

**Minutes of the Northern Virginia Bead Society
General [Zoom] Meeting – September 9, 2021**

The general meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by president Sherry Ellis.

Approximately 28 members participated.

Business Meeting

There was a discussion of the Bead Challenge, which is available.

A poll was created for consideration of member contact information. The two possibilities were Google groups or merely a directory document with names and email information. The question was raised about the desire NOT to be included in either format. Members will be opted in unless they request to be than opted out.

The NVBS website is being migrated from Yahoo to a different host, which may result in the website being down and unavailable for an as-yet undetermined period of time.

Kristen, who is in charge of Program Logistics, has the information for the Miriam Shimon workshops. She has provided it for those registered for the workshops. If participants do not yet have that information, they should contact Kristin who will provide it.

Cliff Swain-Solomon has sent the Zoom invite for his workshops.

Paulette says there are still openings for Miriam Shimon's October Margarita workshop. There are also some openings for Melissa Grakowsky Shippee's second session of the Suspension necklace in February 2022. She has been talking to Sherry Serafini who was scheduled to teach for us in December. She and Sherry could not come to terms in order for Sherry to teach for us. Many members are still unwilling to attend in-person meetings, and Sherry will NOT teach in a Zoom format. Paulette offered the possibility for a hybrid set up at her home for in-person participation and simultaneous Zoom format. Since Sherry makes most of her income from trunk shows where she can sell kits rather than from her teaching fees, Zoom is not acceptable to her. She has done Zoom sessions but only in a retreat setting. Additionally, we would need to guarantee 15 participants, which is not probable. Venue is also another issue. Paulette has offered her home, which is not acceptable to Sherry. Also, the Vienna Community Center cannot be scheduled before October 15, which is not enough time to arrange for December workshops. The suggestion has been made to try and schedule Sherry Serafini for next October, November or December 2022. Susan Etkind will follow up with Sherry since Paulette had pre-arranged to leave the meeting early and member questions kept the discussion kept going after Paulette had to leave.

Diane is looking into another Beadalong, similar to Julia Pretl's Lotus Box. Members are invited to email Diane, Paulette or Sherry with ideas of interest. Sabine Lippert's Supergirl bracelet was mentioned but that is a new project for her and unlikely to be available for the present. Again, members are welcome to suggest other designers.

Designers book for 2022 are Melissa Grakowsky Shippee, Cath Thomas (twice), Kim Stathis, Stephanie Burnham, and Shona Bevan (she releases her new projects in January). Other designers suggested were Chloe Menage and River Rose.

At 7:46, Cliff Swain-Solomon began his presentation on his design process.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm