

Minutes of the Northern Virginia Bead Society

General [Zoom] Meeting – April 8, 2021

The general meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by president Sherry Ellis. Approximately 29 members participated.

Business Meeting

Several NVBS members created Bead Squares to be donated to the Museum of Beadwork in Portland, Maine. Pictures of our members' work were shared in a Power Point display.

A number of pictures of the Julia Pretl Lotus box were also shared. Diane Dennis created and shared a video of how she stitched the lid. The link to that video is below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tI9P0ZUqbD7ubqCJAKLQ2DRa18NPVIs/view?usp=sharing>

A slide show provided information on upcoming and possible projects that NVBS will be offering.

Melissa Grakowsky Shippee will present a one day workshop – Curio – on Friday, June 18 and a two day mask workshop on Saturday June 19 and Sunday June 20. Pictures of several of Melissa masks were shown for inspiration, but will not be the end result. The workshop will be to help participants develop their own ideas for their masks. Melissa will be giving two days of guidance on techniques and choice of materials. There will be a mask “base” available for purchase but no kits or supply lists will be available. Materials, other than the base (if desired and purchased), will utilize bead stashes.

Helena Tang-Lim's workshops are filled and will be held July 30 and August 6 (Faberge Vessel -- Fridays), August 1 & 2 (Metamorphosis – Saturday, Sunday) and August 7 & 8 (Grecian Urn – a world-wide debut with NVBS – Saturday, Sunday). All workshops will be held from 8 pm to 11 pm on those evenings.

Arrangements for the workshops with Cliff Swain-Salomon are still being coordinated between NVBS and the artist. A poll was conducted via Facebook to gauge interest. The workshops are scheduled for September 10 – 12. Gerbera Daisy will be held on Friday, September 10; Pearlesque Earrings will be held Saturday, September 11; Orchid necklace will be held Sunday, September 12. Also under discussion is whether he will do a presentation during our September meeting.

Workshops with Miriam Shimon are still under discussion. Workshops are scheduled October 10 & 11 (Sunday, Monday). Polls were conducted during the meeting. Her current offerings are A Royal Affair (necklace), Harvest Bloom (necklace), Empress (necklace), Venetian Windows (bracelet), That Bling Thing (bracelet), Madam Glam (bracelet), Solaris (necklace), Margarita (necklace). Results of the polls: 80% were interested in taking a workshop; 20% were only interested if there were something newer among her offerings.

Interest in the specific workshops are as follows: A Royal Affair (21%); Harvest Bloom (26%); Empress (21%); Venetian Windows (16%); That Bling Thing (16%); Madam Glam (16%); Solaris (26%); Margarita (21%).

Sherry Serafini is scheduled for December 3 & 4 (Saturday, Sunday). The workshop particulars have not yet been determined. Results for the Sherry Serafini poll were as follows:

- 1: In person class at Vienna Art Center where social distancing may not be completely feasible or would waiting be preferable: Yes (53%); No (37%); only if social distancing were possible by either limiting participants or getting a larger venue (11%)
- 2: Likelihood of taking a Sherry Serafini Zoom class (regular class, with kit)?
Not likely (16%); Very likely (84%)
- 3: Likelihood of a Sherry Serafini Zoom DESIGN Class
Likely – approximately 85%

A poll to determine interest in attending a holiday party at Vienna Community Center where social distancing might or might not be feasible, depending on the number of participants.

Yes (58%); No (42%)

The topic of meeting locations was brought up. Arlene Sheras again suggested the Herndon Police Station, a venue that she has used with another group. Diane Dennis stated that if we don't use the Vienna Community Center and the Vienna Art Center, we will lose those locations.

Our upcoming Auction, to be held during our May meeting, will be conducted via Zoom; how the offerings will be displayed and how the auction will be conducted is still being discussed. We may display and bid on 1 or 2 items at a time, for a limited period of time. When that particular time period for the item(s) is completed, the bids will be finalized and the offering will be closed. Donations are still being accepted.

A preview of Auction items is as follows (photos of most items are on our website):

- Mary Karg – Art 2 Wear necklace kit; suggested retail -- \$85
- Liz Thompson – Jeanne d'Arc Pendant (Sahara colorway) – suggested retail -- \$65
- Diane Dennis – Transformer bracelet (white) – suggested retail \$50
- Beki Haley – Zayandeh necklace (astral pink) -- \$90
- Cynthia Rutledge – Pearl Garland necklace (dark gray) – suggested retail TBD
- Cynthia Rutledge – Feathers of the Peacock – suggested retail TBD
- Cindy Holsclaw – Rose Blossom pendant – suggested retail \$65
- There are two kits, each with two pendants – Red-Purple and Dark Red- Purple
- Paulette Baron – Myriad of Chains (choice of silver or gold) – suggested retail \$70
- Amy Katz – kit / price TBD
- Caren Smith offered original cabochons – flatbacks, acrylic painted on glass, coated with resin
- A \$100 gift certificate to Accents Beads

NVBS will cover shipping costs for the auction items.

The future of NVBS was discussed. Several members have offered to step up in volunteer positions. However, at present, we have not determined what jobs need to be done and how they will be done. We have a new webmaster, and a volunteer to take the position of treasurer. NVBS still needs an income source as dues do not cover all our expenses. At some point, we will run out of money but the less we spend (i.e., not hosting teachers but going virtual), the longer we can exist. In other words, the future of NVBS is still TBD – will it be in a Zoom format, in person, hybrid? With so many Zoom classes being offered in so many time zones and locations, many teachers are traveling less and participants have so many more options as to when and where to take any and all workshops. What do we want to be? Where are we going? What do we want to do, and how do we do it?

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59.