

**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 **June 14, 2017**, at the Center for Healthy Generations, Yucca Valley, CA.

The meeting was called to order by President Ed Keesling at 6:03 PM.

**Board Members Present:** Ed Keesling (President), Raini Armstrong (Secretary), Julianne Koza (Membership Director), Zara Kand (Gallery 62 co-Director), Karan Murphy (Marketing), Mike Shaw (Treasurer), Laurie Schafer (Events Director), Marcia Geiger (Vice President), Scott Doten (Communications), Patricia Knight (OSAT Director)

**Others present:** Lisa Manifold

**Not present:** Esther Shaw (Gallery 62 co-Director)

**QUORUM** was established.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

The Minutes of the May 2017 Board of Directors meeting had been previously e-mailed by the Secretary to all Board members. The corrections and suggestions requested were incorporated in the final draft. A motion to adopt the May minutes was made, seconded, and carried without dissent. The Secretary will post the approved and signed minutes to the MBCAC website under Board Minutes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mike Shaw presented the monthly financial report ending in May 30, 2017, incorporated herein by reference. The Corporation remains solvent.

Congratulations go out to all the artists that sold during the last gallery show, as a number of sales were made.

Some anomalies occurred with the monthly finances during the month of May; contract services usually come to \$15 per month, however the May cost came to \$1,519.31 due to bookkeeper and graphics design services. One other anomaly includes the month's rent not being taken during the month of May. This will mean that the May and June rent will show up in next month's financial report.

The beginning balance for May, 2017 was \$46,940.39 with total deposits of \$6,669.44 and expenses of \$1,952.46. The bank balance at month's end was \$51,722.68.

A letter was received from the Department of Justice requiring non-profit organization support documents. An extension was requested until July 31<sup>st</sup> so that we can provide the information they are asking for; possible renew fees for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014 along with submitted forms 990, 990pf, or 990ez for the years in question. Clarification was provided by Geiger on what the letter was requesting, as she is familiar with the entity requesting information. Though the tone of the letter seemed unforgiving, the forms should be fairly simple and the documentation should not be difficult to gather.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

The top drawer in the file cabinet has been set aside for the organization's supporting documentation. Per the bylaws, we must be providing meeting minutes, a copy of the bylaws, and treasurer's reports for the public to view upon request. The Secretary will provide copies of the monthly Board minutes [**Action Item**].

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Geiger informed the Board that MBCAC did not receive the California Arts Council grant this year. We will be given a summary that explains why we did not meet the requirements this time around, but Geiger has not received it yet. The summary should be available for the July meeting. This grant is a competitive venture and it will be beneficial to study the summary letter when it arrives. It might be beneficial to hold a group meeting before the next year's application is submitted so that we can incorporate additional education focuses, youth art focuses, and any other community education and supportive ventures that MBCAC is involved in.

### **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Knight provided the membership report sharing that we have 232 active members, and 61 lapsed members, which has gone down because of her latest archiving and cleanup efforts on the website. 3 new members joined during the month of May.

### **COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Doten shared that we have 1,942 members on the Facebook group page. Doten shared that some businesses have expressed interest in purchasing advertisement, however they want to do so on or after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Advertisement spots might have showed up in July due to how some businesses tend to organize their payments, unfortunately advertisements spots must be submitted by June 16<sup>th</sup>, so Doten will contact as many of these interested parties as possible to convey the deadline.

### **MARKETING REPORT:**

Schafer shared that The Luminators will be providing entertainment for the collective show and details on payment to the entertainers was discussed.

The Art Tours potluck was a success and we may wish to have more potluck gatherings in the future.

The president suggested the idea of using the Pioneertown soundstage for a possible location for gatherings in the future. They do not have furniture but if we were willing to bring tables and chairs, the location would present a fun venue.

### **GALLERY 62 REPORT:**

The gallery made \$640 in artist's fees, so rent has been covered. The July show has been planned but the August show is proving to be more difficult. A suggestion to make the August show a member's show was made, each member interested being allowed 2 pieces for \$20.00. This should make it easier to gather enough artists for the August member's show.

There have been no major updates to the sculpture projects. The sculpture to be placed in front of the gallery will need to be redesigned in a smaller fashion because the original is a little too large for the space in question. The artist said that he should have it completed in September. The Turtle Island sculpture artist is on vacation but should be available to further design the piece after returning. If we aim to finish both sculptures in September, we might be able to have a joint unveiling party before Art Tours.

The gallery received an email from the Hi-Desert Star inviting Gallery 62 to place an ad in their quietly publication of Basin Wide Spirit which is sent to local hotels and other businesses providing information on 'things to do' in the area.

### **OSAT (Open Studio Art Tours):**

The map has been completed and will be sent to all artists to proof read. Advertisement sales are up to \$16,000 however we still need \$4,000 to reach our original goal. Advertisement sales will close on Friday. Director Knight contacted the producer for Desert Days to pitch the idea of purchasing advertisement in the catalog since the Desert Days concert will be held during the first weekend of Art Tours, The marketing director of Spot Light 29 Casino, in charge of Tortoise Rock, was also contacted.

The catalog's front page collage is in process, with pictures being collected of artists working in their studios, art work, and welcome signs for towns involved in Art Tours.

Two articles are being developed for the catalog. The second article idea involves information regarding commissioning artists for projects/art work. The article could easily provide an engaging topic which might center on Gallery 62's two art sculpture works currently being commissioned.

The 2017 Art Tours tee-shirt contest is up and will go on until end of June and currently three designs have been provided. The bus tour planning endeavor is a complicated venture and may end up requiring a greater amount of planning; days could come to 10 hours, bathroom breaks and meals would have to be worked into the schedule and tickets will cost \$45 per person per day for a bus that can hold up to 30 people. The biggest concern that arose was that the bus cannot get to all studios, which may cause upset among artists. Another issue is in the number of people on the bus all showing up at a studio at one time. Many studios cannot handle this sort of rush. The original investment estimate for a 30 person bus, over two weekends, or four 10 hour days, would come to a \$5,200, and to cover such an investment, all tickets must sell.

An alternative plan might be to invest in only one day to see if providing a bus tour ends up working. Another idea might be to use smaller vehicles, which go for an hourly rate. A couple smaller van options came to 15 passenger vans for \$142/hour, and two 14 passenger vans for \$125/hour per van.

The studios involved will only be those capable of dealing with vans or buses. A final plan will have to be developed to include possible rest stops and a lunch stop, and we might only commit to a single day to test this idea.

#### **EVENTS COMMITTEE:**

Director Murphy was unable to attend the meeting and provided a report to Director Knight. Murphy plans on visiting Senior Centers in Orange County and the lower desert cities to drum up interest in groups visiting the high desert during the Open Studio Art Tours. Murphy would like to rent a space for the Sunday arts and crafts festival in Joshua Tree to help share information about OSAT.

#### **ART IN PUBLIC PLACES:**

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **BYLAWS REVIEW:**

A review of the bylaws was made in the attempt to update the document. Any changes to the bylaws that are deemed important will be added as amendments appended to the back of the document in order to avoid a complete re-write of the bylaws.

The first proposed change was to Article 4 to include a minimum of 5 Directors and increase the maximum to 12 Directors to represent the current state of the 2017 Board of Directors. A motion to increase the maximum number of directors was made, seconded and passed without dissent.

A proposed amendment to Article 4.3e to include 'electronic communication' was made. A motion to include electronic communication to the methods of available contact was made, seconded and passed without dissent.

An amendment to Article 4.4 to stagger Director Retirement was *discussed*; it had been agreed to increase the office commitment to two years back in 2016, yet several current members were unaware of the proposed change when accepting the position. No changes will be made to the term membership at this time. A proposed amendment to Article 4.8 to change annual meeting dates from June to January to coincide with fiscal year changeover was made. A motion to change the June date to a January date was made, seconded, and passed without dissent.

A proposed amendment to Article 4.10 to include confirmed electronic communication as a means of notification of meeting changes was made. A motion to include 'confirmed' electronic communication to the methods of available contact was made, seconded and passed without dissent.

Discussion of the removal of chairperson from Article 4.15 was suggested, since there is no such position being filled currently, but the decision was to leave the paragraph unchanged as it includes the caveat of a president acting as chairperson when no such position is filled.

Clarification was made through discussion of Article 4.16, Action by unanimous Written Consent without a meeting. After consideration, a motion to require the Secretary to print any decisions made through email discussion amongst Board Directors, and append the document to the monthly minutes, was made, seconded, and passed without dissent (**Action Item**).

The Secretary and President will write up the amendments and provide them to the Board at the next meeting for review.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Geiger suggested changing Gallery 62's Sunday gallery hours to coincide with the Joshua Tree craft fair. This idea will be postponed until fall when the fair starts up anew, as they plan on taking a summer break.

The creation and support of a Soup Bowls event was suggested where potters will donate bowls, bread makers will donate loaves of bread and soup makers will donate soup, to support non-profit charities. At such an event, individuals will purchase a bowl for \$15.00 and then collect their meal. A nonprofit organization has to run the event to manage the proceedings; to provide volunteer bowl makers with certificates covering the wholesale value of the donated materials, to provide the volunteer soup and bread makers with comparable certifications of their time donated which can be noted on their taxes. A committee has been formed. Currently the committee consists of four individuals; Ed Keesling, Thomas and Amara from MazAmar Art Pottery, and Gretchen Grunt. Co-Director Kand volunteered to help with providing soup. Three locations were suggested to hold the event; Yucca Valley Senior Center,

Center for Healthy Generations, and the Soundstage at Pioneertown. Insurance is required for the Senior Center; however we will receive a 75% waiver on the purchase of insurance to cover the location so it should only cost \$100 for using the facility and \$100 for insurance, purchased through Town of Yucca Valley. The Center for Healthy Generations can cover the insurance and would like a classes taught to the seniors at some point in the future. The Pioneertown Soundstage would require supplying tables, chairs, porta-potties and any other amenities that might be needed. A motion to officially form the committee and serve this event as the non-profit organization was made, seconded and passed without dissent.

Joshua Tree Art Expo, held at the 29 Palms Art Gallery during the weekend of September 16<sup>th</sup>, is looking for art demonstrators to volunteer for providing art exercises and art-creation examples throughout the day. The Art Expo has offered a free booth to each participating art group. A motion to accept the proposal was made, seconded, and passed without dissent. MBCAC will need a few volunteers to demonstrate an art medium. A demonstration of Pin Hole camera exposures might be a possibility; watercolor demonstrations could fit into a demonstration format; Sumi painting on rice paper too might be a fun demo. Chaparral Artists will be providing a kids table.

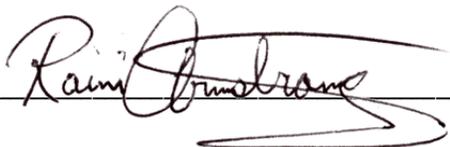
**GUEST COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on June 12, 2017, at 6:00 PM in the Healthy Generations meeting room, 57121 Sunnyslope Dr., Yucca Valley, CA 92284.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:55 PM.

These Minutes are certified by the Secretary.

Signature  Date 7/14/2017