

MINUTES OF November 9, 2012, BRAA BOARD MEETING

12:30 - 1:30 P.M., Zeppoli's Restaurant

Present:

Robi Sallee

Nancy Norton

Danie Janov

Frances Frederick

Charlotte Chan

Tom Barnhart

Gerri Young

Den Bento

Teri Hoover

Jeanette Bowker

Mary Ann Hinshelwood

Betty Moore

Diana Francis

Robi Sallee brought the meeting to order.

There being no corrections, the minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Board Reports:

Membership: 93 members including galleries

Treasurer's report: no report. Treasurer was not present.

Old Business:

Electronic update: Our Facebook page has 129 likes. A Twitter feed has been established. The group working on revising our webpage and brochure will meet soon.

Denisse and Gerri have a draft revision to the Membership Brochure narrative.

New Business:

- Robi and Nancy toured the Free Clinic in Christiansburg with Ruth Walkes , Director of the VT Center for the Arts. BRAA has agreed to design and execute wall paintings to brighten up the new children's dental operatory room. The Center for the Arts will fund the supplies. Several other members have already volunteered (Gerri, Maxine, Nina, Denisse, Teri) to work on this project which should be completed by early February.
- Now that no special permission is required to use the Blacksburg sidewalks for art performances and demonstrations, Robi suggested BRAA think about having artists set up on the sidewalk (or perhaps a whole group under the awnings of the Farmers Market on a non-market day) to practice their art publicly once the weather gets warmer.

- The Blacksburg Partnership approached Robi about hosting a seminar for artists on marketing their work. Gerri attended an all-day seminar sponsored by Heartwood in Giles County last summer and highly recommends this resource. The Program chairs will talk with the Blacksburg Partnership and look into scheduling such a seminar in Montgomery County.
- The Corporate Research Center will be opening an NRV/VT/Blacksburg Cooperatory with the goal of bringing together creative folks in marketing, technology, entrepreneurship (and a Starbucks) to see what this kind of creative synergy will yield. Membership in the cooperative is free. For more information search “Cooperatory” on Facebook.
- Leslye and Gerri will attend a one-day conference at VMFA as a result of an invitation Leslye received (based on BRAA’s long-time status as a partner of the Museum and Leslye’s past interactions with the Museum). Nancy requested that Robi contact Jeffrey Allison at VMFA and ask that future invitations of this type would be more appropriately sent to the current President of BRAA.

Old Business:

- CAIO space: Susan Mattingly, Lyric Theater and CAIO manager, attended the meeting to join in a discussion of how the CAIO space could be made more attractive and useful to BRAA. Ideas included pursuing permission from the landlord to paint the non-public part of the sidewalk in front of the CAIO; adding lettering to the outside glass reading “Blacksburg Regional Art Association Gallery;” combining several unused cubicles into a “salon” area that could be used for small discussion groups/meetings. A decision will be made soon on whether BRAA should continue its rental agreement with CAIO.
- Upcoming Annual Membership Meeting:
 - A reminder will be sent out to all members, asking them to come, bring a recent piece of their art to display, and invite friends.
 - Nancy will get information on the speaker and the presentation for the introduction.
 - Gerri will prepare agenda and script for Robi to use.
 - Danie, Gerri, Robi and Nancy will bring refreshments.
- Volunteers are still needed, especially for Recording Secretary.

Prepared by Nancy Norton