



WOODSTOCK ART GALLERY

Woodstock Art Gallery Advisory Board Meeting Minutes 24.03

Date: April 16, 2024
Time: 3:45pm
Location: Woodstock Art Gallery, 449 Dundas Street, 3rd Floor

Members in Attendance:

Simon Brothers
Aaron Dawson (Chair)
Connie Lauder
Sara Lauzon
Carol McWilliam
Brian Meehan
Angie Poirier
Leslie Sorochan
Magda Stroińska

Absent: NA

Staff in Attendance: (non-voting)
Mary Reid, Director/Curator, Karen Houston, Manager of Culture
Samantha Henderson, Education Intern

1. **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 3:49 pm.

Mission: As the region's only public art gallery, the Woodstock Art Gallery fosters the wellbeing of our community by preserving our local artistic heritage and cultivating new expressions and experiences of art.

2. **Introductions:** Samantha Henderson, Education Intern

3. **Approval of the Agenda with addition**

Addition of item WAG 2023 final unaudited budget statement to add under New Business under e ii (after the March 2024 Operating Budget Statement).

Moved by: Connie Lauder
Seconded by: Magda Stroińska
carried

4. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Declaration: None



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5. Approval of the minutes from last meeting

Moved by: Brian Meehan
Seconded by: Carol McWilliam
carried

6. Matters arising from the last meeting

a. Board Recruitment

The Board Executive will be meeting with two potential candidates and nominations will be forthcoming.

b. June 11- Board & Staff Retreat – Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery (KWAG)

Just a reminder it has been confirmed and booked. Shirely Madill, KWAG Executive Director and Danielle Deveau, KWAG Board Chair will be joining us. While the Board Meeting it taking place WAG staff will be pared with KWAG staff for professional development and sharing of information. It is anticipated that we will meet at 2pm at KWAG. Please let Mary know if you require a lift or can carpool from Woodstock so it can be arranged at the May Board meeting how everyone is getting there. Also, if you have any food allergies/aversions please let indicate those as well.

7. Director/Curator's Report

Circulated with Board Packet

8. Committee Reports

a. Building Committee – Naming Rights Agreement

Brian Meehan gave an update on the meeting at Museum London regarding their rental spaces.

A long-time supporter of the Art Gallery has pledged a \$100,000 towards the naming rights of the multi-purpose space located on the 4th floor. The draft Naming Rights Agreement has been circulated with the Board Packet for review. It has already been reviewed by the City's Lawyer.

Motion: That the Woodstock Art Gallery Advisory Board endorse the signing of the Naming Rights Agreement as drafted.

Moved by: Brian Meehan
Seconded by: Leslie Sorochan
carried

b. Fundraising Committee:



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Dr. Leonard Reeves has committed \$10K again to supporting the Gallery's spring and end of year giving campaigns. The committee will resume meeting on May 15 and provide an update to the Advisory Board at the next meeting regarding plans moving forward.

c. Policy Review Committee

The committee is currently under way with its review of the following policies:

- ToR- Operational Volunteer Committees
- Exhibitions
- Research
- Investment Fund Dispersal

The Education Team is overhauling the Education Policy and it will be circulated to the committee for review by mid-April. There is also interest to develop a smudging policy for the Gallery. It is intended that these updated policies will be brought to the June meeting of the Advisory Board for discussion and deliberation.

9. **New Business**

a. Strat Plan Matrix Review

Circulated with Board Packet. Updates from December 2023 report highlighted. Reid provided an overview of the work completed to date and work in progress regarding addressing the Gallery's five key strategic initiatives.

b. Strategic Plan Re-Alignment

2024 marks the mid-point of the Gallery's 5-year Strategic Plan. In an effort of good housekeeping, it is suggested that the Advisory Board allocate a special meeting to reviewing the current plan and to see where areas need to be adjusted/ realigned regarding current realities. Recommend Catherine Motz who was the consultant who helped us with the development of the current plan.

c. DEI Training Initiatives

As the Board is getting close to completing the *Me Artsy* book suggestions regarding other DEI initiatives are welcomed. These could include another book review or dedicated workshop focused on systemic racism towards people of colour. Recommended by other colleague *Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World and Become a Good Ancestor*. Other suggestions included resources or videos around gender identity.

d. 2024 Exhibition Schedule updated



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Circulated with Board Packet. The focus will be on local artists and permanent collection while the downtown is being revitalized over the next three years.

e. i. 2024 Operating Budget

This statement does not include the February or March Visa transactions but does include the new POS system revenue to mid February. The 2024 budget numbers are final numbers including the approved additions. The budget statement for the several accounts are not fully reflected in the Gallery's income due to the changeover to the new POS system.

e ii. WAG 2023 final unaudited budget statement

Was circulated via email after the Board Packet was send out. No questions were raised.

f. *Me Artsy* – Chapter Discussion led by Simon Brothers, *Haida Manga* by Yahgulanaas. A presentation outlining the artist's background and approach to art making was presented. This included a video of the artist speaking about his adoption of the Manga cartoon aesthetic in his practice. Through the blending and connecting of Eastern and Indigenous cultures a number of social issues are explored particularly environmental concerns in his art.

10. Events De-Briefing / Announcements

- i. Wednesday April 17 – Donor/Volunteer Recognition Event – 5 to 7pm – donor video of Leslie Sorochan was shared.
- ii. Saturday June 8 – Spring Open House – 1 to 3pm / Cultural Canvas 2pm to 8pm in Museum Square
- iii. Friday June 14 –*In Conversation: Ron Shuebrook & Frances Thomas* Opening Reception – 7 to 9 pm – MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON
- iv. Saturday June 15 – Oxford County Pride
- v. July 19-21 – Streetfest (BIA)
- vi. Saturday September 7 – *Visual Elements 66: Annual Juried Exhibition* Walk & Talk – 2pm
- vii. Friday September 13 – *In Conversation: Ron Shuebrook & Frances Thomas* Artists Discussion – 7 to 9 pm – MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON
- viii. Saturday September 21 – Taste of Art Signature Fundraiser – 7 to 10pm
- ix. Thursday September 26 – *Hartman: Many Lives* Celebratory Reception – 6 to 8pm – Canadian Embassy, Washington, DC
- x. Saturday October 19 – Fall Open House – 1 to 3pm
- xi. November 15 – Lighting in Museum Square

11. Round Robin Check In & Meeting Evaluation



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- 12. Next Meeting: May 21 @ 3:45pm @ Woodstock Art Gallery – 3rd floor**
- 13. Adjournment @ 4:47pm**