

**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 **July 13, 2016**, in the Healthy Generations meeting room, 57121 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley, CA 92284.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Klopfenstein at 5:01 PM.

Board Members Present: Paul Klopfenstein (President), Valerie Davis (Vice President), Patricia Knight (Membership & OSAT Director), Lenne Rosen-Kabe (Secretary), Marcia Geiger (Treasurer), Anne Beattie (Member Events Director), Scott Doten (Communications Director), Janis Commentz (Gallery 62 Director,) Ed Keesling (Director at Large).

Others present: OSAT Registrar Kathi Klopfenstein

QUORUM was established.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Kudos to VP Valerie Davis for covering for President during last month's meeting.

Klopfenstein raised the terms of office per the Corporation's bylaws, stating that they were for two years. During previous meetings it had been agreed to move the rotation dates to January (from June), and he indicated that he plans on relinquishing the presidency at the end of December, 2016.

The President encouraged those Board members who still have not turned in their biographical information to do so without further delay so that they can be posted on the MBCAC's website. Those outstanding

are the President, Vice President, and Director Doten, **ACTION ITEM.** Bios should be emailed to Membership Director Knight for posting.

The President pointed out that the signature block on the info@mbcac.org still contains outdated information. Treasurer Geiger, administrator of the Corporation's email accounts, will update, **ACTION ITEM.**

It was noted that a MBCAC member, Ellie Tyler, has passed away. Secretary Rosen-Kabe has obtained a sympathy card for board members to sign.

Discussion ensued as to the August board meeting, with a unanimous decision of the board members to move that meeting to a date in September.

The President confirmed that he will again write a welcoming article for the OSAT catalog. It is projected that the catalog will be reaching the printers some time in early August for distribution towards the early/middle part of September.

The Gallery 62 trash bin key has been duplicated and one is available in the Gallery office desk drawer.

Klopfenstein reported that the insurance covering MBCAC officers has been paid and is current as required in the bylaws.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

No report, other as noted in the Minutes of the board meeting held in June, where she covered as Chair in the absence of President Klopfenstein.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Minutes of the June, 2016 Board of Directors meeting had been previously e-mailed by the Secretary to all Board members. Suggestions and corrections were incorporated into the "Final" version.

A motion to adopt the June minutes as amended was made, seconded, and carried without dissent. The Secretary will post the approved and

signed minutes to the MBCAC website under Board Minutes, **ACTION ITEM.**

The Secretary had requested Agenda items for inclusion, including the August hiatus, discussed above. She also brought up the need to identify and contact new board members to take over in January, 2017. It was requested that Gallery 62 Director Commentz put together a description of her duties by the September board meeting, **ACTION ITEM**, to be used for recruiting a new Director before year's end. A nominating committee was proposed, and Commentz agreed to work with Director Keesling in advance of the September board meeting in identifying MBCAC members to be contacted, **ACTION ITEM.**

The Secretary also indicated her desire to pass on the position to a new MBCAC member, and recommended that a successor be identified prior to year's end so that she could provide training (writing minutes and posting to the MBCAC website) as needed, **ACTION ITEM.**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Geiger handed out a monthly treasurer's report for the month ending June 30, 2016 incorporated herein by reference. The corporation remains solvent.

The beginning balance for June 2016 was \$47,687.06, with total expenses of \$3,970.16, total deposits of \$7,916.72, and a reconciled bank balance at month's end of \$51,829.49.

The **ACTION ITEM** from the June board meeting (status of the MBCAC with the Registry of Charitable Trusts), was continued to the September board meeting.

The issue of the Track Phone raised during last month's board meeting was resolved, with the recommendation to donate said phone to the Unity Home charitable organization located next to Gallery 62 in Joshua Tree.

Discussion ensued as to streamlining the process of using bookkeeper Alex Poulakis's services in order to take some of the load off the Treasurer. It was pointed out that committee chairs (Gallery 62,

Membership) should interact directly with the bookkeeper to ensure that correct records are kept, **ACTION ITEM.** Treasurer Geiger will meet with Poulakis to work out details, **ACTION ITEM.** It was decided that Gallery 62's office would be used as a bookkeeping office, with a gallery key or lock box code being provided to Poulakis, **ACTION ITEM.** Treasurer Geiger indicated that she will stay on the job until the end of the year, at which point a new Treasurer will be needed, **ACTION ITEM.**

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Knight provided a written report, incorporated herein by reference. As of this date, MBCAC membership stands at 237 active members; 105 have lapsed. There are 3 new members since last month's board meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Doten reported that he continues to update the Facebook page with new information as it becomes available. The OSAT group page currently has 1759 members.

Doten indicated that he installed the 3-pronged support for the solar lights above the Gallery 62 sign on the marquee above the gallery doorway, and that the solar lights are working properly.

GALLERY 62 REPORT:

Commentz reported that a gallery committee meeting was held on July 11 at the Gallery. The minutes of that meeting are incorporated by reference.

Six successful openings have been held so far, and MBCAC member Esther Shaw has volunteered to put on an exhibit for the month of August, with 12 participants to date.

Director Commentz reported that she has delegated some of the gallery functions among gallery committee members. Bonnie Brady will be in charge of general facility maintenance, and Secretary Rosen-Kabe has offered to help with the minutes, and also to review exhibiting artists' statements and bios. Laurie Schafer has agreed to help contact artists for future exhibits, and Jennifer Ruggiero will help curate new exhibits. Valerie Davis agreed to work on a sign-out procedure for artists,

ACTION ITEM, and Bonnie Brady will continue to help with intake of new exhibits.

Commentz proposed that starting in January 2017, a committee of 4 persons should be in charge of the gallery, as it represents too much work for one volunteer. She plans on relinquishing her positions as gallery director at the end of January, 2017.

She will obtain an “Open” sign and plastic bio frames for the gallery.

EVENTS: Director Beattie announced that she will resign from the board at year’s end. She will write a position description to be used for recruiting a new Events chair, **ACTION ITEM**.

OSAT (Open Studio Art Tours):

Director Knight reported that the OSAT 2016 catalog cover had been revised to include this year’s participating artists.

A tribute to artist Ellie Tyler is being written by Teddy Tapscott, and will include a watercolor by MBCAC artist Susan Abbott. A discussion on how best to remember those MBCAC members who have passed away ensued. The suggestion by Director Keesling to have the board decide on a case by case basis was considered and voted on, unanimous. Director Knight reported that the Corporation had not received the CA Arts Council grant this year, is awaiting the final paperwork, and the plan is to try again next year.

Kudos was extended to Director Keesling and his committee for their work on obtaining ads for the 2016 OSAT catalog. Forty-five ads were sold, for a total income of \$14,990. He reported that the JT Music Festival, JT National Park, the Hi-Desert Publishing Company, and Hawk’s Landing traded ads with the MBCAC.

Knight indicated that the AMP (Artist Mentoring Program) had been placed on hold until the following year due to lack of lead time before OSAT 2016.

OSAT 2016 has 136 participating artists and 89 studios, including Gallery 62 as venue #62 on the OSAT map.

MARKETING:

Director Keesling reported that the ad for the Yucca Valley Town is in the process of being created, paperwork having been submitted and payment imminent. It will consist of two half page ads, one for the town and another one for the High Desert Nature Museum located in Yucca Valley.

EXHIBITIONS/ART IN PUBLIC PLACES (AIPP):

Vice President Davis reported that she had not yet contacted the Frontier coffee shop (formerly Ma Rouge) in Yucca Valley, but she will do so in time for the September 2016 board meeting regarding their interest in becoming an Art in Public Places venue, **ACTION ITEM.**

WEBSITE COMMITTEE:

Director Knight indicated that she has still not received bios from **Doten, Davis, and Paul Klopfenstein** for inclusion on the MBCAC website's About Us page, **ACTION ITEM.**

Knight stated that she is making revisions to the Hwy62Art Tours website to add information about this year's artists and other tour-related items. The official OSAT 2016 distributions centers have been incorporated into the website. She indicated that whereas Director Commentz is handling the Gallery 62 website, she is making sure that the Wordpress themes and plugins are kept up to date.

The next OSAT committee meeting is to be held on August 2 at Gallery 62.

NEW BUSINESS:

Director Keesling reported that Hwy 62 Arts and Antiques in Yucca Valley has offered to host an end-of-the-tour party, Sunday Oct. 23 after 5:00 PM. The gathering will be open to participating artists and their families. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided with pot-luck encouraged. A vote was taken with the majority of board members in favor and Director Beattie abstaining.

The invitation to the closing party will be extended during opening night at the 29 Palms Gallery with the understanding that it would not be sponsored by the MBCAC.

Keesling indicated that the Banning Cultural Alliance is hosting an "Embracing the Arts" conference on September 14, 2016 at the Morongo casino conference center. Discussion ensued, and it was decided that Gallery 62 and MBCAC would split the cost and send two representatives to the conference. It will be a good opportunity to hand out OSAT catalogs and save the date cards. Tour participating artists would also have the opportunity to attend the event.

The board voted unanimously to buy booth space and full-page ad for \$340.00. Directors Knight and Keesling will attend the event. The Newsflash electronic publication will include information to invite other MBCAC members to participate. Directors Doten and Commentz also indicated their interest in participating., **ACTION ITEMS.**

It was noted that the Morongo Unified School District is trying to start an after school arts program for elementary school kids, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. The program would run for 10 weeks, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Interested artists should contact Dr. Debra Turner, director of the school district.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on September 7, 2016, in the Healthy Generations meeting room, 57121 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley, CA 92284, unless a different venue is needed as a result of the change of date from the second Wednesday to the first Wednesday of the month. The change is necessary to accommodate for the President's absence on 9/14/16. The membership will be informed of the date, time, and location in advance of the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:05 PM.

These Minutes are certified by the Secretary.

Signature Lenne Rosen-Kabe Date September 7, 2016