

## MINUTES – LUNCHEON/BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2013

### PRESENT:

Robi Sallee, President  
Danie Janov, co Vice President  
Gerri Young  
Teri Hoover  
Diane Relf  
Lois Stephens, newsletter editor  
Tom Barnhart, membership chairman  
Fred Jones  
Charlotte Chan, gallery committee  
Jeanette Bowker, gallery committee  
Lisabeth Weisband  
Mina Hejazi

Not all of the above stayed for the board meeting at Famous Anthony's restaurant.

1. Famous Anthony's installed a large TV monitor in the meeting room and it will soon be equipped to handle computer connections so we will be able to utilize it for presentations as needed.
2. ART SPOT: Teri Hoover gave an excellent Art Spot talk and demonstration featuring her cord and fabric basket making process. She even brought her sewing machine in order to demonstrate the stitching.
3. ANNUAL MEETING: Robi and Danie announced confirmation of a speaker for the November annual meeting. The VMFA arranged for Carolyn Foronda, former poet laureate for Virginia and artist to do a presentation on "what occurs when the poet enters the mind of an artist or an engaging figure in a painting and speaks in his or her voice." She will also have several of her six books available for sale. The meeting will be Nov. 17, 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the community room of the Blacksburg Public Library. More info on her at [www.carolynforonda.com](http://www.carolynforonda.com)
4. PROPOSAL TO INVOLVE MEMBERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE – Member Denisse Bento, by email, had asked if there was any way artists under 18 could join BRAA. Comments included:
  - Lois Stephens asked if there would be a liability issue to consider. Each time VT does anything with minors, they must take care of several liability issues first.
  - Robi suggested maybe Den's Kubo Studio artwork could be exhibited in one of our community galleries in the later part of 2014
  - No further action taken...just discussed and asked people to think about it.

5. Robi stated she was wondering what the status of the Old Town Hall is these days. At one time, there had been discussion regarding the possible use of this location by BRAA, in lieu of staying in the CAIO. Nancy Norton, not present, seems to be the person with the history on this issue. Tabled until Nancy's return.
6. Robi brought up the desperate need for candidates to hold office in 2014 and stated that, without officers, BRAA could be forced to disband. In the event that happened, all assets held by BRAA would have to be transferred to another 501 c 3 (charity, non-profit) organization. BRAA officially holds this designation. This detail was learned in a recent Creekmore Law Firm "Sharkbite" presentation attended by Gerri Young.
  - Gerri Young stated she would be willing to take the President's position if no other candidate came forward before the annual meeting.
  - Charlotte Chan and Teri Hoover stated they would be willing to be co Vice Presidents.
  - Charlotte has agreed to be the program chairman with a goal of one program per quarter. She will need some assistance with this. The BRAA bylaws state that the Vice President is also the program chair.
  - Jeanette Bowker has agreed to take the Treasurer position and is already in the process of the assuming this position which has been in transition for several months since Vikki King stepped down. Nancy Norton has handled the books in the interim and a complete accounting, as required in transition, has been done by the professional accountant hired by BRAA.
  - Jeanette Bowker asked if there were written guidelines regarding BRAA and the duties of officers. Yes, this information is available to all at [CONSTITUION AND BYLAWS OF BRAA](#). The Secretary position is still vacant. This position has been vacant for a long time and minutes of board meetings have suffered because of that. It is important to note that, by law, the 501 c 3 status held by BRAA requires minutes be taken and prepared routinely.
  - The above volunteers have expressed their willingness to serve, but all interested parties in our membership are encouraged to consider serving. A final slate of officers will be published before the annual meeting.
  - An organization such as BRAA is only as good as its volunteers. Without them we cannot exist.
  - The progress we've made in the last couple of years has been impressive. The Town of Blacksburg has greatly increased their support of the arts and it behooves this organization to step up to the plate if it intends to continue.
7. A new exhibiting artist approval team is needed. This is not a large task. Three members are needed to volunteer for this task. All that is required is reviewing applications for gallery approval and the 5 pieces of art that come with them. This is meant to screen the quality and appropriateness of the artwork in order

to best represent BRAA in the community galleries and to give those galleries exhibitions they are willing to continue to pay for. The income from the galleries annual fees are important to the continuation of BRAA. Also needed are more exhibiting artists. [Information on how to apply](#).

8. The Christiansburg schools have asked BRAA to provide artists to judge the elementary school art competition on Oct. 23 from 1-3 p.m. at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center. This is an easy and fun task to do. Lisabeth Weisband and Jeanette Bowker volunteered to take this project.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 1:45.

MINUTES PREPARED BY GERRI YOUNG

APPROVED BY ROBI SALLEE