



DVAA Board Meeting
November 11, 2021

Board Members Attending: Jeff A., Dan H., Ken S., Hester G., Chris C., Jean K., Dwayne B., Sean H., Meagan G., Robin D., Mary Sue P.,

Also attending: Executive Director Ariel Shanberg

6:31 pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome:

Dan reminded all that the meeting coincided with Veterans Day, a day to give thanks to those who have served and are serving in the military. It was noted that Ken Sable served in the Army.

Approval of Minutes:

Amended to fix a spelling mistake. Motion to approve made by Hester Greene. Chris Crowthers 2nd the motion. Motion approved

Director's Report:

- Art in Sixes is coming. Artists in the show will be communicated with; opening weekend schedule on Calendly. Now at 140 artists and 440 pieces. This is a drop from last year and current peak in 2019. Extending galleries hours on Wed., staying open till 6pm on Fri and Sat.
- Signe Ballew is new gallery manager and is taking quickly to task at hand.
- Candidates being considered for Communications Manager – waiting on Marketing Committee's recommendations before hiring.
- Membership is rebounding—has been slipping. Can now send scheduled emails—month prior, two weeks prior, and month after will get reminder,
- NYSCA Capital Projects—application deadline in two months. We are eligible for a flat \$10,000 request. Equipment purchases must be part of a “system”.
- Fundraising—end of year appeal is in development,
- Statewide Community Re-grants Agencies and NYS Arts Convening —Ariel attended representing DVAA.
- Performing Arts—working with facilities on getting air blower test for Tusten; working with town and Stephen Stuart for air exchange.
 - Lady Bug Quartet discussions—putting together a holiday show—Saturday the 18th and a matinee
 - Winter Salon in February
- Launched 2022 Grant Cycle—new Grants Manager looking to know community and doing well. Two day a week schedule—really needed another to connect with the community. Thank you for supporting in the budget this possibility.

Three grants programs:

1. Restart NYS - for live performances and in-person, can support past performances—July 1st 2021 through June 30, 2022 programs. A good portion has to go to artists fees.
2. Community Arts Grant—pool of \$25,000 because we had a 2021 grantees not accept awarded funds.
3. Individual Artist fellowships in Visual and Literary Arts.

Board members cannot serve on panels, but they can observe and take minutes.

- Matt and Ariel met with Oriel Danielson—continuing library of documenting artists. DIGIT started this project. 24 artists were documented. Elaine Giguere will help develop a list.
- Focus groups have come to DVAA with renewed energy—Conrad, Gleber and Gail Rabini and Matt Littke are energized to be involved. They are very interested in starting an educational workshop for young people involved with storytelling. They are working on a proposal.
- As we get ready to reopen Tusten—O’So Fabuloso—rehearsal in the Tusten—in exchange—they are going to bring the NYC show to the Tusten possibly in June next year. Wanted to test out how much heat we lose to have the event.
- Kevin (Piano guy) proposed solo shows and residency at the Tusten and a fledgling idea of a jazz event. Now have the opportunity to program the Tusten in 2022 in the summer, utilizing a critical mass of talent in the area.

Capital Committee Report:

Jean—Whole issue of staying in the building or not. Can we share the results of the focus groups ahead of the Strategic Planning meeting.

2022 Board Retreat:

What is weekend availability for board members for January? This will go out from Dan.

Committee Reports

Advocacy—nothing to report

Board Development—need members with fiscal and facilities experience

Facilities—No meeting. Sean did some work at the Tusten. General maintenance only.

Fundraising—report is in the packet. These days it’s an exciting group...great ideas.

- Chris’ dance party...need to work on taking pledges
- Ariel working on end of the year appeal
- Melanie Henley-Hinde will perform for us.

Program Committee—

- Positive Big Eddy
- Live Holiday Music on the balcony
- Creating relationship with House of Year
- New version of Landscape—what is the reach of the old Artsletter... To members, through libraries, through businesses, and through business supporters. It will be in a new format and could be a boost for membership.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

1. Morgan Puett has approached DVAA to become the fiscal sponsor for Mildred's Lane/Mildred's Complexity until she gets her 501(c)3. In return DVAA to receive 6% admin fee. She's very interested in bringing arts to the region. Following discussion, the Board requests clarification on the scope and duration of the project and additional information be provided. Shanberg agrees to report back to the board.
2. Ariel wants to propose a Holiday Drive focused on gathering Art Making Supplies (visual arts, music, etc.) —would provide a positive effort to addressing wellness through art making. Need to put it out—market it—We would have a designated partner and S.A.L.T. would be the obvious partner. Does any board member want to work with Ariel on this? Dan—this will help us stand apart from others.

Motion to Adjourn at 8 p.m.

Submitted by Jeff Allison on 11/11/21