

GAINESVILLE FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 by Susan Fulford, President. Quorum established.

Present: Kyle Novak, Sara McTigue, Susan Fulford, Sally Larson, Lisa Klug, Estefania Torres, Chris Brundige, Wes Lindberg and Katy Lemle (Executive Director)

Jackie Kline attending as guest of Susan Fulford

Absent: Porchia Moore, Emma Jensen, Rebecca Hoffman and Melody Vaughn

December minutes: Sally Larson motioned to approve, Wes Lindberg seconds.

President's Report:

Susan Fulford wished everyone a Happy New Year, this is the start of the organization's 100th year and there is a lot to do this year. Thank you to the board members for continuing to volunteer.

There are around 20 pieces at SIMED that have been left by or forgotten by the artists, there are storage constraints. Susan proposes adding to the waiver/application that artwork not picked up in 60 days is forfeited and becomes property of GFAA. GFAA will then sell or donate. Sally asked that this change also be announced in a member newsletter. This change will be adopted and announced accordingly.

Chris inquired about the pick-up timing for Sweetberries new location on the UF campus. Katy will follow-up with the Sweetberries coordinator, Patty Arcoirois (Martinez.) Patty will email artists, Sweetberries asked to keep art up for one year.

The anonymous angel donor that has been donating \$12,000 per year (\$1,000 per month towards GFAA's rent) will continue donating \$3,000 per year. There is a need to pull back on expenses to compensate for the loss of income. Susan suggested eliminating the banner planned for across 13th Street, the expense is estimated at \$1,900 for the banner plus \$380 to hang. The board discussed the pros and cons of the banner, how the money might have more impact being used for other advertising, that the banner might reach different parts of the community, that other advertising methods are reimbursable by grants. Wes noted that the original intention of hanging the banner on the building after the two weeks over 13th Street has potential permitting hurdles. The board agreed to pause, research the permitting around hanging a banner on the building, give the banner additional thought and vote in February if the banner will be cut from the 100th year plans. The city proclamation will move forward.

Susan received feedback from artists that have not exhibited in a while that these artists don't see their art as fitting into the exhibit themes. Don't let the theme bog you down, there is plenty of room for interpretation. The gallery also has two open themed exhibits each year. Members can volunteer to be on the programming committee to help shape themes. Sally added that medium specific exhibits, possibly splitting exhibits to have a medium specific exhibit in the front gallery, might also encourage additional submissions. Katy will take suggestion to programming committee.

Michelle Nagri & Peter Senesac will take over organizing the studio tour this year.

Katy, Kyle and Susan interviewed five applicants for the gallery operations assistant position. Carly Shooster starts Monday 1/23.

Building/Lease issues: The board discussed issues around GFAA's lease and food truck patio on the south side of the property. Katy sent Keith Perry email advocating for \$1200 rent reduction due to the food trucks that have been permitted by the building owner (Keith Perry) to occupy the patio on the south side of the gallery. Katy asked for a new property manager now that Luis Rodriguez, the former property manager, is operating one of the food trucks on the patio. A new property manager has been assigned. Tom (SAW) has also been looped into the usage changes on the property. There is significant noise and usage impact to SAW. The new property manager came back with agreeing to not increase GFAA's rent by the \$200 in the current lease as a compromise to the usage changes. Susan will ask Patrice Boyce, attorney that negotiated lease, for advice. The goals are: 1. GFAA does not want to lose the gallery space, 2. GFAA wants to continue to partner with SAW on the space, 3. GFAA wants the situation to remain friendly, 4. GFAA needs to be protected from property liability, loss of use, operational interruption from new tenants, etc.

Vice President's Report:

Sally & Katy continue to work towards finishing the gift shop remodel, sourcing furniture.

Treasurer's Report:

Estes Torres reported December sales were the second best of the year. The \$100 for 100 year fundraiser met its goal. Awesome job and thank you! Continued working on Treasurers' guide outlining all financial tasks, grant rules. Estes and Katy are looking into any changes to the utilities as a result of the food trucks.

Executive Director's Report:

Carly Shooster, the new operations assistant, is Emma's close friend. Emma will excuse herself if Carly's pay is to be discussed at any point in the future. Carly will take on the membership renewals – there are 244 active members, Carly will call members to remind of them of their renewal. Carly will also work to call donors.

Donor wall is up, Katy is mocking up layout of donor wall and mission/values statement on plexi and gift shop windows.

The first start donor evening is 1/24.

Estes and Susan will discuss non-profit watch group and IRS filing for employer match. The non-profit watch group registration can score the financial statements providing transparency. May be a prerequisite for some employer match programs.

Committee Reports

Chris – Education meeting is 1/19. Candace McCaffery's fabric/collage class is 2/11. Allison Fairfield will be holding a photo workshop May 6.

Old Business:

GFAA will look to host the Rosewood exhibit next year

New Business:

Susan introduced her friend Jackie Kline who is interested in becoming a member and getting involved with the organization.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Wes Lindberg, Kyle Novak seconds, adjourned at 7:45pm.

Submitted by Sara McTigue Sunday February 12, 2023.