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Subject: Boutique

To: Kathy Beaudoin <[beaudk@gmail.com](mailto:beaudk@gmail.com)>, Debbi Sumner <[debbisumner@comcast.net](mailto:debbisumner@comcast.net)>

Good morning!

I've been thinking a lot about the boutique. I guess the first question I have is can we get by financially without holding a boutique for one year and still meet the obligations we have for paying speakers that are already lined up for the next 1-2 years? If the answer is yes than the following thoughts may be irrelevant.

My main concern is that if we skip the boutique this year it is too easy to just let it go forever. Can we afford to do that? What will our guild look like if we cut out the annual boutique income from our budget? The boutique is a lot of work and it seems harder each year to find volunteers. Has the board discussed reimagining the guild? Quarterly speakers & workshops. Meeting every other month with an all day "retreat" on the off month?

If we decide we want to try having a boutique, here are my thoughts:

1-vendors would be members only. This would decrease the volume of items for sale. Therefore we would need fewer tables/display areas which would allow for easier social distancing.

2-members who want to sell items HAVE to participate in takedown. This is because each member would be responsible for collecting all of their unsold items at the end of the sale. They would be assigned a table to stack their unsold items in order of item number. An assigned team of members would then check each member out. No one would be checked out until all straggling items have found a home on a member's table.

3-it is up to the church to figure out if a luncheon is possible. Possibly they could package soup to go.

4-all shoppers and workers would have to wear a mask as soon as they enter the church doors. We would have fewer workers on the floor and rotate cashiers more often. No congregating in the break room. This would help maximize the number of shoppers allowed in. There would be a maximum. There would be an entry and an exit. No one would walk back through the sale floor once they payed eliminating congestion by the entry stairs.

5- Decrease the amount of decorating done in conjunction with the sale to decrease set up and take down time. Won't be as pretty but it will still look festive with all the items for sale.

6-open earlier on Friday to help decrease crowding???

Those are my thoughts. If I come up with anything more I will let you know. Good luck with the decision making. This is a biggie and could have a huge impact on the guild. Of course it could also be precedent setting for moving to a biannual sale instead of an annual one. I have confidence you will do what is right for the times and the guild.

Thanks for listening.

Jodi

Sent from my iPhone