

MINUTES OF JANUARY 2016 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

10:00 A.M., Thursday, January 14, 2016

*(Members Attending: Cindy Angelelli, Thea Barbato, Romie Mizell, Mary Beth Thomas, Gillian Travell;
Guest Attending: Jennifer Benton)*

The meeting was called to order by Romie Mizell and the next meeting was set for Thursday, February 18, at 10:00 A.M.

The minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2015, were approved as circulated.

The Treasurer's report was presented in writing only. Our net income was \$2,928.54.

Presentation by Jennifer Benton: Jennifer proposed that for the annual photography show we have two categories, Straight Photography and Altered Photography (category names tentative pending further study). After some discussion, including the fact that this change will affect our awards, the committee voted to have two categories and to fund the extra awards ourselves if external funds cannot be obtained. Jennifer will submit clear definitions of the categories. These should be sent to the Secretary, who will distribute the information to members of the EC for their approval of the specific wording of the description of categories. *[Note added after the meeting: how will this affect designation of categories and awards in other show that have photography categories (e.g., the Litaker Show)]*

Focus Items:

- Review of Metrics for Grant Information:
 - Cindy provided the committee with some MHA metrics and requested input for obtaining additional data, as summarized below:
 - Gallery Hosts: During 2015, MHA has had 43 Gallery Hosts, who have collectively provided 921 hours of service. A rough estimate shows that the gallery has been open 79% of the time it was advertised as open. *[Note added after the meeting: follow-up calculation accounting for slots covered by Book Club and EC meetings shows that we actually achieved 89% coverage.]*
 - Exhibitors: We have had 447 exhibitors for our monthly shows at the Gallery and 113 for our Offsite Exhibits. Cindy will ask Judy for the number for the quarterly Town Hall Exhibits.
 - Cindy will obtain the following data from the organizers listed below and ask those organizers to provide in the future signup sheets for each session:
 - Number of attendees at Opening Receptions (Pat Kempisty)
 - Number of participant in Portrait and Life Drawing (Pat Elliott)
 - Number of participants in Monthly Meeting (David McGee)
 - Mary Beth will send Cindy a current membership list and will ask Marta how she wishes for Cindy to obtain demographic data from the teachers.
 - Cindy has reviewed the teaching evaluations for the past 18 months and the results are very good to excellent. The only concern was that the classroom is cramped. Cindy will look into having the Academy of Engineering at Independence High School take on redesign of the classroom as a project for which she would be the Project Manager/Sponsor.

- EC Retreat: Romie proposed an EC retreat for long range planning. He emphasized the importance of holding the event in a place with a relaxed atmosphere and including a meal to allow ample time for discussion and an opportunity for conversation and brainstorming. The response from the members was positive.
- Mint Hill Madness: So far MHA has reserved five booths in the Artisan Village (Cindy Angelelli and Susan Lackey, the Mizells and Tiffany Harris, Sandra Smith, Charles Shedd, and Veronica Maldonado). Cindy kindly volunteered to take the applications that have not already been submitted to the Town Hall. Romie gave a brief report of his meeting with Sheryl Smith, who is in charge of the event.
- Offsite Exhibit Opportunity at Novant Matthews: Romie has received an application for month-long exhibits in the lobby of Novant Matthews. The EC was eager to pursue this opportunity, so Romie will obtain information about which months are still available and we will consider applying for two: one definitely open to all members, and the second possibly by invitation. The requirement for extra effort by the Gallery Chair (calls for artists), the Intake Committee (special offsite intakes), the Hanging Committee (special offsite hangings), as well as the need for special signage (“Mint Hill Arts,” “To purchase art contact the Gallery Chair, Thea Barbato, at tbarbato@carolina.rr.com” and holders for MHA trifolds) were mentioned.
- Upcoming Officer Vacancies and Empty Committee Chairs: Romie reported that a number of circumstances, including illness and people moving out of the area, have contributed or will contribute to an unusually large number of vacancies. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to getting a handle on the responsibilities and brainstorming possible replacements for the following positions:
 - Secretary of the EC
 - Member at Large of the EC
 - Public Relations Chair
 - Volunteer Coordinator
 - Program Chair
 - Coordinator(s) of the Student Show

Because we have no Volunteer Coordinator or Public Relations Chair, the EC voted to suspend the Volunteer of the Month program; the program will be reassessed in the future.

Romie will approach the MHA member the EC hopes will accept the positions of Secretary. Mary Beth will do the same for the positions of Volunteer Coordinator and Coordinator of the Student Show.

Two other vacant positions have been filled: Mary Magee and Mila Antonyuk will replace Gillian as Facebook Editor and Amanda Demetrovich will replace Mary Beth as Intake Co-chair. Beth Harvey is doing an excellent job as the new Gallery Host Coordinator.

Committee Reports:

- Gallery Committee: Thea reported that she has the tentative schedule for the year and will send it to members of the EC for their input before posting it on our website. She lost previous calls for artists when her computer crashed, so Mary Beth volunteered to send her those that are similar to upcoming shows.

Appreciations, Congratulations, and Concerns:

- Special thanks to David McGee for thoroughly cleaning our windows.
- Congratulations to Ken Halstead and Gillian Travell for having sold art at Orr and Orr.
- Caring thoughts to Ken Halstead and Marta Brown as they deal with health concerns.
- Condolences to Jennifer Benton for the loss of her husband Dave.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Thomas, Acting Secretary