

**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 11, 2017**, at the Center for Healthy Generations, Yucca Valley, CA.

A social gathering was planned and held between 5:00 PM and 5:45 PM before the official meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Klopfenstein at 5:46 PM.

**Board Members Present:** Paul Klopfenstein (President), Ed Keesling (President-elect), Valerie Davis (Vice President), Marcia Geiger (Treasurer, Vice President-elect), Lenne Rosen-Kabe (Secretary), Raini Armstrong (Secretary-elect), Mike Shaw (Treasurer-elect), Patricia Knight (Membership/OSAT Director), Julianne Koza (Membership Director-elect), Scott Doten (Communications), Esther Shaw (Gallery 62 co-Director-elect), Zara Kand (Gallery 62 co-Director-elect), Karan Murphy (Marketing-elect), Anne Beattie (Events Director), Laurie Schafer (Events Director-elect).

**Others present:** Penelope Benson-Wright, Bonnie Brady, Sharon Davis, Jean-Paul Garnier, Jimbo Gimson, Jeri Hudson, Cheryl Kandel, Kathi Klopfenstein, John Michaelson, Paul Morehead, Rebecca Unger, and Penny Morehead.

**Not present:** Janis Commentz (Gallery 62 Director)

**QUORUM** was established.

**DIRECTORS' REPORTS:**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Klopfenstein expressed his satisfaction with the many accomplishments that the group has had over the years during his term. He reminded the attendees of the aid received from non-board members, highlighting the fact that so many people have volunteered their time in a number of jobs. He thanked the retiring directors and opened the stage to each outgoing member to share their final reports, introduce their replacements, or share their good wishes to the next board.

**VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

Davis explained what her primary duty as vice-president entailed, expressing the position as being a facilitator and board leader when the president is unable to attend a meeting. No further business was reported.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT:**

Rosen-Kabe introduced her replacement, Armstrong, before directing those interested to the board minutes stored on the website. She explained why she became a member of the organization (MBCAC) and when she became secretary in 2014. She expressed her support in the turnover of directors, as it allows for the fostering of new ideas within any organization.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Geiger introduced her replacement, Mike Shaw, and briefly summarized the duties of Treasurer; tracking of the organization’s mail, sorting bills, delivering checks to the bookkeeper, and providing financial reports. She handed out the monthly treasurer’s report for the month ending on December 31, 2016 incorporated herein by reference and the annual treasurer’s report spanning January through December, 2016. The corporation remains solvent.

The beginning balance for December, 2016 was \$24,429.28, with total deposits of \$1,863.73, total expenses of \$5,494.82, for a bank balance at month’s end of \$23,995.23 after a net loss of \$-3,631.09.

Treasurer Geiger summarized the annual report, rather than the monthly report, and explained how it is divided into the corporation’s various sub-sections. Total Gross Profit for the year was \$70,386.40. This includes profits from Exhibits at \$2,914.83, Gallery 62 at 12,701.21, Arts Council at

\$10,460.68, and OSAT/Art Tours at \$44,309.68. The Art Council profit is primarily due to membership fees. Total Expenditures for the year was \$70,744.93. Expenditures for Exhibits at \$2,348.60, Gallery 62 at \$12,485.34, Arts Council at \$15,890.86, and OSAT/Art Tours at \$40,020.13. A clarification was preemptively added, before Net Revenue was explained, that each of the groups' activities fall under the Arts Council, which pays the rent and utilities, so its revenue could reflect more of a loss than any other group. Total Net Revenue for the year was -\$358.53. Net Revenue from Exhibits at \$566.23, Gallery 62 at \$214.87, Arts Council at -\$5,430.18, and OSAT/Art Tours at \$4,289.55.

Rosen-Kabe mentioned the Minutes of the December 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 December minutes as amended was made, seconded, and carried without dissent. Rosen-Kabe will post the approved and signed minutes to the MBCAC website under Board Minutes.

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Knight introduced Koza as her replacement, leading into her report on membership currently at 242 active members. Last year's lowest membership came to 222 in January and 258 before Art Tours. This fluctuation is a normal occurrence. To help maintain active membership through December 2016, an e-mail blast was sent out which helped to keep membership up through the typically declining months after the Open Studio Art Tours.

Klopfenstein officially greeted two past board presidents within the audience.

**COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Doten explained how his roles within the MBCAC group have changed over time, and how his role as communications director allows him to work in many ways with the group. He reported that the corporation has 1871 members on the MBCAC Facebook group page currently.

**GALLERY 62 REPORT:**

Commentz was absent but provided a letter to be read aloud. Read by Klopfenstein, she announced that Esther Shaw and Zara Kand would be co-directing and Jeffrey Turner would be a leader on the gallery team. The first Gallery Committee meeting of 2017, held on January 9, was attended by 14 people. Many successes were shared with the attendees including opening at a new location, initiating intake fees and policies to help pay rent, offering art internships for Copper Mountain College, setting display standards, introducing new artists to the gallery, and providing a bookshelf for art books authored by MBCAC members.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE:**

Keesling explained that his focus over the years has primarily been in the field of art education. He explained the importance of celebrating a Youth Art Month, a once nationally acclaimed focus on youth in the arts that has, unfortunately, declined in attention over the last five years. MBCAC is organizing their support of this endeavor by hosting a youth art show at Gallery 62 in February to help draw more attention to assuring art continues to have a place among the youth. This will be a sponsored show, to help cover the costs of the gallery, and sponsors are still being sought out among MBCAC members as well as businesses in the Morongo Basin.

**EVENTS COMMITTEE:**

Beattie conveyed her thanks to all members that have helped the organization grow. A standing ovation was given to her for her many years of support.

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

Director Knight updated everyone on the number of artist participants in the 2016 Art Tours. 142 artists participated, the same as in 2015. Catalog design for 2016 saw a change in organization by the weekend to make perusal easier. The map was completely recreated by the graphics designer because the formatting of existing maps was unreadable, in their opinion. The new map can be used as a template for the years to come and is easily update-able. The catalog received positive feedback. The sales committee did a great job selling advertisement spots in the catalog, surpassing previous year by over 20, adding to OSAT's budget. Guest sign in sheets are

being digitized. Volunteers needed to help input the e-mail addresses to create a mailing list, **ACTION ITEM**. Surveys were sent out to the artists that participated in the 2016 Art Tours and about a third responded with feedback and suggestions. Results will be taken to the OSAT committee. Their first meeting of the year will be on January 17. Results will also be posted on the website, **ACTION ITEM**.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The meeting was turned over to Ed Keesling at 6:17 PM. Keesling introduced the new members of the board. Ed Keesling as President, Marcia Geiger as Vice President, Raini Armstrong as Secretary, Mike Shaw as Treasurer, Scott Doten is staying on as Communications Director, Patricia Knight as OSAT Director, Esther Shaw & Zara Kand as Gallery 62 co-Directors, Karan Murphy as Marketing Director, Julianne Koza as Membership Director, and Laurie Schafer as Events Director.

Keesling announced the Youth Art Show at Gallery 62 for the month of February. Intake and reception dates were provided.

Knight announced the OSAT meeting schedule on the first Tuesday of every month.

Davis asked for volunteers for Art in Public Places. Davis is looking to increase the number of art venues available, but she will first need additional members to manage any new venues. She is also looking for more artists that wish to show their work at these public venues.

Knight announced the upcoming art show opportunity at the Southwest Art Show in Indio, CA. She is in the process of coming up with a list of attendees from the artists that responded to an email blast announcing the event. Those artists chosen will display a single piece on one of the four days available.

Geiger will remain as administrator of e-mail addresses and reminded board members to use their MBCAC e-mail address as each position comes with one. Checking Account signers will have to be changed accordingly as soon as possible, **ACTION ITEM**.

Keesling announced the inclusion of a guest comments segment of time at the end of each meeting to encourage member participation. Each commenter will be able to suggest interests, make suggestions, and/or share criticisms. The board wants to be responsive to its member's needs. Notes will be taken during the comments segment, but the board will not respond to anything said until the next meeting if/when the suggestion requires attention and response.

**GUEST COMMENTS:**

One member brought up the idea of public transportation getting involved during the Open Studio Art Tours in some way. The Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce might also be interested in being a venue for Art In Public Places.

Another member thanked the previous board members for their time and effort in creating a solid foundation. Support and well-wishes were offered to the new board members.

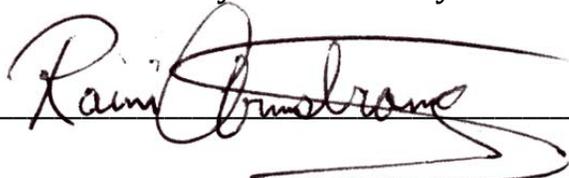
Another member shared an observation that many artists undervalue their work. The advice was to remember to increase your prices, as it is imperative to value your work. This idea was seconded by a couple members.

**NEXT MEETING:**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on February 8, 2017, at 5:00 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 6:32 PM.

These Minutes are certified by the Secretary.

Signature  Date 2/9/2017