

Present: Raphael Bedia, Pat Bevan, Charlotte Chan, Linda Correll, Terry Hoover, Robi Sallee, Lois Stephens, Gerri Young

The meeting commenced at 10:30 AM. (notes in this color were added by Gerri to Pat's original minutes.)

BRAA Email and Online Presence – Gerri

- Gerri suggested there be BRAA email training to help BRAA board members with authority to access the account. Only Lois and Gerri are experienced in sending out all member emails. **NOTE: Gerri had already sent out written instructions for how to get to BRAA email. She will send again with this set of minutes.**
- Robi suggested BRAA try using Instagram which automatically posts onto FB as well. BRAA currently uses both Facebook and Twitter. Facebook auto posts to the BRAA Twitter account. BRAA has no Instagram account. **Gerri plans to take Instagram workshop in Bath County on the 26th Oct.**

New River Art Biennial

- Charlotte suggested BRAA talk to the Moss Center to schedule the next BRAA Biennial.
- Gerri will contact the Moss to inquire for 2025. The schedule for the Biennial is:
 - 2019 – BRAA – done
 - 2021 – FACNRV (Rhonda Whitehurst)
 - 2023 – Floyd Art Center, Becky Latucca
 - 2025 – BRAA
- Gerri reported the Biennial was a huge success with an income of \$3,674.20, minus small miscellaneous costs for name tags, award ribbons, card stock **and marketing cards.**
- A total of \$600 was used to cover awards from BRAA, FACNRV and The Floyd Art Center that has been the traditional for several years to draw down the “joint” Biennial account from the past and transition to the three players standing alone with the Biennial (every six years) from now on.

Holiday Market

- Gerri reminded the board that BRAA had decided not to do the holiday market this year in The Artful Lawyer. Everyone was in agreement, thinking the location of TAL would not be as good for sales and visibility because the merchandise would not be visible from the street (in the back room offered to us by Diana Francis).
- Carol Davis said she would not take the lead on it again this year.
- Gerri agreed with others that she would not offer administrative assistance to the project

BRAA 70th Anniversary

Ideas for BRAA's 70th Anniversary were discussed. Suggestions included:

- **Create an anniversary committee to do all/some of the following:**

- Lois to place words in the color bar on page one of the BRAA Newsletter commemorating the anniversary. Gerri has placed words on the banner of our webpage already. These words can be changed as needed later.
- The 2020 Theme Show in the Perspective Gallery in some way reflect BRAA 20th anniversary. 2
- A few people go through the BRAA boxes in the basement of Artful Lawyer to decide what to save and what to throw out and to possibly discover some historical information that could be displayed in BRAA gallery next year. Gerri, Teri, and Lois agreed to help with sorting. Gerri will ask Nancy Norton to participate in this as well because of her time with BRAA and experience in the library industry.
- A 70th Anniversary brochure be created and made available at the Theme Show and possibly other BRAA galleries.
- Matt Gentry be involved with requesting an article about the 20th Anniversary in The Roanoke Times to raise awareness.
- A news release be prepared and distributed.
- An article written for the BRAA Newsletter.
- Francis Frederick and other older BRAA members interviewed as part of the gathering of information, possibly becoming a video project involving one or more Virginia Tech students. Possible interviewees:
 - Francis Frederick
 - Lisabeth Weisband
 - Sally Mook
 - Joni Pienkowski
 - Larry Mitchell

BRAA Equipment in Artful Lawyer

- The tent and teaching mirror will be kept.
- The easels will be discarded.
- Monitor left over from CAIO be kept in case we can use it with possible video project

Treasurer's Report and BRAA Funds – Gerri for Jeanette

- To date there is \$35,763.00 in the BRAA checking account and \$23,145.00 in the money market account, totaling \$56,906.00
- James Creekmore has advised that BRAA spend some of the money, saying that BRAA has too many funds on hand for a non-profit. He did not give a cap for the highest amount he recommended be kept in the accounts.
- It is believed that part of the money came from long ago fund raiser in an effort to buy a building for BRAA home. Additionally, funds come from membership dues, workshop income, gallery income and biennial entry fees. Last year \$5000 was donated by Libby Calvera for the BRAA support of the Jordi Calvera art sale.
- Suggestion for spending some of the funds included:
 - Having free workshops for members after gathering information from membership about what workshops would be liked and

- Buying new easels

Workshops Report and Speaker Ideas – Charlotte and Robi

Two workshops were scheduled for 2019

- Quilting workshop by Paula Golden
 - 10 attendees
 - Income \$\$1185 minus \$\$730.55 for lunches.
 - Many participants were from Roanoke, none became BRAA members.
 - Charlotte noted that she thought Paula would make a good speaker and could do a talk on the history of quilting. **Robi will pursue.**
- Watermedia on Yupo workshop by Jesi Pace-Berkeley
 - The workshop scheduled for September was cancelled by the instructor, Jesi Pace-Berkeley due to “unavailability of important supply.”
 - All 12 students registered were notified and refunded their moneyTwo workshops are planned for 2020
- Watercolorist Keiko Tanabe is set for Oct 17-21, 2020, workshop at Warm Hearth.
- A workshop by Danie Janov on theory is being planned.

Ideas about other workshops and luncheon speakers were discussed including:

- Scheduling The Artful Lawyer conference room for “Lunch and Learn”.
- Giving lunch speaker suggestions to Robi.
- Asking people who have attended workshops if they would like to give a presentation and talk about their experiences at a workshop...**non BRAA workshops.**
- Lois writing a short announcement for the BRAA Newsletter about being a speaker and how to contact Robi.

Luncheon Technology Issues

Gerri reported that the technology involved with presentations at Bull and Bones **and the service**, is not consistently reliable. Suggestion for how to handle this included:

- Going to Bull and Bones the day before to check on electronics.
- Bringing backup technology.
- Moving BRAA luncheons to Hahn and being “Bag Lunch”.
- Looking into availability of churches in our area that have a room with technology.
- Moving the luncheons to Golden Corral at the New River Valley Mall.

No decisions were made.

Newsletter Update – Lois

- Pat is doing an article on Gerri for the upcoming BRAA Newsletter.
- Lois reminded everyone that photos are to be sent to her whenever something BRAA news-worthy is happening.
- Gerri is building an electronic artist file that will help with identifying artists’ media. **This will be an internal document used only by the gallery committee to aid in matching artist with gallery and will include ONLY exhibiting artists and gallery chairs.**

- Deadlines for the newsletter are the 15th of each month except for July and December that are the 1st of the month.
- Gerri reported that BRAA's Newsletter is now being printed at the Blacksburg UPS store. BRAA has opened an account there. **Member Maxine Lyons mails the printed copies to those few members who have requested them. If official copies of anything are needed they can be produced there and charged to the BRAA account.**

BRAA Art Spot Speakers and Theme Show - Robi

Art Spot speakers for the upcoming months are:

- October – Gerri, Cuban pictorial
- November – Jesse Burgardt on Nolley Art House
- December – Show and Tell
- January – Rafael Bedia on his attendance at a non-BRAA workshop

Note: Member Jesse Burgardt will be having an open house at Nolley Art House on October 12th from 10:00 –12:00. **Note: Several members, Gerri, Linda Correll, and Jesi Pace-Berkeley attended the open house. The Nolley Art House is in a lovely, remote location in Riner and would be lovely location for plein air dates. Also, some art classes are offered there.**

The Theme Show had its first ever sales this year. There was not a lot of traffic through the show which was held in Radford. **Member Ling Jie staffed the gallery M-F and did an excellent job. BRAA paid her \$10 an hour for her service One board member expressed that the decision to hire Ling Jie (member of BRAA, Blacksburg resident, art student at Radford University) should have been made by the whole board, not just by Gerri and Robi. Other members staffed it on Saturday and one Saturday the main door to the gallery was left unlocked. The gallery director was understandably upset. We will likely not use this gallery again...low traffic, distance from Blacksburg and need to provide staffing.**

Gallery Program

- This coming year all of the galleries will be on a three-month rotation schedule.
- Charlotte has stepped down as co-chair of the program. Gerri is helping out Jeanette for this year. Jeanette also wishes to step down. Gerri indicated there are some people who are interested in being involved in the gallery program.
- Gerri is developing an artist directory for BRAA for approved artists that can be used by the committee for developing the schedule each year. Gerri is setting up a Drop Box for artists to send in images for the art directory. **This Drop Box file will be made available to Lois for possible newsletter use.**
- Gerri will be asking each artist who will be installing a show this October to make a video of their exhibition to send to her so she can create visual exhibition space information for each BRAA art gallery. **NOTE: after investigating the use of video on our webpage, Gerri has decided a couple still photos will be best.**

Annual Meeting – Linda

- The date for the BRAA Annual Meeting is November 3rd from 2:00-4:00 PM at the Hahn Pavilion.
- There is a \$50 fee for renting the space.
- The meeting will begin with a speaker, followed by a refreshment break and then a BRAA business meeting.
- The event will be publicized in the press and in the BRAA Newsletter, **Facebook and web.**
- VMFA is waiving the \$100 speaker fee for the Annual Meeting since BRAA's first three choices for speaker were not available to present. Margaret Hancock from the VMFA speaker bureau will present on portraiture.
- The presentation will be about 45 minutes with another 25 minutes reserved for Q&A. **NOTE: We hope both of these estimates are shorter, in order to keep the meeting to two hours.**
- Robi will coordinate refreshments for the Annual Meeting. **Donations of goodies from members will be sought.**

Membership – Rafael

- Raf proposed that BRAA use Google Contacts to enter data and be the primary repository for BRAA membership information.
- Raf suggested that a workshop be held for the Board about the various tools everyone uses in their work with BRAA. Charlotte asked if Raf would put together an outline of the programs BRAA would use and what he would like included in an information workshop.
- Raf will send out an email to all BRAA members on October 15th reminding them that dues are due by January 1st, 2020. **NOTE: Reminder that the board decided some time ago that new members joining between October and end of December each year would get the benefit of a paid membership through the next full year.**
- Raf gave a brief presentation of Google email Accounts with an explanation of how BRAA could use its features.

By-Laws

- Gerri will send out an email to BRAA members asking if anyone would like to serve on the By-Laws committee. **This was done and members Nancy Norton and Judy Crowgey volunteered to take part.**
- A date of October 30th from 9:00-12:00 at The Artful Lawyer was set for the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Bevan

Recording Secretary

Additional Notes by Gerri Young

Amended by Sue Hossack, incoming Recording Secretary