

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
MORONGO BASIN CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL
MBCAC**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the above Corporation was held on January 14, 2015, at the Corporations place of business. The meeting was called to order by President Klopfenstein at 4:15 PM.

Board Members Present: Paul Klopfenstein (President/Chair), Valerie Davis (Vice President), Lenne Rosen-Kabe (Secretary), Marcia Geiger (Treasurer), Alita VanVliet (Gallery 62 Director), Paul Morehead (Marketing Director), Anne Beattie (Director of Member Events).

Not present: Membership Director Laura Dennison, Communications Director Scott Doten.

QUORUM was established.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President addressed the situation of Gallery 62. The sale of the property, including the premises occupied by Gallery 62, located at 61871 29 Palms Highway, has been finalized and the property is now under the ownership and management of Art Queen LLC.

A welcome letter from the new owner, Art Queen LLC, was distributed to the Directors, and is incorporated by reference herein. A new rental agreement (Store Lease – General, Short Form) was signed by President Klopfenstein and Lawrence Lane, the property manager of the new landlord on January 12, 2015, and is likewise incorporated in these Minutes by reference.

The rental agreement is month-to-month and specifies that the “premises” i.e., the front room where the Gallery is located and tenant-shared common areas are to be used for gallery and commercial purposes only. The stage to the rear of the property is not part of the

common area but separate rental may be arranged with AQ LLC management.

Membership Director Laura Dennison has resigned from the Board due to her employment situation, and will also no longer be available to keep the Art Store open. As a result, the Art Store located at the Corporation's place of business, 6448 Halle Road #10 will be closed, and a sign will be posted in the store window to that effect. A **motion** to accept her resignation was made, seconded, and adopted unanimously.

The need for storage of the Corporation's records was discussed next, and various options will be explored between now and the vacating of the premises at 6448 Halle Road #10 at the beginning of March, 2015.

The MBCAC has been approached by an individual proposing a project to replace the dull colors of commercial buildings lining the Highway in Joshua Tree with more pleasing desert hues. Discussion ensued, and it was pointed out that this might be a project for the Chamber of Commerce rather than the MBCAC. Director Morehead proposed that any MBCAC assistance with this project be limited to disseminating information via an e-mail blast with no further official involvement by MBCAC Board members. The proposal was unanimously adopted.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The December 2014 Minutes of the Board of Director's meeting were reviewed, amended, and a motion to adopt as amended was made, seconded, and carried without dissent.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Geiger's report is pending, however, there had been no major expenditures since the December Board meeting, with around \$1,000 in revenue from Art Tour commissions still trickling in by the end of December. The MBCAC received a \$700 donation from Espresso Bean, a New York corporation. The Secretary will email a thank you note on behalf of the Corporation, and the Treasurer will send a receipt for the donation.

A year-end financial statement will be forthcoming, and per the bookkeeper Alex Poulakis, an outside CPA will conduct an audit of the Corporation's books and provide a report.

ART STORE/NEWSFLASH/VOLUNTEERS:

The lack of a volunteer to man the Art Store and handle the monthly Newsflash in the wake of Director Dennison's resignation was again discussed, and the need to recruit additional volunteers was stressed. It was also suggested that the Newsflash should be limited to MBCAC business in order to reduce the job of the Newsflash editor. It was mentioned that the JT Chamber of Commerce already sends weekly emails that cover most of the same events, and that the MBCAC has its "calendar of events" page on the website listing all MBCAC events.

Action Item: President Klopfenstein will ask **Communications Director Doten** to place a request for volunteers on the Art Tours Facebook page, and also a statement to the effect that the Newsflash has been temporarily suspended pending the recruitment of a volunteer to handle the flow of information. Members should refer to the calendar available on the Corporation's webpage, www.mbcac.org, for information regarding MBCAC events.

GENERAL EMAIL/PHONE:

Vice President Davis offered to begin monitoring the info@mbcac e-mail account which was formerly handled by Director Dennison. It was pointed out that due to the store not being manned, the phone calls coming to the store phone were not being picked up, and the need for the MBCAC phone once the store closed permanently was questioned.

ART TOURS:

A larger location for the first 2015 Art Tour meeting during which new volunteers would be asked to join those returning from last year was discussed.

MARKETING:

Director Morehead requested an advertising budget for the Art Store's "blow-out closing sale" scheduled for February 7, 2015 from 9 to 3 PM. The printing of flyers was authorized. Flyers will be distributed at the Saturday farmer's market in Joshua Tree and elsewhere.

EVENTS:

The first Artists' Gathering, which was tentatively scheduled for January 26, 2015, was discussed. The date of the event was later changed to February 6, 2015. **Director Morehead** will contact the Retreat Center regarding the availability of a room on Feb. 6. It will be a potluck gathering. The Secretary will send out a general announcement once the location is confirmed, and a special invitation to individuals who indicated their interest in the survey in becoming part of the volunteer effort to help organize the 2015 Art Tours and also perhaps to step up as additional Board members and/or become involved on Board committees. **Action Item:** An announcement will be placed on the "Artists Only" Facebook page as well as on the MBCAC calendar on the website. A list of available volunteer positions with estimated time commitments will be developed in time for the Feb. 6 meeting, to be distributed to the participants.

EXHIBITS:

Director Morehead reported contacting individuals re: taking over his responsibility for installing exhibits at the 29 Palms Gallery and the 29 Creative Center, with nobody interested thus far. A new exhibit will be hung at the Bob Burke Community Center on Friday, January 16, 2015.

Gallery 62 REPORT:

Director VanVliet reported that sales have picked up at the Gallery, with almost \$1,000 in sales within the first two weeks of the January show. An email has been sent to the Art Tour participants' email list announcing the availability of gallery space for exhibits in February and beyond. It may become necessary to use the back room in the Gallery as the MBCAC office once the Art Store lease expires on 5. March 2015.

GENERAL:

VanVliet reminded the Board of the proposal from a previous Board meeting to purchase a laptop computer for MBCAC use to replace the old desktop computer. It was agreed that a maximum cost not to exceed \$500.00 would suffice. Seconded and passed without dissent.

Action Item: Treasurer Geiger will look into it.

WEBSITE: Director Van Vliet moved to accept **Arthur Comings'** offer to be the MBCAC website manager. Seconded and passed unanimously. Mr. Comings will handle all updates to the MBCAC website, with the

exception of posting and changing images, which will be handled by **Communications Director Doten.**

NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on February 11, 2015 at 4:00 PM at the Corporation's usual place of business.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 6:00 PM.

These Minutes are certified by the Secretary.

Signature Lenne Rosen-Kabe Date February 8, 2015