

MINUETS -
NWWS Board of Directors Meeting
Weds. Feb 11, 2026
Zoom Video Conference
Approved March 11, 2026

12:15 - 1:00 Pre-meeting social time/lunch online
1 p.m. Call to Order

Attending: Debbie Roskopf, Peggy Meyers, Roger Baker, Eileen McMackin, Shilpa Bhadsalve, Sarah Love, Karen Robinette, D'Arcy Heiber, Conny Spann, Peggy Willett

Approval of January 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Molly Murrah seconded by Eileen McMackin and approved by all.

President's Report - Debbie Roskopf

- PaintOut - We have 34 registrants so have achieved our minimum but are still looking for someone to help us coordinate the May event.
- May Paint Out Coordinator: Debbie will recruit at this month's event. Duties will include some communications with the camp operators, assigning cabins, checking people in on arrival, troubleshooting any issues that arise during the event, and checking people out on departure, ensuring cabins are empty and clean. The approximately \$410 participation fee will be waived for the member who volunteers to help in May.
- **ACTION ITEM:** please contact Debbie if interested.
- CD Purchase - Our CD recently matured so Debbie will research area banks to compare interest rates and will recommend our best option going forward. She will secure approval for the decision from the Executive Committee.
- Forecast - Debbie will combine the January and February numbers into a forecast to report at our next meeting.
- Northwest Arts Alliance - has already promoted Paint Out in their recent Newsletter and Peggy W will draft a new event/new project form for consideration at our next meeting. (We've been offered a free booth presence at their November 2026 Best of the Northwest art and craft show so we need to decide soon whether we have resources to dress the booth and staff the booth with member volunteers to promote NWWS to the 3,000 art focused attendees.)
- Tax Notes - Debbie will discuss options to seek pro bono tax advice with our bookkeeper. We will ask the bookkeeper to prepare our tax forms going forward and will confirm a process to ~~will~~ confirm receipt of payment requests from board members and committee chairs.

Community Art Chair - Roger Baker - regarding Overlake Hospital Sales Gallery

Roger proposes a new sales process for members' paintings whereby participating artists list their contact information on their display label so buyers contact them directly. This will avoid NWWWS managing these sales and payments, since we take no commission of these sales. Roger will inform participating artists about this change. He will continue to manage delivery of artwork to buyers, replacing paintings that are sold with other art from NWWWS members.

Corresponding Secretary - Conny Spann

Activity since our last board meeting:

- - We sent a food basket along with condolences to Roger Baker who sadly lost his wife in January.
- - We welcomed one new Signature Member, Marilyn Holte from Boise ID.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Conny is stepping out of the Corresponding Secretary role to become NWWWS Treasurer. Her role will liaise with our bookkeeper and take on the forecasting work that Debbie has created so that NWWWS can look to our future with more confidence.

ACTION ITEM: Since the CS work is so focused on communications with NWWWS Signature members, we will seek a new Corresponding Secretary from among that group. Volunteer Coordinator Peggy Willett will talk with Kristi Dyson to identify candidates to replace Conny in this role and also help Kristi with her Signature Member work.

NEWS: Molly Murrah reports that 99 people wish to attend Angela Fehr's Workshops International session. We increased the number of participants from 50 to 75 participants so the rest are on the waiting list and are potential replay purchasers. Angela was very active in promoting the event to her extensive community, making many new people aware of NWWWS and the Workshops International program.

REMINDER: D'Arcy Heiber needs items for the Spring newsletter by March 1. She also thanks Sarah Love and her Social Media team for their very effective work to engage more members in the current issue's gallery.

Agenda Section A: Items requiring Board input and/or decisions:

Proposal to establish a new Award - Eileen McMackin

Proposal for NWWWS Cash Award Funded by Community Donations

Engaging Past Winners, Signature/Gold Medal Members, Exhibition Jurors, and Workshop Providers

The Northwest Watercolor Society (NWWWS) proposes the establishment of a new cash award to be included in future Waterworks and International Open exhibitions. This award will be uniquely funded by donations from members of our vibrant community, including past award winners, Signature and Gold Medal Members, previous exhibition jurors, and NWWWS workshop or demo providers. By pooling contributions from these distinguished groups, we aim

to create a meaningful prize that both celebrates artistic excellence and fosters a spirit of generosity and mentorship within our society.

The process for this award would involve an annual call for donations, with contributors recognized in the exhibition catalogs and in NWWWS communications. The collected funds will be the source for a cash prize relevant to the value of other cash prizes in each exhibition and awarded to a selected artist in each exhibition, determined by the exhibition juror or awards committee. A possible name for this award is "NWWWS Partners Award". This initiative not only strengthens connections among our members but also elevates the impact and prestige of NWWWS exhibitions, furthering our mission to support and inspire watercolor artists.

We invite feedback and support from the NWWWS Board to launch this award in the upcoming exhibition cycle, ensuring its sustainability and visibility for years to come.

DISCUSSION included the following points:

- Suggesting specific small dollar donations of \$5 +/-.
- Not asking an open ended amount that people are more likely to disregard.
- We like the idea of little bits from lots of folks to fund the new awards.
- Increasing the amount of our cash awards is very positive in attracting entrants to exhibitions
- Potential marketing drive in Sep/Oct

DECISION AND ACTION ITEM: We like the idea, agreed to continue discussion at our next meeting and to send additional ideas, comments and questions to Eileen to help inform the discussion and a decision.

New Business:

1. Data Manager - Shilpa noted that she will be away in the coming weeks until shortly after our next meeting, but will respond to any data requests as soon as possible, from India.

2. Molly raised the issue of whether we need to print exhibition catalogs in future.

DISCUSSION included the following points:

- A downloadable pdf might showcase the imagery more effectively, to more members and a wider audience, while reducing printing and mailing costs and saving hours of design time and working with the printer. (We don't mail catalogs to all NWWWS members, so a digital version would be available to all and to our audience beyond our membership.)
- We could test the idea by eliminating the print catalog for Waterworks but continuing to print one for the International Open Exhibition.
- Molly, Debbie and Eileen will team to ensure a digital format that fulfills our sponsor and patron agreements.

DECISION: A motion to **not** print a catalog for the 2026 Waterworks Exhibition, and instead, to create a downloadable digital version, was made by Connie Spann, seconded by Eileen McMackin and approved by all.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

SECTION B - Reports and News from all NWWWS Chairs, leads, volunteers:

Data Manager - Shilpa Bhadsalve

The attached membership data report shows activity through January.

NWWF Foundation: Peggy Willett

Deb worked with FZK to grant Peggy Willett, Cathe Gill and Alex Hollmann admins access for the Foundation's Scholarship modules. Cathe and Alex have secured two notable artists as jurors this years to help raise the Scholarship's profile. Application deadline is March 30.

Publicity: Sarah Love - Jan 2026 PR Report

Waterworks

- One more ad for Call for Entries runs the week of 2/9/26.
- Of the 5 boosted posts (ads) that have run, there were 415K views and 4,636 link clicks. Outstanding numbers.
- Call for Entries press release written and distributed to 46 art publications and organizations. Release attached.

Northwest Watercolor Foundation

- Elizabeth Houser and I have worked up a schedule to promote the annual Scholarship/ Barbara Pitts Award for college students in WA, OR and ID.
- Calissa Chapa was featured the week of 1/26. For the week of 2/16 Alissa Hrushka will be featured. In March, 4 previous winners will be featured to draw attention to the \$3500 scholarship available.

Social Media

- Wrote 25 social media posts, manipulated images to fit. Social media posted them on a weekly basis.
- Wrote featured artist post for Facebook members page. Mike Thoreson's "Quiescence" is displayed for the Winter quarter.

Workshops International: Molly Murrah

As noted above, the Angela Fehr workshop completely filled with 75 registrants and with an additional 24 people on the wait list. This is the largest response we have ever had to one of our WI workshops! I was completely surprised... and thrilled.

I am researching another four WI instructors for 2027. I've not made any decisions on who to present to the Artist Selection Committee.

Volunteer Coordinator: Peggy Willett - open jobs

NWWWS:

Program Chair: Molly reports that Jane Gonzales will support the Program Chair by managing contracts with demo artists once they are proposed, approved and secured by the Chair.

Search for Chair is in progress to begin June 2026.

AZR lead and/or team - one of more members to reimagine the AZR project

Paint Out coordinator - for May event only while Kathi Hicks is away (see president's report above)

Signature Co-chair - a Signature member to help Kristi and take over when possible

Membership Development coordinator - someone to help us grow the organization

Volunteer Coordinator - a matchmaker and talent spotter to take over from Peg

NWWF/Foundation:

A bookkeeper accountant to support Charlene and take over as Treasurer

Art for Kids - a member art teacher to co-chair with Kat Parsons

Agenda Section C: Programs proceeding as planned, but no news to share.

Signature Member Exhibits - Kristi Galindo Dyson

Programs - Sarah Hansen - No updates and work is going as planned. Scott Gellatly will be presenting for the month of February.