

**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 **December 9, 2015**, at Gallery 62, 61871 Highway 62, Joshua Tree, CA 92252.

The meeting was called to order by President Klopfenstein at 5:03 PM.

Board Members Present: Paul Klopfenstein (President/Chair), Valerie Davis (Vice President), Patricia Knight (Membership Director), Lenne Rosen-Kabe (Secretary), Marcia Geiger (Treasurer), Alita VanVliet (Art Tours Director), Anne Beattie (Member Events Director), Scott Doten (Communications Director).

Others present: Kathi Klopfenstein (Art Tours Registrar), Penelope Benson-Wright (MBCAC member)

QUORUM was established.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President indicated that there would be a closed Board meeting immediately following the public portion of the meeting to discuss personnel matters.

Klopfenstein stated that Pamela Price of the Hi-Desert Star Weekly had sent a copy of an article written after the Art Tours. He contacted her to see if the MBCAC can place an ad prior to next year's Art Tours.

He went on to mention that the combinations of the cypher locks on the dumpsters behind the premises had been changed and provided Board members with the new codes. Discussion regarding the remaining 2015 Art Tours posters, catalogs, and banners ensued. They should be returned so that these items could be counted and stored in the

Corporation's storage unit for future use. He again raised the need to send information regarding Art in Public Places and other shows to Membership Director Patricia Knight so that she is able to include relevant information in the monthly Newsflash electronic publication.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

No formal report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Minutes of the November 11, 2015 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 November minutes as amended was seconded and carried without dissent. The Secretary will email the approved and signed Minutes to Communications Director Doten for posting to the MBCAC.org website (under Board Minutes.)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Geiger handed out a monthly treasurer's report for the month ending November 20, 2015, incorporated herein by reference. The beginning balance for the month of November 2015, was reported as \$20,367.74, with a reconciled bank balance after income and expenses at \$20,650.61.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Knight provided a written report, incorporated herein by reference. As of December 9, 2015, active membership stands at 229, 51 have lapsed, 52 renewals are overdue, with 1 renewal and 1 new membership sponsor since the last Board meeting. It was suggested that the sponsorship should be listed in the January 2016 Newsflash with an application deadline, **ACTION ITEM**. Emails are being sent out 2 weeks ahead of expiration date, one week before, and on the day of expiration. Knight indicated that she is working on a tutorial to be included in the membership page of the MBCAC.org site, comprising 15 pages thus far dealing with member profiles, including screenshots. The tutorial will be included in the "welcome email" to new members and in the Newsflash.

The issue of alphabetizing of the members in the Wild Apricot membership application was brought up, and Knight will look into it and report, **ACTION ITEM.**

Director Knight echoed the President's request for input from the Board and membership in order to continue publishing the Newsflash.

The coordinators of Art in Public Places should contact her regarding upcoming shows so that she can publicize them in the Newsflash.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Doten reported that currently the Hwy 62 Art Tours Facebook group page membership stands at 1381 members. He continues to update the artwork on the MBCAC home page's carousel of images, and is successfully uploading the monthly Board meeting minutes to the MBCAC.org website.

Doten indicated that he has been unable to upload images to the Gallery 62 page. Art Tours Director VanVliet has been taking care of this, and he will check on it again, **ACTION ITEM.**

MARKETING:

The President reported that MBCAC member Janis Commentz does marketing for Gallery 62. He suggested taking pictures during gallery openings and sending them to her and Leslie Shaw, managing editor of the Hi-Desert Star and supporter of the arts.

GALLERY 62 REPORT:

The Gallery transitioned from a Director to a committee this month, with positions remaining to be filled. The December 2015 group show was organized by a committee led by Penelope Benson-Wright. The show, titled Seasonal Sensations, was installed with the help of Alita VanVliet, Bonnie Brady, Esther Shaw, Janis Commentz, Anne Beattie, Ed Keesling, and Lenne Rosen-Kabe. The show consisted of small works by several MBCAC artists, with pricing held to under \$100.00 in order to make artworks more accessible to holiday shoppers.

Mike Shaw has agreed to do the accounting after each weekend of gallery shows.

Benson-Wright is presently the coordinator of the Gallery group. She has assumed responsibility for the January 2016 show, which will be structured around clay as a cohesive theme. She has contacted local

pottery and clay artists. The fee structure remains to be worked out. Registrar Klopfenstein offered to come up with a title for the show.

Improvements to the premises were discussed. Moving the evaporative cooler from its present location on the east wall of the gallery to the back room in order to create more wall space was proposed. Covering the new wall space with OSB (oriented strand board) was considered, as well as finding a volunteer electrician to move/replace current lighting. The February 2016 show was discussed, and Rosen-Kabe indicated that she had been contacted by MBCAC artist Hiroko Momii regarding her participation in an all-abstract show during that month. Membership Director Knight indicated she would be available to help create a poster for the show.

The telephone situation in the Gallery was addressed. There currently is a Track phone in the back office, however, it is not being monitored for messages. An outgoing message was suggested to that effect, with a suggestion to instead contact the MBCAC through the website. The feasibility of forwarding calls to the website was brought up. Discussion tabled.

ART TOURS COMMITTEE:

Art Tours Director VanVliet indicated that she will act as consultant to the 2016 Art Tours committees which will begin their activities early in the new year. She will at that point also turn over the materials that she has compiled during her two years as Art Tours Director.

She provided a suggested announcement for the December Newsflash for a new Art Tours Director, listing the responsibilities, duration, desirable skills and experience. The deadline for applications was set for December 31, 2015.

EXHIBITIONS/ART IN PUBLIC PLACES:

Vice President Davis reported that she had secured exhibition space in the Las Palmas Mexican restaurant in Yucca Valley. It is a popular local restaurant which also placed an ad in the 2015 Art Tours catalog. The first showing will be in January, 2016, with the owners agreeing to handle any sales and keeping 15%. Signage in the form of banners or posters for the restaurant was discussed next, tabled for future discussion. VanVliet proposed a monthly budget for entertainment

during gallery openings, and it was agreed that the Gallery committee should bring recommendations to the Board for approval, **ACTION ITEM.**

Other ideas, such as publishing a list of venues on the MBCAC.org website and in the Newsflash was recommended, including names of artists, dates, and locations.

OLD BUSINESS:

The President reminded the Board that those members resigning at year's end needed to turn in a written letter of resignation, per the Corporation's bylaws. Art Tours Director VanVliet handed in her written resignation.

NEW BUSINESS:

The President distributed an email received from Breanne Thomas, the Exhibits Coordinator for the 29 Palms Inn. She requested that the MBCAC cover the costs of mailing, artist consignment forms, and artwork tags. Discussion ensued, and Treasurer Geiger suggested that Thomas be given a box with supplies, including postage. Director Knight offered to design cards to be used next to the pieces displayed, and the Treasurer will pick up envelopes and stamps. VP Davis offered to drop off forms, **ACTION ITEM.**

Director Knight also offered to design generic banners for the Art in Public Places locations, **ACTION ITEM.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was followed by a brief closed meeting to discuss personnel related matters.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 5:00 at Gallery 62, 61871 Highway 62, Joshua Tree, CA 92252, unless, due to the nature of the January show at the Gallery it becomes necessary to move the location of the meeting. Board members and others will be notified of the new location, if any.

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 7:01 PM.

These Minutes are certified by the Secretary.

Signature *Lenne Rosen-Kabe* Date January 13, 2016