

# Ikebana International Chapter 121 Annual Meeting June 9, 2019

*Location:* Brookdale Library

*In Attendance:* Co-Presidents Donna Winberg & Myrna Little, Communications Brenda Sussna, Co-Secretaries Barbara Foss & Janeen Rae, Treasurer Debra Hjortland, Co-Membership chairs Sue Bagge & Hiroko Shade and members Pat Farnham, Cynthia Chapman, Youngsun Kim, Carol Lui, Barbara Kennedy, Patricia Boehne, Maggie Allison, Claudia Allison, Anne-Lise Whitescarver, Joyce Beauchane, Millie Hisey, Jenny Sun, Thea Adams, Pat Stahl, and new member, Rebecca Chesin

Donna called the meeting to order at 2:11 p.m., distributed the agenda and noted that we have quorum.

**Minutes** from the March 17, 2019 meeting were distributed via email by Barbara shortly after that meeting.

**Treasurer's Report.** We have a current balance of \$2,940.21 Debra gave a plug for paying membership dues which are due 6/15/19 so she can get the money to Japan by July 1, 2019.

## **Old Business**

Two motions were approved but were not voted on since we did not have a quorum at the March meeting:

1. Ikebana Headquarters will reimburse Any Chapter's 50th anniversary expenses if the chapter includes community outreach events. We could use our 50th money to buy liability insurance required for the outdoor installations planned for Como in the fall. We don't know actual costs yet because we couldn't get bids until this was approved.

**Donna:** "Would you approve temporarily using money from our treasury for liability insurance?" All ayes.

2. Also part of our 50th celebration and community outreach plans is a youth class at Como. We estimate we'll need about \$240 for the purchase of materials based on some pricing research. Cynthia: "How large a group and what ages?" That will likely be up to the teacher depending on his or her comfort level and expertise. Como Youth funding is temporary; Como will collect a class fee to pay for the class. HQ will send us \$500 if we provide them with documentation of our community outreach and other 50th functions.

**Donna:** "Would you approve use of treasury funds to purchase materials for a youth class?" All ayes.

## **New Business: Donna**

1. Don Marier has asked the membership to consider a proposal from Minnesota's Ming Chiao Sumi-e society. Sumi-e is brush painting (Sue and Carol added that they have participated in workshops and displayed their paintings in the past). They are sponsoring a juried exhibition in September and requesting 2-3 arrangements to be on display September 6th -10th. Don requests 3 teachers do those large arrangements. The Sumi-e Chapter will reimburse expenses. Those large arrangements would also be placed on 3-4 foot high stands on 9/7 from 6:00-9:00 for an awards banquet. Additionally, 10 arrangements are requested for

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9/7 to be used on the banquet tables. Sue volunteered. Anyone else interested should contact Don as soon as possible. Donna will send a notice via email to all members and ask them to contact Don directly.

2. We need a teacher-level volunteer to lead the youth class at Como. The date can be at the teacher's convenience; Como is open to scheduling requests. The teacher creates a class description, Como does the advertising and enrollment, then we find out exactly how many will be in the class and their ages. Noriko Ishida had planned to teach it, but may not be able to now. This is meant to be a part of our 50th celebration, our sharing with the community and doing some youth outreach.

## **II 50th Celebration Updates: Myrna**

The committee working on our 50th plans is quite excited about the line up. Our Gala Event will be Sunday, September 22, 2019, the exact time yet to be determined (afternoon or evening). The venue is A Mill Artist's Lofts, St. Anthony Main. This beautiful space is free for artists, "that's us." It will be ticketed and we may have a silent auction fundraiser. There will also be a historical slide presentation and cocktail hour music by the Doug Little Trio. Parking there is a challenge, so we'll have to think that through. We are able to get in to set up anytime during the day. Myrna is discussing the menu with a caterer who works with that venue to develop an Asian-inspired menu.

We will also have a couple exhibits at Como. Outdoor exhibit(s) will be done by teachers. Our Annual Mum Show will be part of this, though expanded - we have the Ordway hall in addition to the Bonsai room. There will also be larger scale indoor arrangements. We are aiming for a record number of participants. We will also need arrangements for the Gala Event. The Como Mum Show will likely be during 1st half of November. There will also be a history panel display, most likely in the corridor leading into the Bonsai Room.

## **Calendar Updates:**

- ◆ On Wednesday June 12th a Memorial Service for Takuzo Ishida will be held at the Weisman Art Museum, 4:00-7:30 p.m..
- ◆ Sunday, August 18th is the Obon Festival at Como. Kim Gordon is coordinating this and volunteers are needed. It's really a fun event for us. Como gives II volunteers free passes and we only have to be "on duty" from 3:00 - 5:00 when they close the building, then there are wonderful outdoor activities that continue into the evening. Our Chapter provides \$125 for flowers out of our budget so we don't have to haul materials in. The flowers will be purchased and put into the cooler at Como the day ahead for Sunday's event. Donna sent a sheet around for volunteers to sign.
- ◆ Saturday, September 21st is the Normandale Japanese Garden Fundraiser. Pat Fahrnam is coordinating this and volunteers are needed. Pat says we will be located just inside the entrance on the main level this year which should provide good visibility and traffic. We have participated in this for a number of years. But because this date is the Saturday before our Sunday Gala Event, we'll have to determine participation this year on how many volunteers sign up. Donna sent a sheet around for volunteers to sign.
- ◆ Sunday, September 22nd is our 50th Gala Event at A Mill Artist's Loft.

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## **Discussion of open positions on the new 2019-2021 board.**

Positions filled that we will vote on today are:

*Co-Presidents Myrna Little & Anne-Lise Whitescarver*

*Treasurer Debra Hjortland*

*Co-Membership Officers Sue Bagge & Hiroko Shade*

Two positions (or shared positions) remain unfilled:

*Secretary*

*Programs*

It was pointed out that, for 2019, programs are already lined up. So the Program Committee doesn't really become active until 2020. Joyce said she is willing to co-chair and Carol Lui said she will work with Joyce on programs.

We need a Secretary. This position on our board is mandated by our bylaws and National II Headquarters. There is speculation that we may not be able to continue as a chapter officially without this position filled. There was discussion on what the role of Secretary actually is. Primary role is to attend meetings, take and distribute minutes, and contribute to Board decision-making. Rebecca Chesin proposed a provisional vote. (Def: *Provisional is arranged or existing for the present, possibly to be changed later.*)

Donna asked for [a provisional vote on electing the candidates for the four board positions filled for the 2019-2021 term and continuing with the currently empty position of Secretary](#). Debra so moved, Thea seconded. All ayes.

- Myrna thanked the current board: Donna, Janeen, Brenda, Barbara, Noriko Ishida, and Yoko Toda and presented them with a Thank You gift and card.
- Anne-Lise expressed appreciation for her election to upcoming board.
- Donna welcomed and introduced our newest member, Rebecca Chesin, and then had us go around the room introducing and giving a little information about ourselves.
- We received anonymous donations of Ikebana containers and kenzan which Donna brought to today's meeting. The members were invited to select anything they might like and leave a donation. The money will be used for our 50th anniversary expenses.
- Cynthia moved and Thea seconded that we adjourn at 3:10. Ayes.
- The meeting was followed by tea, treats, and Spring Flower Arranging.

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Post Meeting Note: *Immediately following adjournment of the meeting, Claudia Allison offered to be Co-Program chair with Carol Lui and Joyce Beauchane.*