

THE 62 GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS COMMITTEE MEETING

12 midday on Saturday September 28th 2019

Royal Festival Hall, London

Attending members

Chair- Debbie Lyddon

Richard McVetis, Jane McKeating, Emily Jo Gibbs, Hannah Lamb, Caron Penney, Catherine Dormer, Isobel Currie

1. Apologies for absence received from:

Imogen Aust, Heather Belcher, Louise Baldwin, Lucy Brown, Sue Stone, Daisy Collingridge

2. Minutes of last meeting 8/6/19 and matters arising

To be added to the last minutes:

Item 3 after the words "previous meeting. " add "It was unanimously agreed that minutes are a public record and should be agreed by the committee before publishing on the website"

Item 5 should read: "It was agreed that the Chair, and exhibition officer should have expenses..."

Corrections to last minutes:

Item 7 (under new members) correct spelling of Caron Penney's name.

Item 10 (page 11, under site specific installation) should read "above the heads of visitors" (not about)

Minutes agreed

Action

Completed

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| <p>3. Committee jobs and changes <u>New finance officer:</u> Heather Belcher wants to step down after 4 years in the role.</p> <p><u>New social media officer:</u> a new additional role created to deal with increasing demands of promotion on social media (currently being covered by HL) Would require work to provide constant updates, and would suit someone with existing high activity on these platforms.</p> | <p><i>Action: DL to put vacant post in newsletter with job description</i></p> <p><i>Action: HL to write job description and pass to DL for next newsletter.</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> |
| <p>4. Finance Report from Heather Belcher: The balance on the account as of the bank statement received up to 5 September 2019 is £18,400.02.</p> <p>Costs for the CONSTRUCT exhibition at Sunny Bank Mill are as follows:</p> <p>Submission and Hanging fees received = £815 Payments for travel and accommodation = £888.92</p> <p>Payments pending to Liz Cooper, David Pitcher and for catalogue printing. A number of Radical Thread books were sold during the Construct exhibition.</p> | <p><i>Action: DL to contact Jane at Sunny Bank Mill for figure to be invoiced for books sold</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> |
| <p>5. New members update Report from Catherine Dormer:</p> | | |

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| <p>40 applications were received and 10 were selected to go to the second selection stage. One did not send in, so 9 were received, from which 5 were selected, including two international members.</p> <p>Letters were sent to applicants by CD after all work was collected.</p> <p>Note: it needs to be made clear to potential members that selection is by seeing real work, not photographs.</p> | <p><i>Actions: DL to email IC with new member contact details</i></p> <p><i>IC to email new members with GDPR forms and add them to members list</i></p> <p><i>DL to email David Pitcher with website updates</i></p> <p><i>After AGM DL to send out call out for next years new members</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> |
| <p>6. Publicity update</p> <p>Report from Hannah Lamb: See attached</p> <p>There was a committee discussion about needing advance images for publicity: what if advance images are used, then work not sent in/ selected. Ideally would have long lead-in time (as for Ctrl/shift) to allow pictures to be used after selection; try to do this in future, especially for anniversary exhibition (would need work to be stored in intervening time until start of exhibition)</p> <p>It was noted that landscape images are often more useful than portrait, except on Instagram.</p> <p>What email to use for Instagram account? - existing one is not working. Need new email for all social media accounts to link to on website. Did Michelle Stephens set up a gmail account for Facebook?</p> | <p><i>Actions:</i></p> <p><i>CP liaising with David Pitcher about social media/website links</i></p> <p><i>DL, HL, IA to have access to social media account passwords.</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> |

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| <p>Members need to be encouraged to be on/post content on Instagram. Possible help provided for members at AGM?</p> <p>Still a need for flyers for non tech-minded members and public</p> | | |
| <p>7. Newsletter and public newsletter update</p> <p>EJG needs members to send more content, but also better summarised- when lengthy it may be better to provide a member or gallery website link for more details</p> <p>Newsletter currently quarterly. HL asked whether newsletter should be more frequent (like Crafts Council one) could try bi-monthly to have more current content? Or have special extra edition when there is particular news eg exhibition. CD said it could be shorter if more regular, and suggested a pro forma for people to fill in with exhibition news, to keep format regular and make sure all information is provided consistently. DL wondered if the members newsletter is too long and if more information should be provided by links to the 62 Group website.</p> <p>DL would like to make more use of mail chimp mailing lists.</p> <p>Newsletter information should also go to social media officer for wider dissemination.</p> <p>DL has been receiving and disseminating information that members wish other members to know about, however it was felt that this task should return to being done by the Group secretary.</p> | <p><i>Actions: DL to ask members to send information for other members to IA, and remind all members to keep providing content for newsletters</i></p> | |
| <p>8. Exhibitions</p> <p>Report from Richard McVetis</p> <p><u>Review of Construct:</u></p> | | |

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| <p>Good feedback from gallery and visitors, gallery provided good support including mini catalogue and they would like to work with the Group again. Two works were sold during the exhibition. Improvements need to be made in administration of exhibitions: Check fees are correct on sending-in forms, and provide other ways to pay- need online banking and a tick box to confirm payment made. Selection team must make sure acceptance/rejection forms are correctly filled in before sending. Some members were unhappy with change of date for selection. Some members did not follow guidelines: eg statements were too long; unprofessional looking handwritten notes; inadequate packaging provided; couriers not arranged and/or return labels not provided (RM dealt with this himself to maintain reputation of the group, which he should not have to) RM suggested revision to send-in forms to include guidelines for selection. RM suggested removal of 'maybe' option during selection to avoid lengthy debates. There should also be a condition check form filled in at start and end of each exhibition. One member objected to how their work was displayed and withdrew it from the show. It needs to be stated on sending in forms that the hanging team's decision is final and that work cannot be removed before the end of the exhibition.</p> <p><u>Ctrl/shift 14th December- 29th March 2020</u> Sue Stone report: see attached</p> <p><u>St Barbe exhibition 2020</u> Gallery checklist has been sent, RM will do sending in forms. Need to remind Gallery to provide contract and ask for their terms and conditions, including insurance. The 62 Group contract needs to be expanded to cover insurance- use Sunny Bank Mill contract for guidance. Members need to know insurance status i.e. is artist responsible</p> | <p><i>Actions: RM to revise sending in forms and send to DL.</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> |
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| <p>To fit with the Group remit of educating/ spreading the word, it would be good if the exhibition could tour- perhaps to Sunny Bank Mill, Scotland, Textil Museum in Netherlands?</p> <p>It may be worth contacting TEG (Touring Exhibition Group) who link galleries with exhibitions.</p> <p>Possible symposium alongside exhibition- public facing, could be a lot of work, maybe lessened if linked to an academic institution who could provide rooms, help with publicity etc. London would be popular (eg Goldsmiths monthly Constance Howard lecture)</p> | | <p>has done this</p> |
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| <p>9. Education update</p> <p>JM report: see attached</p> <p>Further committee discussion: Take up of some events at Sunny Bank Mill was disappointing, possibly due to late send out of information, and location. HL did two workshops. CD talk was cancelled. (Note: members giving talks are paid £150 for half and hour, plus travel) 3 events booked for Scunthorpe, but gallery gave too little time to make proposals</p> <p>JM asked if they do workshops at St Barbe, CP offered to do one if they do.</p> <p><u>Installation FTM 2022</u></p> <p>CP report: Fashion and Textile Museum Lecture Series Since we last met</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have organised a date for the next lecture at the Fashion and Textile Museum. • That date is the 19th March 2019 • Debbie and I have reviewed the text for the last call out for members and it has now been sent out to everybody • The closing date for entries is the 13th October 2019. • I have had no responses yet. | <p><i>Actions</i></p> <p><i>JM to compile updated list of members who do workshops and talks.</i></p> <p><i>EJG to give JM contact at St Barbe so that she can ask if they want workshops.</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will need to agree a selection committee once the applications are in. <p>Site specific Artwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have written a number of times to the Fashion and Textile Museum regarding the site specific artwork. I have spoken in person to their Head of Communications, and then emailed the Curator again. I have had no response from them and am starting to feel that they are not interested, although I know that it is more likely that it is due to under staffing and how busy they are. I am open to suggestions as to how to continue. | | |
| <p>10. AOB <u>Sabbatical request</u> Dorothy Ann Daly 19.08.2019 62 Group Sabbatical</p> <p>Sabbatical request granted to Dot Daly 19/8/19 - 19/8/20</p> | <p><i>Action: Debbie to write to Dot to confirm</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> |
| <p><u>Digital submission</u></p> <p>Following the new members report it was felt that, in order to attract and keep new members, especially international members, the group should consider selection by digital submission. This an important decision and would need to be debated by members and voted on, as a change to the constitution. A motion should be written as the basis for the vote.</p> <p>Points raised:</p> <p>Many other exhibitions do it.</p> <p>Members would need to think what is best for the whole group, not just their own circumstances.</p> <p>Danger of good photos of bad work, or bad photos of good work giving false impression to selectors.</p> <p>After a shortlist drawn up from photographs, the hanging committee would have to have final say in whether a work is satisfactory for inclusion in an exhibition.</p> | <p><i>Actions:</i></p> <p><i>DL to put on agenda for AGM</i></p> <p><i>RM to write motion to be voted on after AGM</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> |

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| <p>Digital submission would mean work could be selected earlier which would help with publicity. Need clear guidelines on images required- full and detail. Possible trial of this method for one exhibition? Ballot should be held two weeks after AGM. It would be good to have agreement on this before 2022 exhibition. <u>Speaker/event for AGM</u> In light of discussions during the meeting it was felt that it would be useful to invite a speaker to do a workshop on good photography. RM suggested Yeshen Venema, who did official Ctrl/shift photos. It was suggested that an Instagram masterclass would also be helpful- CP offered to do this, RM offered to share insights with her from Instagram leveraging talk he is attending.</p> <p><u>Repository on website for photos</u> A quote of £300 has been received from David Pitcher to set up a repository of photos on the website. These could include past exhibition photos, and others submitted by members, and could be used for publicity. It was suggested that official photos could be taken for each exhibition, which would be added, unless a request was made by the artist to remove theirs. Artist's need to ensure that all information is in the photo title. How would photos be submitted? It was suggested that we start a list of professional photographers around the country that members could use.</p> <p><u>Inclusivity and Diversity</u> HL noted that we should be considering whether we reach diverse communities, and if we should be taking active steps to do more, possible under an educational remit, and by thinking where we target new member call outs and education events to find emerging makers.</p> | <p><i>Actions:</i> <i>RM to approach Yeshen Venema</i> <i>CP to give Instagram masterclass</i></p> <p><i>Action: CD to compile list of photographers</i></p> | <p>Completed</p> |
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| <p>Possibility of mentoring to bring people into our world, or partnering with organisations already working with underrepresented groups, maybe regionally. It was suggested that we do a diversity survey of members. An anonymous diversity survey could also be carried out on new member applications.</p> | <p><i>Action: members to look for organisations to partner.</i></p> | |
| <p>11. Date of next meeting 30th November 2019 Pre-AGM committee meeting: 9.30am-11am AGM: 11am-3.30pm St. Anne's Church, 55 Dean Street, London W1D 6AF</p> | | |

