

PLANTATION ARTISTS' GUILD & GALLERY MEMBER MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 12, 2021

Members and Standing Committee Chairs Present: Depy Adams, Noelle Almond, Deb Ahern, Nancy Bartmess, Karen Bowden, Stan Cottle, Sherry Ferber, Ned Flemming, Victoria Germond, Lois Grunder, Dick Hamilton, Susan Hitchcock, Barbara Hopkins, Cindy Jenkins, Trish Jones, Janet Kolar, Vickie Maley, Rebecca McDannold, Ed Mosher, Brenda Price, Gary Rubin, Jeanne Tennyson, Karen Trowbridge,

Call to Order: President Sherry Ferber called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm and presented the agenda.

Officer Reports

Secretary: Vickie Maley: Karen Bowden moved to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2021, quarterly member meeting. Ed seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

1st Vice President: Karen Bowden:

2020: A look Back Project Update: Karen, Barbara Hopkins and several members from the Art Lovers group spearheaded the project which successfully portrayed the year 2020 in the community and raised more than \$3,500 for Arts Alive! It is currently showing at the Nassau County Council On Aging building for this month. Next month it will show in the Nassau County Library, Fernandina Branch with an interactive presentation the library is creating.

She summarized other successful events this year. PAGG has hung four shows this year. The reception for the last one, show fifty-one is October 15, 2021. It is the second reception held this year due to COVID. She encouraged everyone to attend and invite friends and family. The Osprey Village, senior living and assisted living community, will provide refreshments.

Several successful porch shows were held this year scheduled in conjunction with Second Saturday Arttrageous Artwalk events or spotlights for the Corner Show artists.

There were two Newcomers painting classes taught by Ed Mosher which brought in thirty new people to visit the gallery. There were four shell decoupage workshops with a total of forty people attending. A gallery painting was sold at one of those events.

The gallery hung art in the Amelia Community Theater lobby for one of their shows resulting in a sale.

Karen updated the news about the renovation timelines. The Omni has completed construction documents and is submitting them for permitting this week. Permitting may range anywhere from 45 to 120 days to complete. Project managers will be in communication well in advance of any construction beginning in the gallery.

Storage Room Clean Up: In anticipation of the construction, Karen asked for a committee to volunteer to complete the concerns listed at September's board meeting:

- Clean out back closet and back room to create storage - to sort out what we have, what we keep and need to make room for and what we need to remove from the gallery.
- Determine how to reconfigure our space to meet all our needs. This will be used to negotiate with Omni during the construction phase

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She scheduled a clean- up day for October 19, 2021, at 2:30. Interested persons should contact her.

Karen notified everyone that a new contract was available for review and signature by exhibiting members, They are due no later than November 1, 2021, along with a \$150 check for dues. She pointed out changes including a checklist for what members want from the gallery, what can the artist do for the gallery and a list of responsibilities each member must fulfill to be considered a member in good standing. Each statement should be initialed individually.

She announced that the committee sign-up sheet will be in the back office for people to choose the committees on which they would like to work as they sign their contracts. The deadline is November 1 after which time people will be assigned a committee and expected to work.

2nd Vice President: Ed Mosher

Ed is working with Cindy on a new method of budgeting for and procuring supplies.

He reported that the outside venues schedule is as follows with more information to be forthcoming:

- ALEX Suites: Next rehang is October 26, 2021
- Osprey: Sometime during the first two weeks of November
- Real Estate Office: Ned stated that rehangs would be needed for the Real Estate Office. He will disseminate information when available.

He stated that the Ken Keeley corner show reception was held with low attendance. MS. Keeley furnished the refreshments and Karen Bowden furnished the wine. Ken Keeley is a New York artist known for his New York News art. His paintings sell in the \$10,000-15,000 range. His widow has discounted the paintings by as much as \$10,000 for sale in the gallery.

Treasurer: Cindy Jenkins: Cindy reported that while there is some progress in mistakes being made at the front desk, they are still an issue. Karen noted that repeat offenders will be asked to meet with a board member for teaching. There are two major types of mistakes:

- Mathematical ones – math errors, failure to apply sale tax, etc.
- Impact on Fellow Members: Failure to record accurate information, contact artists of sales, contact the technology committee about a sale, distribute correct copies of the receipts, obtain customer information for the artists who try to keep an accurate list of buyers

We had excellent sales this year. January through September 2021 sales totaled over \$90,000 including tax. 2020 sales for the same time period were \$74,000. Sales for September were low at \$5,000 but almost double the amount in 2020 for September which was \$2,815.

Reminder: After trying out a point of sales system which proved inadequate for our needs, we are back to the manual processes for now - with one major change: Do not put cash from cash sales in the manilla envelopes. Leave it in the cash drawer instead. That said, it is imperative that you reconcile the ending cash each day so that it agrees with that day's sales. Either Gary or Cindy will remove excess cash weekly for the bank deposit.

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Standing Committee Reports

Guild Director: Ginger Bender: We have held four shows this year and corner shows each month. We do need a November Corner Show in the next two weeks. Several suggestions were made including hosting a Christmas show by members.

The current show is Show #51: October 11, 2021: Heart of Amelia

Depy Adams: Depy thanked everyone signing up for the calendar and pleaded for people who had not signed up for November and December to do so ASAP. She presented calendars for the remaining months of 2021 for people to sign up. Artists are supposed to sign up **before the first of the month as early as they can the month before**. It is very frustrating trying to contact people to sign up. This is part of our contract. She said some people are not working the gallery. The gallery cannot operate without us!

Hospitality: Brenda Price: Brenda stated that she has worked this year on the receptions and events that were held.

Membership: Rebecca McDannold: Rebecca stated the gallery now has thirty-three members, but not all are working or contributing. She reviewed which members who have resigned this year to include Sandra Hughes, Jim Ratcliff, Ann Stanhope, Marlene Strobach, Deni Karpowich, Diane O'Malley, Barbara Fuller, Diane Chaldares, Emily Gordon, and Louise Mozena. Pam Vieser resigned 2 years ago.

We have one new member Stan Cottle.

She stated we seem to have enough members to cover a month of workers. Contract renewals will help us determine if we need to host a Call for Artists.

Jeanne reported there are 7 or 8 Art Lover members at this time. She has mailed current and former Art Lovers to renew memberships. She left fliers on the front desk for desk workers to distribute to people who express interest in becoming an Art Lover.

Nominating Committee: Shery thanked the board for their work describing how much she enjoyed working with them.

A slate of board officers and standing committee chairs was presented to the members

Board Officers:

President: Victoria Germond
1st VP: Karen Bowden
2nd VP: Ed Mosher
Secretary: Rebecca McDannold
Treasurer: Cindy Jenkins
Guild Director: Nancy Bartmess

Standing Committee Chairs:

Historian: Deb Ahern
Hospitality: Brenda Price
Membership: Vickie Maley
Nominating: VACANT
Omni Liaison: Barbara Hopkins
Publicity: Susan Hitchcock
Technology: Trish Jones

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The membership voted only for Board members per the by-laws. A motion was made by Brenda Price to accept the slate as presented and Noelle Almond seconded the motion. It carried.

Omni Liaison: Gary Rubin:

Sherry thanked Gary for his work on the Oaks

Shows and his assistance with the finance committee to manage the cash box, pay bills, write commission checks and manage the manilla envelopes for daily sales. Gary reported that the next Oaks rehang will be October 31, 2021. Members should send him JPEGs of the work they would like to submit by mid-next week. Gary stated that he needs about six paintings for the Oaks show sized between 18 x 24 and 24 x 36. He reminded everyone that the outside venues we have do provide us with sales and publicity.

Publicity: Susan Hitchcock: Susan stated that we have ads with the News Leader and the Amelia Islander magazine which features the gallery one a year in an article. She also shares information with the Omni Concierge, Amelia Heart, and the Fernandina Observer. The South Island Living Magazine articles will change to feature two artists each month.

Technology Committee: Trish Jones: Trish shared graphics from the past year about the online shop traffic. There were 8,468 site sessions with 3,704 of those as visitors (Not gallery members). The average session lasted 4 minutes and 3 seconds. Total sales from the shop since it was started in May of 2020 were \$12,902.15. The total sales for 2021 to date are \$6,616.

She encouraged everyone to share the news about the gallery via social media. She will be glad to help anyone learn how to use social media to promote the gallery.

Old Business: None

New Business: Barbara Hopkins shared that Internationally known artist, Jill Steenhuis will be at Amelia Island Plantation Chapel on Sunday, October 31, 2021, at the 10:00 a.m. service and again at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

- At the 10:00 a.m. service the artist will be painting during the service in front of the congregation and share her artist's journey of faith at completion.
- At 4:00 p.m. the video, "Painting the Invisible" and a discussion with the artist to follow will be presented free of charge to the public.

Amelia Plantation Chapel is located at 36 Bowman Road on the Omni Amelia Island Resort property.

She also will host a 2-day workshop, fee \$650, on October 31 hosted by the Amelia Island Club as a members only event.

Karen announced that she would be serving cake at the conclusion of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by President Sherry Ferber at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Maley