



WOODSTOCK ART GALLERY

Woodstock Art Gallery Advisory Board Meeting Minutes 24.04

Date: May 21, 2024
Time: 3:45pm
Location: Woodstock Art Gallery, 449 Dundas Street, 3rd Floor

Members in Attendance:

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

Absent:

Simon Brothers

Staff in Attendance: (non-voting)

Mary Reid, Director/Curator
Karen Houston, Manager of Culture
Fatima Hassan, Summer Education Assistant
Hannah Crosdale, Summer Education Assistant
Hollie Stoneman, Curatorial/Collections Assistant
Ella Ferrall, Front Desk Assistant

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:46pm.

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:

Summer Students were introduced and welcomed.
Dr. Sarah E. Smith, potential Board Member.

Regrets: Simon Brothers



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3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by: Angie Poirier
Seconded by: Carol McWilliam
Carried

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Declaration: None

5. Approval of the minutes from last meeting

Moved by: Connie Lauder
Seconded by: Angie Poirier
carried

6. Matters arising from the last meeting

a. Board and Staff Retreat – June 11 – Kitchener/Waterloo Art Gallery

Carpooling and attendance was confirmed. Reid will send maps and itinerary along a week prior to the meeting with the Board packet.

b. Naming Rights Agreement Update – 4th Floor

The naming rights agreement has been signed. The gift is inclusive of HST. Name will be Creative Hub on 4th

c. Strategic Plan Re-Alignment Update

Catherine Motz, consultant who assisted with creating the existing plan will work with the Advisory on Tuesday Oct 29 for an afternoon session. Rough budget for the work will be \$3K.

d. DEI Training Initiatives

Some suggestions of resources was circulated with the Board Packet. *Crafted With Pride, Queer Craft and Activism in Contemporary Britain*, Edited by Daniel Fountain was selected as the next book for discussion. Books will be ordered and hopefully distributed by June 11 and book reports will be assigned to start at the September meeting.

7. Director/Curator's Report

Circulated with Board Packet. No updates to the report are required.



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8. Committee Reports

a. Building Committee: Brian Meehan, Chair of the Building Committee reported: The Building Committee met on May 15 and we are pleased that Maxine Noel has agreed to join us as our Indigenous Elder Advisor on the committee.

Maxine will be working with us regarding Indigenous engagement as we move into the development of the 4th floor.

The RFP for the 4th floor has been finalized and is with the City's Manager of Building & Facilities for final review.

In early June it will be circulated to various architects inviting them to apply. Those that do accept the invitation are invited to a building walk thru on June 10 at 10am. The Building Committee will be present for that.

The RFP will close on July 3rd and the contract will be awarded shortly after that. It is anticipated that the architects will need 6 months to do the drawings and costing estimates.

Once this stage is completed the project will go to construction tender in February 2025 with completion likely towards the end of 2025. The committee will be meeting next on June 10 to do a de-brief after the building walk thru.

b. Fundraising Committee: Carol McWilliam, Chair of the Fundraising Committee reported.

The Fundraising Committee met on May 15. During the meeting it was identified that the Fundraising Policy is somewhat out of date. The request to make changes to the policy has been directed to the Policy Review Committee and proposed changes will be presented to the Board at the future meeting. As for the Taste of Art fundraiser it was suggested that a membership sign up table be to add to the event. The Fundraising Committee has identified connecting with newcomers to Woodstock as part of a new members campaign. To do this it was suggested that the Gallery engage a community member from this group of citizens to assist with making introductions, networking and establishing ways to connect. This person would join the committee this fall. This suggestion aligns with the Gallery top Strategic Priority regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Motion: That the Woodstock Art Gallery Advisory Board allocated \$2500 of its budget towards the engagement of an ambassador to connect with newcomers and other segments of Woodstock's changing demographic to assist with the overall attraction of new members.

Moved by: Carol McWilliam



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Seconded by: Angie Poirier
carried

c. Policy Review Committee

As mentioned, the fundraising policy has been added to the tasks of this committee. That along with the following policies

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

These updates will be brought to the June meeting of the Advisory Board for discussion and deliberation.

d. Nominating Committee:

Motion: To nominate Kristen Frankish to serve on the Woodstock Art Gallery's Advisory Board

Moved by: Leslie Sorochan
Seconded: Angie Poirier
carried

Motion: To nominate Dr. Sarah E. Smith to serve on the Woodstock Art Gallery's Advisory Board

Moved by: Angie Poirier
Seconded: Connie Lauder
carried

9. **New Business**

a. 2024 Operating Budget – The April statement has not been circulated by Treasury yet.

b. *Me Artsy* – Chapter Discussion led by Mary Reid, Verbing Art by Monique Mojica

Mojica's chapter speaks to her experience of being born an indigenous woman artist, which involves a spectrum of identities - Healer / Creator / Transformer /



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Warrior / Magician / Visionary / Fool. Living as an artist has required her to be fearless in search of cultural recovery and to reclaim those missing pieces with fierceness in order to put unspoken language in her mouth and unpracticed rhythms in her feet, to literally put herself back together. The performances she creates live organically in her body. Performing connects her through time and space – intangible, temporal, performative medium – connecting to a traditional way of Indigenous life. Now she contributes to creating and presenting indigenous artistic visions and hold control and power over her own voice, story and image. At the present Indigenous performing artists are always in a position not only of education the other simultaneous to researching and creating and developing new plays but also doing that at same time as they are exploring and devising Indigenous processes of artistic practice and performance.

10. Events De-Briefing / Announcements

- i. Saturday June 8 – Spring Open House – 1 to 3pm / Cultural Canvas 2pm to 8pm in Museum Square
- ii. Friday June 14 – *In Conversation: Ron Shuebrook & Frances Thomas* Opening Reception – 6:30 to 9 pm – MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON
- iii. Saturday June 15 – Oxford County Pride
- iv. July 19-21 – Streetfest (BIA)
- v. Saturday September 7 – *Visual Elements 66: Annual Juried Exhibition* Walk & Talk – 2pm
- vi. Friday September 13 – *In Conversation: Ron Shuebrook & Frances Thomas* Artists Discussion – 7 to 9 pm – MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON
- vii. Saturday September 21 – Taste of Art Signature Fundraiser – 7 to 10pm
- viii. Thursday September 26 – *Hartman: Many Lives* Celebratory Reception – 6 to 8pm – Canadian Embassy, Washington, DC
- ix. Saturday October 19 – Fall Open House – 1 to 3pm
- x. Tuesday October 29 – Strategic Plan Re-Alignment workshop
- xi. November 15 – Lighting in Museum Square

11. Round Robin Check In & Meeting Evaluation

12. Next Meeting: June 11 @ 2pm – Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery

13. Adjournment @ 4:31pm