

MHA EC Meeting 12-15-16

Attendees:

Romie Mizell, Cindy Angelelli, Thea Barbato, Michael (Hutch) Hutchinson (left early),-Lee Madden (arrived late), Sandra Smith, Mary Beth Thomas, Martha Faires

The Mint Hill Arts Executive Committee met on Dec 15, 2016, at 2:00 p.m.

Romie . . .er, no . . . Hutch called the meeting to order and directed us to schedule next month's meeting and approve the minutes.

Next month's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan19, 2017 at 2:00 pm.

The minutes of the meeting of Nov 17, 2016 were approved.

We first discussed items on our agenda.

- Formation of a Nominating Committee. After a discussion about possible candidates for the committee and the practical needs of the committee, we appointed Sandra to the committee and she suggested we ask Suzanne Lederman to help her. Cindy moved that we allow Sandra and Suzanne to find a third member for the committee. The motion was seconded and approved
- Formulation of a plan to sell the unclaimed art that is cluttering up the storage area. We discussed the need to clear the MHA storage space, but also find a suitable resolution for disposing of the art. We determined that the gallery committee will collect the unclaimed work when they meet in January, check the gallery log, report to the EC, and write an email on our Constant Contact account to inform artists that the work will be sold at the intake for the February show.
- Report from the Student Show Committee about preliminary plans (including date) for the Ninth Annual Student Art Show. Mary Beth gave the EC a written summary of the Student Show Committee's plans for the Ninth Annual Student Art Show. She focused her report on the specific problem of "getting high school students to participate in the competition." After consultation with Lorie Rollins at Independence on how to encourage more high school participation, Mary Beth proposed a list of changes that we need to implement.
 1. Hold the show in March rather than in April, which is a particularly busy time for art students and teachers.
 2. Release the art back to the students in time for them to use it for end-of-year purposes.
 3. Schedule intake on weekdays immediately after the end of the school day so students and/or teachers can bring the artwork on their way home from school. [Intake has already been scheduled for 2:30 – 5:30 P.M. Monday, February 27, and Tuesday, February 28.]
 4. Charge no entry fee. [Approved by the Executive Committee by email before this meeting.]
 5. Provide mat board for use by students who enter artwork in the show, but whose schools cannot provide. [mat board provided compliments of the Mizells)

She also said that the committee has a slightly different strategy for getting the word out.

1. Rather than sending packets to a large number of schools, choose certain schools to focus on, including those who have participated previously or are in proximity to Mint Hill.
2. Send an email to the teachers from the selected schools giving them a heads-up on the show and telling the teachers (public schools only) that we will bring them mat board when they tell us how much they estimate that they will need. [This was done on Monday, December 12.]
3. Ask Jennifer to design an eye-catching small poster [draft done; get approval for ten 8.5 x11 color copies.]
4. Early in the spring semester, call the teachers to whom we sent the email to set up an appointment for delivery of: mat board, poster by Jennifer, information sheet, registration form and liability waiver.
5. Visit the selected public high schools to deliver the materials.
6. Send an email packet (poster, information sheet, registration form, liability waiver) to other schools in the metropolitan area.

Homeschoolers may also participate. They will be notified by the MHA Constant Contact email.

Elementary and middle school students will continue to exhibit in the hallway with no prizes given for that age/grade group.

We then discussed some of the problems of hanging student work and the need to make sure students are present for awards.

■ Final decisions on year-end letters asking current sponsors to commit for next year (Sandra).

Sandra read her sample letter to sponsors for 2016. We agreed it was very appropriate as it served to thank and encourage our sponsors. After discussion, we felt that Hutch (Sponsor Chair) should also have his name on the letter with Romie.

■ Soliciting donations from potential new sponsors (Romie and Hutch). Forms and return envelopes will need to be included.

Romie said we already have a letter designed to generate interest in MHA for new sponsors that could be appropriately edited and mailed early in the year. With that letter, we should include a copy of our MHA flyer. He also reviewed information about reaching sponsors, emphasizing that the best contact is a visit and a personal telephone call.

■ Request by Phil DeSano for a daytime portrait-drawing session. Mary Beth requested that the portrait draw agenda be moved to the next meeting. We agreed.

■ Ad for classes for MHTimes— Mary Beth brought a request from Marta that we reimburse her for the \$280 that she paid for a 1/8 page, black and white ad that will go in 4 issues of the MINT HILL TIMES. The Times is also letting us write a column for each issue that has an ad, and she is working on one to submit for next week.

■ Simplify awards presentations. Sandra says we are causing some gallery attendees some discomfort in having to stand so long during awards presentations. There is little space for more chairs. We discussed ways to streamline award presentations. There were 2 proposals: 1) List all sponsors at the beginning of an award category. 2) Keep the pace of presentations moving more quickly.

■ Appreciations: We appreciate the following members:

- Hutch for the poster thanking sponsors.
- Romie for getting awards for the Litaker show
- Members who helped with the gallery intake for the Litaker show. Pam Rooney, Evy Grouse, April McDermott, Mary Beth Thomas Suzanne and George Ledermann, Ruth Crowe, Vicki Crossman, Ann Litaker, Sandra Smith

Lee gave the treasurer's report.

After providing a handout and highlighting major items, Lee then presented the idea of using Square with an Ipad to process our sales and financial records. It may have advantages: 1) Is more economical 2) Downloads into Quick Books. He will do more research on the details of Square.

We moved to adjourn at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Faires, Secretary, MHA