

Summit Artspace Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 25, 2016

In attendance:

Christy Page	Susan Yingling
Paul Jarrett	Elaine Guregian
Joanne Green	Allison Boyd
Laurie Patterson	Barbara Feld
Toby Ann Weber	

Toby Weber brought the meeting to order at 8:07. Barbara Feld moved to approve the minutes from January 28, 2016. Paul Jarrett seconded.

Christy Page gave the Treasurer's report, reviewing financial statements through January 31, 2016. She noted the organization has a total equity of \$271,541. In April, budgeting will begin for next year.

Strategic Plan: Toby Weber noted that she had incorporated edits in response to board member questions and comments. Motion to approve by Paul Jarrett, seconded by Christy Page.

Development Committee: In the absence of committee chair Brenda Cummins, Joanne presented a written report. Joanne said three projects are highest priorities: Upgrades to the main gallery, improvements to the ramp room and upgrades to the second-floor event space. She noted that the GAR Foundation suggested SAS apply for a capital grant for the last of those priorities.

So far this year, SAS has received \$58,500 in grant awards. 100 percent of board members have pledged donations, with \$3,150 paid thus far and an additional \$1,010 pledged.

Community Engagement Committee: Chair Barbara Feld reported on a large surge of activity in programs being held at SAS, especially noting that events such as Paint Like Pollock and follow-up exhibitions of the children's work brought in many additional friends and family. 800 people came through the gallery in February. Barbara noted that Mila has many programming ideas and could use more hours, though she is not looking for full-time employment.

Barbara said one particular focus is that Mila has planned many events around a Frankenstein theme for October. One continuing need of Mila's is for gallery sitters and for help coordinating the logistics of scheduling. The board discussed several ways this could be addressed: 1. Send an email to all board members, providing details of when sitters are needed so that we can volunteer or pass along the requests to people we know. 2. Post an announcement on the SAS website asking for volunteers 3. Contact the Akron-Canton Foodbank, which has an efficient and user-friendly volunteer site, and see if there's a way to adapt/modify it for SAS.

Barbara noted that Joe Karlovec will be creating an installation on the back sides of the west-facing exhibition walls so that when people walk or drive by the west side of the building, they'll see an eye-catching installation reflective of the excitement inside SAS.

Board Development: Chair Elaine Guregian reported that the committee had met as a group and individually with various potential board members. Of them, two have agreed to serve on the board. Elaine moved to nominate Theron Brown and John Fitzpatrick to the board. The motion was passed. Thereon and John will be invited to join us at the next board meeting. Toby has additional candidates in mind, and we will continue as a committee to meet with them.

Executive Director's Report: Joanne Green noted the grant activity covered in the Development Report and that Rob Lehr will transition out from his role as gallery director in March.

Group Discussion: Toby asked members what topics are uppermost on our minds, meriting future discussion. We suggested five topics: 1. Update from Suzie Graham and DAP. 2. Convene arts organizations –an aspect of AAAA that was valuable and we had discussed continuing 3. Share the strategic plan more broadly 4. Invite arts leader Tom Schorgl – what can Akron learn from his Cleveland model? 5. Update from ArtsNow/Nicole Mullet

The next board meeting will be at 8 a.m. March 24.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Guregian, Secretary

February 28, 2016