

GAINESVILLE FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday March 11, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 by Susan Fulford, President. Quorum established.

Present in Person: Susan Fulford, Katy Lemle (Executive Director), Sara McTigue, Charlotte Newman, Lexi Braun, Wes Lindberg, Kyle Novak, Wanda Burnette-Walker, Chris Brundige, Rebecca Hoffman, Kathy Faraone.

Present via Zoom: Sally Larson

Absent: Porchia Moore

Past minutes: Motion to approve February minutes moved by Wes Lindberg, seconded by Rebecca Hoffman.

Presidents Report: Susan Fulford reports that the lease is still pending execution; this is a high priority item Susan is working on.

The field trip to the UF Gallery was a great experience; there were about five attendees. The 5pm time was a little challenging and parking is tough by the university but Susan encouraged everyone to attend if possible, the field trips have been a lot of fun.

Susan yielded her time due to the number of important agenda items the group needed to discuss.

Vice Presidents Report: Sally Larson reports that she and Katy recently reviewed the building task list that was created about a year ago. Many of the projects have been completed, while others are ongoing assigned tasks.

Gift shop lighting is the current project with us contacting electricians in progress. We are open to recommendations for places/people to contact.

The early March Garden Work Party was cancelled and rescheduled for Mar. 16. Additional help would be well used and appreciated. Our newsletter is being used to advertise the event and to celebrate the butterfly garden. Katy has suggested that our Saturday work-study student could help with weeding during that shift.

Treasurer's Report: Reimbursement submitted for \$15,700 to Visit Gainesville, funds are expected soon.

The projected 2024 budget has been circulated to the board. Sally motions to accept the proposed budget and open for discussion. Rebecca seconds the motion. City and state funding is low in the budget, there is uncertainty around both grants. The group discussed several specific points:

- The organization needs additional sponsorships and donations.
- Susan is investigating putting the organization's savings into a high-yield savings account to earn additional interest.

- Budgeted amount for rent may change.
- There was discussion around grant funding for workshops.

Sara motions to approve the 2024 budget; the board unanimously approves the 2024 budget as submitted.

Board approval is needed for GFAA to apply for the Outside Agency grant from the city of Gainesville. Wanda motioned to approve, Kyle seconds. Motion approved.

Executive Directors Report: There are 300 current members. The work-study student will call members that have not renewed. This time last year, there were 248 active members.

Michelle Nagri is working on the state grant. GFAA will submit the city grant application but funding is not expected due to recent changes in the city budget.

The next field trip will be to the Blount Center to see the Hector Puig collection.

Katy hosted another Q&A session via Zoom. 3 new members attended. The questions were primarily about website navigation, general information about membership and the artist calls. Katy plans to continue these informal sessions, as they seem to be successful and productive.

The last member meeting of the year will include a silent critique for members that want to participate. Katy explained how a silent critique works, artists can indicate the level of feedback they are looking for when they submit their work.

Lisa Iglesias will speak at the April 18th member meeting. Anna Calluori-Holcombe will speak at the June 8th member meeting.

GGIC hosted "Night of Ideas" at the gallery on Feb 29th.

The gallery has had some plumbing issues and had to close for plumbing repairs briefly. Katy is working through conflicting information around the food trucks and whether or not they will be returning.

The Rosewood exhibition opening reception went very well. Next up is the Center of European Arts exhibit; the curator is speaking on 3/26 at 5pm.

Katy is working with Ann Gilroy on a pop-up Fiber exhibit, presented by GFAA at the Thomas Center. The exhibit will open in April and run through the summer. Katy is also submitting a proposal to UF Innovate for a large format annual exhibit, the proposed fee is \$1200 plus a \$300 install fee. Amazing Give is 4/25, Katy and Sara will meet to plan. We need a volunteer to collect contact information for potential donors. Katy will attend the Gainesville Chamber Business Before Hours.

Committee Reports

- Education:

- Christine communicated that 45 people attended the March 7 – Diversity Heart Mosaics workshop with Sarah Hinds – attendance needs to be limited, this was too many people.
- The next meeting of the Education committee is on April 18th.
 - The next Thursday workshops are:
 - March 21 – Gelli Prints – Mary Johnson –SAW
 - March 28 - Creating Color Chart – Kathy Wobie
 - April 4 –Life Drawing – Angela Di Carlos
 - April 11 – Acrylic – Robin Popp –How to Paint a Palm Tree – providing Kits for everyone
 - Four people have registered for April 6-7, 2024 - Suzanna Winton “Fur, Feathers, and Fauna” –Watercolor Workshop so far
 - May 18, 2024 Brush Lettering
 - September 28, 2024– Diana Tonnessen - Linoleum (EZ Cut) Block Printmaking
- Fundraising:
 - Lexi will work with Katy to help apply for the two different avenues Satchel’s Pizza works with non-profit organizations.
 - Sponsorships for the Exhibits are needed.
 - Matching Gifts for the Amazing Give are needed.
- Old Business: N/A
- New Business:
 - Charlotte shared an idea to offer an “Emerging Artist” award. The group discussed implementation. The group will further discuss in the April meeting.
 - The group discussed actionable items from the member survey:
 - Communication was a theme the board identified in the member responses.
 - Ideas for improvement include emailing members about significant motions & asking for comment; using survey monkey to poll members ahead of policy changes; offering Zoom for member meetings to expand attendance; archive the president’s message on the website.
 - Technical challenges were also noted as a recurring theme.
 - The group discussed website navigation tutorials.
 - The group discussed the somewhat opposing needs of a member organization and a professional/curated gallery space.
 - Is there a portion of the gallery that could be utilized by members at all times? The group had general discussion around the community venues and the exhibition themes.
 - Wes recommended utilizing the organization’s video channel, offering a video exhibit for each member. There is endless space online; the organization could easily expand online.
 - Solo exhibit proposals need to be reviewed by the end of tomorrow 3/12.
 - Lexi noted that the How Bazaar is looking for people to conduct workshops or exhibit in the Alchemy Space for the 4/13 event.

Wes called a motion to adjourn seconded by Chris, meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sara McTigue Wednesday, March 31, 2024.