

MINUTES  
COLOR & LIGHT SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN MARYLAND  
MAY 6, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 11:23 a.m. by Dick Preston

Members in Attendance (15):

Brandy Blackstone	Pat McGrath
Elizabeth Bygler	Marianna Nystrom
Pam Callen	Dick Preston
Theresa Ford	Diane Preus
Barb Hak	Sigrid Stiles
Deborah Kennedy	Linda Sanborn
Susan Jones Knight	Linda Talton
Cindy Martin-Brennan	

Guest in attendance: Doreen Bickel (friend of Sigrid and participant in the Southern Maryland Farmer's Market)

There is a Treasury balance of \$6,185.82. Linda T. will distribute checks related to the winery exhibit sales..

Pam Callen reported that there were 3 members at the April Open Studio activity at the Lusby Sr. Center Art Room. Discussion followed regarding determining a location for an open studio in St. Mary's County as well in the future. Barb Hak will follow-up on this suggestion.

Linda Sanborn reported on behalf of Paula Soderlund that the shellac workshop was worthwhile and appreciated by the attendees.

Barb Hak reported on the outcome of the Port of Leonardtown Winery exhibit. Two paintings and some cards were sold. She will be sending a show evaluation form to the participants. She has forms available for show guidelines, inventory, etc. for member use. Several ideas for improvement regarding updating of the inventory report were brought forth and the handling of card sales at this venue should be reviewed.

Also, the Raining Cats & Dogs clay workshop at her home was well attended, enjoyable and productive. Contact Barb if you are interested in helping out at this fund raising event. Barb will be handling sign ups for the November exhibit at St. Mary's Arts Council.

Brandy Blackstone gave an update on the Professional Development series and reminded members to share submissions for the newsletter by the 18th of each month for inclusion. There is an ongoing need for updated member artwork for the website as well. The 2026 events have been added to the C&L website and event pages have been set up on the C&L Facebook page.

Brandy also reported that C&L is a sponsor for the Port of Leonardtown label launch party May 21 from 6-9 (this is a ticketed event). Our member, Cindy Martin-Brennan, is the winner of the label contest. As a sponsor of the event our club has extra marketing perks extended to us because the club has offered activities by Donna, Barb and Brandy for the public at the event.

Linda Sanborn and Elizabeth Bygler reported on the Professional Development Training held in conjunction with the hanging of our show at the Three Notch Theater. It was well attended and members in attendance received printed guidelines prepared by Elizabeth. Additional copies are available from her as well.

Dick Preston reported that John Okay has agreed to present the next Professional Development Training seminar, Photographing Your Artwork, at a date to be determined.

Linda Sanborn passed around a sign-up sheet for working the theater production. She mentioned that public interest was shown in the exhibit. She has had banners made for theater shows that mentions C&L as a supporter of the theater. The current exhibit has a tear down and pick up date of May 17. The next production run is July 10-Aug. 2 and she will let us know if there is an opportunity to exhibit at that show. She mentioned she will be participating at the Oyster Festival this year and Linda Talton will email members to see if others are interested.

Linda Talton reported on behalf of the Artsfest Committee (Linda S., Susan and Linda T.) that one booth has been secured and the club is wait-listed for a second booth.

Elizabeth has provided a large banner that we can display at events. It will be housed in the storage unit.

Elizabeth and Marianna co-organized the meeting workshop – Master Works. Elizabeth presented the large display of a self portrait by Van Gogh which was the selected work. She gave an interesting presentation on his life and members participated in a discussion as well. She also shared a comprehensive book on his works from her collection.

Guest, Doreen Bickel, shared information about being a vendor at the farmer's market. Some discussion followed regarding having this as a possible venue for the club in the future.

Brandy received a new member inquiry and has forwarded that to Jeannine and Gail. Theresa mentioned her workshop scheduled for May 7 at Mattawoman Creek on watercolor textures.

Diane mentioned the upcoming Calvert Artists' Guild member and award show May 09-10 at the Solomon's Sailing Association.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Preus

