

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 **March 5, 2020**, at Gallery 62, Joshua Tree, CA.

The meeting was called to order by President Marcia Geiger at 5:08 PM.

Board Members Present: Marcia Geiger (President), Ed Keesling (Past President), Raini Armstrong (Secretary), Sherri Sullivan (AIPP Director), Mitch Miller (Registrar, Membership Director), Julianne Koza (Chaparral Artists Representative)

Others present: Aimee Buyea (Galleries Director)

Not present: Karan Murphy (Vice President), John Henson (Treasurer), Bill Green (Communication Director, Art Tours Director)

QUORUM was established.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

MBCAC is still in the process of moving to Chase for their banking needs. Bill, Aimee, John, and Marcia are signers on the account who have debit cards. MBCAC will close the account with Bank of America once all linked devices are properly disconnected; this will take a month or two. Buyea will take over choosing the Square POS station. Research must be done due to the cost ranging anywhere between \$200-\$800 per station. She would like to attempt integrating a cash sale element into the square. Keesling recommended that Marcia or Aimee contact Darlene Morris since she set up the 29 Palms Art Gallery Square POS. Aimee would like to integrate inventory elements through the Square system as well. Gallery 62 is the focus right now. JTAG already has a Square POS device but will be upgraded to use the chip reader.

Geiger has successfully gone through the first phase of the US Bank grant. She will share the result at the next meeting. **[Action Item]** Geiger had applied for \$8,000 to cover any extra hours that Buyea works for the Galleries. The rest of the money would support the cost of shows that might not make enough to cover rent and utilities.

President Geiger reminded the attending Board members to sign the contract that applies to their position as well as sign the MBCAC Board Directors agreement. Sullivan has signed hers digitally.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Karan Murphy was unable to attend. No report given.

PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Keesling announced the 29 Palms Grubstake’s day on May 23rd, and recommends that MBCAC register to represent itself in the parade. The entry fee is \$30. Costumes will be required, which could be a fun opportunity to dress up as artists throughout history. Costume suggestions included Picasso, Michelangelo, Ansel Adams, Andy Warhol, and Grandma Moses. A small committee would be needed to come up with an artistic theme to celebrate the Open Studio Art Tours. Keesling made the motion to

apply to the Grubstakes Days for \$30, sharing that he would lead the committee. The motion was seconded, and it passed without dissent. Aimee Buyea suggested that MBCAC announce the event on the newsflash, asking for volunteers.

Keesling asked that MBCAC consider donating a registration package for the 2020 Art Tours to support the upcoming 29 Palms Art Gallery auction. The package would provide a 50% off Art Tour Registration voucher and a 50% off photo session voucher. The motion was made, seconded, and passed without dissent.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Minutes of the January and February 2020 meetings were shared with the Board for review via digital communication. Sullivan shared that she had not received the February report and Armstrong will check on what might have caused this. Corrections and suggestions were requested and incorporated. An email poll will be shared to help streamline the acceptance process of the January and February minutes. The Secretary will post the approved and signed minutes to the MBCAC website under Board Minutes if/when they have been processed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Henson was unable to attend. President Geiger provided a report.

Buyea shared that Gallery 62 is setting up the next show. \$640 in fees have already been received. During the month of January, Gallery 62 received \$680. Buyea reminded the Board of the expenses for Gallery 62 and JTAG, both coming in at about \$920 for Gallery 62 and \$970 for JTAG.

The beginning balance in February 2020 with Bank of America was \$41,724, with total deposits of \$59 and expenses of \$7,040. The bank balance at the end of February was \$34,743.

The beginning balance in February 2020 with Chase was \$255, with total deposits of \$3,446 and expenses of \$467. The bank balance at the end of February was \$3,234.

The corporation remains solvent.

OSAT (Open Studio Art Tours):

Director Green was unable to attend. President Geiger provided a report.

Director Murphy has already begun selling sponsorship ads. Registration is underway. Four catalog concepts were shared with the Board, and Green needs all comments to be emailed to him. He needs all responses – positive, negative, or indifferent; he must hear from all Board members to move forward with the catalog designs creation process.

Attending Directors shared the concern about items looking washed out, some didn't like the fonts used or the overly eclectic feel of others. The catalog must motivate out-of-towners to visit the Morongo Basin, something that draws people to the art studios of this desert.

Directors were reminded that they must be brutally honest. That silence doesn't typically convey disapproval but rather indifference and ultimately approval.

Eighteen people have already registered for 2020 Art Tours. At the same time, in 2019, only 14 were

recorded, so that is an improvement. Five artists have opted to show their work during the May Collective show and the October Collective show. Five artists opted to show during October only. One opted to show during May only. Seven will not participate in any Collective show.

Buyea asked if artists can ask MBCAC to photograph their art if they are not registering to be in the Art Tours. Miller shared that this will not be possible, but that MBCAC artists could attend the workshops on how to photograph their work.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Green was unable to attend. Green is looking for someone to take over the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Membership is at 332 active members, 17 members are overdue on their membership, 8 have lapsed and 7 new members have signed up in the last thirty days. Miller shared his archiving process with the Board.

GALLERIES DIRECTOR REPORT:

Director Buyea provided an update on the Gallery Cleaner position and the Bar Hosting position. Gale did not accept the Gallery Cleaner position, so the search continues. The position pays \$75 per month, and includes the cleaning of both galleries once per month shortly after intake, on a Thursday or Friday.

Buyea purchased a desk with storage trays and has reorganized tools and paper.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES:

The grant writer Sullivan knows shared that she is moving out of the area, so this will not be an option. The Pie for the People venue is doing well. They have rotated through ten managers in the past year, so Sullivan hopes that the newest manager will be cooperative. She was able to speak with the new manager and doesn't foresee any trouble.

29 Palms Inn is not happy with the hanging system that MBCAC invested in. Art leans forward if it is heavy, and when many art pieces are hung on the same line. Using large amounts of sticky material only works for a short time. Sullivan is looking into the Walker system that provides rail and clamps to hang art. This option might work better for the 29 Palms Inn Restaurant venue.

Sullivan asked if the cost of the current hanging system was split equally. Armstrong thought that MBCAC purchased all the equipment and that the restaurant paid for installation. She will provide an answer to this question when she locates the purchase information. [**Action Item**]

If people wish to get placed on a list of artists interested in showing at any of the Art in Public Places venues, artists can visit the website at <http://www.mbcac.org/art-in-public-places/>

OLD BUSINESS:

A proposed sign layout was provided to the Board via digital communication. A motion was made to approve the purchase of two signs, to be installed on the wall of the building in front of two spaces, the left-most spaces or two west spaces behind the building, closest to the driveway. The motion seconded and passed without dissent.

NEW BUSINESS:

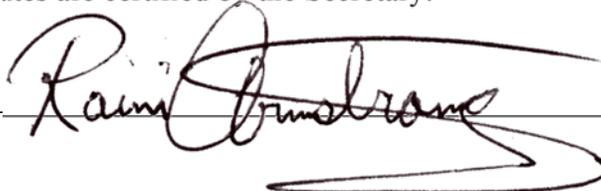
GUEST COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on April 2, 2020, 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 5:54 PM.

These Minutes are certified by the Secretary.

Signature  Date May 7, 2020