

GAINESVILLE FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday November 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Susan Fulford, President. Quorum established.

Present in person: Emma Jensen, Susan Fulford, Wes Lindberg, Chris Brundige, Lisa Klug, Porchia Moore, Sara McTigue, Sally Larson and Lexi Braun (incoming board member)

Present online: Katy Lemle (Executive Director), Rebecca Hoffman and Estefania Torres

Absent: Kyle Novak

Past minutes: Motion to approve October minutes moved by Wes Lindberg, seconded by Chris Brundige.

Presidents Report:

- Susan shared the City of Gainesville Proclamation with the board and reported on the presentation from the city attended by her and the gallery assistant, Carly;
- The 2024 lease is currently under review with help from Patrice Boyse. After consulting the other tenants, Susan has initiated the new negotiation with a request for reduced rent and a five year contract;
- The new investment account has been opened and Susan is initiating conversations about how to proceed including inviting the existing and incoming executive committee to meet (tentatively the morning of November 30, 2023);
- The member meeting Sunday November 12, 2023 went well with 14 art members in attendance with questions and feedback to the board. Wes suggests making member meetings available via zoom and recorded for members who can't attend. The incoming board members were ratified, including Lexi Braun who is with us tonight. The vote for Officers will be held during the December board meeting;
- This Friday November 17, 2023 is the Santa Fe faculty art show at 7pm showcasing board members art including Wes and Kyle;
- Susan extended thanks to Lisa Klug and Estefania for their dedication and support on the GFAA board, and excitement for their ongoing involvement in other capacities.

Vice Presidents Report:

- Sally repeated her request for help in the landscaping committee. Katy repeated Porchia's suggestion from the previous meeting to reach out to the University of Florida Landscape Architecture department. Wes recommended getting in touch with Santa Fe groups who might be interested to help with maintenance or other community organizations (e.g.: Girl Scout troop). Lexi suggested 'An adopt a garden' sponsorship to cover the cost. Katy will repeat her call out to members for suggestions or volunteers. Wes suggests having volunteer opportunities listed on the website including specific directions.

Treasurer's Report:

- In Este's absence Katy offered to answer any questions. There was nothing notable to address;
- Este joined and commented on the slow down on income as the year draws to a close, which is being subsidized by incoming grant reimbursements.
- Susan repeated her thanks for Este's support and service as Treasurer to the board.

Executive Directors Report:

- Katy shared that we have 307 active members. Since January we've increased our membership by more than 60, supported by the automatic email when memberships expire and calls from gallery assistants;
- Reports for the City and Visit Gainesville grants have been submitted. The City of Gainesville has approved the next grant request and will be making the recommendation to the County Commissioners. The latest round has offered an opportunity to readdress the distribution of marketing money;
- The 100 Year of Art exhibition will be coming down this month. Katy is working with Carly to make it available online;
- Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 (this weekend) GFAA will have a booth at the Gainesville Downtown Arts Festival;
- UF CAME had a successful film showing in the gallery with 41 attendants Tuesday November 7, 2023;
- Upcoming events include The Community Foundation Next Gen program social (date to be confirmed);
- GFAA was represented at the School of Massage 50 year anniversary;
- Katy invited everyone to RSVP for the December 14, 2023 member holiday potluck;
- Greater Gainesville International Center has officially moved into the building;
- The front window that was smashed has been replaced. Katy is following up with the Perry contact to get a tint to match the existing windows;
- Katy shared the finalized schedule for exhibitions following the programming committee November 2, 2023. It will be shared to the wider membership in the next week.

Committee Reports

Education:

- Christine shared the 2024 workshops that are on the calendar including Out of the Box - Steal Like an Artist with Teresa Kirk, Watercolor Pets with Suzanna Winton (TBD), Printmaking from Nature with Dawn Wilkins;
- In March and April the education committee will be trialing new evening workshops as a member benefit. They will be lead by various artists covering different artmaking approaches including Diversity Mosaic Hearts with Sarah Hinds and Linda Zidonik, Monoprints with Mari Johnson, Color Theory with Kathy Wobie, Life Drawing with a Clothed Model with Angela DeCarlis and How to Paint a Palm Tree in Acrylic with Robin Popp.

Fundraising:

- Katy shared the development of the 2023 End of Year Fundraiser. It will start Giving Tuesday, November 28, 2023 and end December 31, 2023. There will be gift packages that include the anniversary t-shirt, posters, gallery book and donation certificates made in someone's name. Packages will be shared with previous donors, including a letter inviting them to donate again. Sally suggested including gift certificates for workshops or art purchases;
- Katy asked if any one had looked at the fundraising worksheets. Susan recommended returning to it in January 2024 when there is more bandwidth to address it.

Old Business:

- Sally requested that in the 2024 review of the GFAA Member Bylaws the board asks for feedback from the general membership including the number of meetings and what kind of meetings they'd like to have to give members more of a chance to interact. She repeated the recommendation for member name tags to wear at public events. Susan mentioned that information could be requested in the general member survey. Discussion continued around what to include and how to distribute the survey. Lexi recommends Jotform, an online survey platform that can integrate with other programs.

New Business:

- Susan requests a motion from the floor for Corporate Resolution Granting Signing Authority and Authority to Conduct Business for Michelle Nagri, Susan Fulford and Katy Lemle. Motion made by Wes Lindberg and seconded by Lisa Klug;
- Board acceptance of resignation by Estefania Torres. Moved by Sally Larson and seconded by Wes Lindberg;
- Board acceptance of resignation of Lisa Klug. Moved by Chris Brundige and seconded by Sally Larson;
- Lisa extended thanks for being a part of the board;
- Sally informed the board she will be taking a sabbatical until February, 2024.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Wes Lindberg seconded by Chris Brundige adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Emma Jensen, Secretary...