Main Line Art Center
Minutes of board meeting
Tuesday, February 19, 2019 (rescheduled due to weather from February 12)
5:30 to 7:30 pm
Center Gallery

Present were board members Jim Dugan, Sharon Bartmann, Alex Hanevich, Anizia Karmazyn, Michael Rosenthal, Anne Umbrecht, Natalie Wetzel and David Winigrad and by phone Dr. Ayanna Kelsey-McMullen and Julie Lange. Also present were ED Thomas Scurto-Davis, Communications Director Lisa Getz, Studio Coordinator Collin Cousart and Exhibitions Assistant Paige Cherrington.

Board president Jim Dugan called the meeting to order. The presence of a quorum having been noted and after discussion and motions duly made and seconded, the board unanimously approved (1) the minutes of the board meetings of December 11, 2018, January 3, 2019 and January 23, 2019; (2) the filing of the MLAC 2017 Form 990 for the taxable year ended August 31, 2018 as drafted and presented to the board at the meeting for review; and (3) the audited financial statements for FYE 2017 and 2018.

The meeting then proceeded in accordance with its published agenda. Items of note:

The board and staff expressed appreciation for the generous contribution of board treasurer David Winigrad's family in support of the planned Etta Winigrad Retrospective to be held in fall 2019, which Thomas Scurto-Davis described in some detail.

In connection with discussion of the Center's strong financial position, as reflected in the financial statements presented to the board, Thomas explained that he has established a Scholarship Committee comprised of staff members and currently consisting of Collin, Lisa and Education Director Ariel Edwards to consider applications for scholarship assistance. This represents a change from prior practice under which the former ED made all such decisions unilaterally. Point persons Lisa and Collin would welcome the board's help to identify individuals or groups that could be encouraged to apply for scholarships. To that end, Lisa will send the board the scholarship application form.

Jim noted that the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) met for the first time on Monday, February 11 and that the process is going well. Our strategic planning consultant Joe Kluger is in the process of interviewing about 60 individuals representing various stakeholder groups, including including board members. Board members should be on the lookout for emails about scheduling interviews. The full board is encouraged to join the SPC, staff and other stakeholders at a special strategic planning retreat on Monday, April 1 from 8 am to 1 pm. Board action on the strategic plan will be considered at the regularly-scheduled board meetings on June 4 and July 23.

Supplementing his previously distributed ED report, Thomas noted that planning for the Art in Action event on May 4 is going well. The event will be free and open to the public and will feature a silent auction, art sales and an on-line giving campaign. Corporate support has been strong, but additional sponsors would be welcome. Thomas proposed that Lisa develop an elevator pitch for board members to use to generate interest in the Center.

Collin explained the value in having board members greet evening class students at the start of the spring session, especially Discovery Class students, and distributed a sign-up sheet. Board members are encouraged to contact Collin at ccousart@mainlineart.org to sign up. The commitment is modest and the payoff great.

Jim brought us up to date on the status of the sinkhole problem. In brief, a consultant was engaged to help diagnose the problem and Jim is currently looking for a civil engineer to weigh in. The fix might be less costly than feared, but that remains to be seen. Stay tuned.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Umbrecht