

MINUTES OF BRAA MONTHLY MEETING – SEPTEMBER 13, 2013

11:30 a.m. at Famous Anthony's

Present:

Robi Sallee
Pam Congrove
Jeanette Bowker
Lisabeth Weisband
Charlotte Chan
Larry Mitchell
Lois Stephens
Denisse Bento
Herb Schneider
Nancy Trump
Danie Janov
Tom Barnhart
Gerri Young

New members:

Carl Peiffer
Jennifer Carpenter

Guests:

Fariba Shekari, first attendance, wants to join
Kelsey Harrington, from the VT Women's Center
Sue Farrar

Introductions made all around the table.

Sue Farrar, director, [Montgomery Museum](#), passed out flyers on two fund raising events being held for the museum: Swinging to the '40's, Sept 29 at Smithfield Pavilion and A Taste of Wine and 19th Century Culture, Oct. 10, Holiday Inn, Christiansburg. Call 540-382-5644 for reservations at both these events. Proceeds go to support the repairs and roofing of the 100-year-old museum. The fund is \$6,000 short of what is needed to complete the project.

[Denisse Bento, Kubo Studio](#), presented the **Art Spot** while we waited for our lunches to be served. Den did a visual presentation on how she designed and completed her contract with HooptiRide for "wraps" on the Hoopti Ride vans. She showed examples of how she prepared her tracings of local buildings to be featured on the vans and explained all the computer steps it takes from start to finish, even presenting some of the actual tracings used in the project.

Gerri Young, [New River Art Biennial](#) committee, presented an update on the exhibition. She reported a total of 211 pieces were entered and 36 pieces by 26 artists invited to the show. She read a breakdown of towns the artists came from and reported 22 BRAA artists entered. 5 BRAA artists were invited to the show. All artists have been informed of their selection/non-selection.

Gerri stated that the use of [Call for Entry](#) for accepting applications, payment, and all juror actions has been a tremendous benefit resulting in many new artists entering our show. Delivery of artworks to Perspective Gallery is set for Sept 27-28 from noon to 8 p.m. and a total of 6 BRAA volunteers are needed to assist with this process. Please contact [Leslye bloom@comcast.net](mailto:Leslye_bloom@comcast.net) to volunteer. The show will open to the public on Oct. 2, and the reception and award ceremony will take place Oct. 18, 5-9 p.m.

Gerri Young reported on the new plein air events being held. Thus far, two events have been at Smithfield Plantation and one at Teri Hoover's garden. The next scheduled event is at Make-A-Diff Ranch in Newport on Sept 15, starting at 2:30 p.m. Robi Sallee volunteered her farm in Blacksburg for a weekday event. Another event is also in the works for Marie Collier's place in Blacksburg. A plein air email group has been established to help communicate with interested artists. Any suggestions of good locations for these events are appreciated. Contact younggerri@gmail.com.

Kelsey Harrington, VT Women's Center, explained the mission of the center and told of the recent renovations completed there. They wish to replace old art in the house with new artworks done by local women artists and Ms. Harrington asked for guidance from BRAA for how that might be done. Robi Sallee stated that there were several ways BRAA could work with the Center. To start, Herb Schneider volunteered to visit the house to take measurement and photos in order to get a feel for what is needed. Herb will report back to the board regarding his findings.

[Fariba Shekari](#) expressed excitement and interest in the Center's proposal and recommended they consider male artists as well as more men are "getting in touch with their feminine side."

Jeanette Bowker and Charlotte Chan spoke for the **gallery committee** to tell Ms. Harrington if they decided to join the community gallery program, that they needed to do it soon because the 2014 schedule would be established soon.

Fariba also stated that if BRAA did any **fundraisers** for artists in need, she would be happy to offer one of her paintings to help.

Denisse Bento encouraged members to attend the gala for the [Children's Museum](#) in Blacksburg.

Robi Sallee stated she is looking for ideas to make this year's annual meeting a fun and interesting happening people want to come to. Please email her and Nancy Norton with your suggestions. robisallee@hotmail.com and nancypnorton@comcast.net.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m. Next meeting will be held Oct 11 at Famous Anthony's.

Prepared by Gerri Young