwork will be welcome – embroidery, Shibori, needlework – and each square is to be 6 x 6 inches. Paulette shared pictures of squares that have already been made and are available for public viewing. The squares will need some kind of backing and several ideas were discussed. There will be more information at the January meeting. Paulette is also seeking ideas for the squares.

Several members shared current projects, some of which will eventually be tutorials for those who would like to make the project.

Members were reminded to renew their memberships as soon as possible. Diane, our treasurer would prefer renewals be done online, rather than with paper checks and applications, although either method is acceptable.

The highlight of the meeting was the Show and Tell presentation of the Bead Challenge, shown in Power Point. The particular challenge beads were shown on the website – Swarovski rounds, vexolo beads, super/mini duos and daggers. Those participating were Avie (who documented her inspiration), Paulette, Samantha, Sherry, Cheryl, Diane and Alison. Comments, information, inspirations, methods, goals were all shared and enjoyed by everyone present. The projects were all different, of course, and all were absolutely lovely. Well done, ladies – beautiful work!

Our next meeting will be January 7, 2021, virtual of course.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13.