

BELMONT ART ASSOCIATION MEETING — JANUARY 30, 2018

This is the first meeting after Christine Chang began her soft move to Spain. Naomi Ellenberg - Dukas brought the meeting to order at the Loading Dock. The minutes for the last meeting were read and approved and discussion from a prepared agenda ensued.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christine Chang

Ed Wintner

Dari Paquette

Jane Wentzell

Susan Kottler

Naomi Ellenberg - Dukas

Anne Katzeff

Derrick Le Paske

Nicolle Bernstein

John Norton

Erika Hartwig

Kay Hudgins

A REVIEW OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS UNDER CHRISTINE'S LEADERSHIP

- Formed a community of artists and crafters
- Shared information
- Had fun
- Raised our profile with art-related community events
- Partnered with BGA on shows for members' art
- Developed community venues for shows
- Educated ourselves with selected speakers
- Created an art book for members' art

DUES

- Dues can be paid through Mail Chimp.
- In January each year, somebody has to send an email requesting dues, and keep a record of when dues are paid.
- This dues information is not public.
- Dues are \$35 per year.

- If someone pays dues in November, that will include the whole next year, otherwise, dues paid in a given year will be for that year.
- Dues may be paid at any time.
- To apply for a members' show, dues must be paid. They can be paid at the time of application.
- The treasurer keeps the membership list.
- Our present treasurer, Rick Corbett, has been unwell and Erika Hartwig has volunteered to take over this role.
- The email mailing list for B&D contains 187 names for the purpose of disseminating information. The number of paying members is approximately 35.

#### WHAT ARE NECESSARY STRUCTURAL CHANGES ?

- Do we want the B&D to continue and in what form ?
- It was generally agreed that for the B&D to continue, responsibility needs to be spread around so that goals get accomplished without a few people getting burned out.
- Anne Katzeff's suggestion is to create two or three committees of two to three people each for a year - a kind of buddy system - after which people can renew their commitments or the roles can be passed on to others.
- We could organize two committees - one for internal goals and one for external goals, and also, special purpose committees for shows.
- Bylaws might be written to codify committees.
- We could have a four-person steering committee to call the next meeting.
- The B&D could have a more concrete connection to the BGD.

#### AIMS AND GOALS FOR MEMBERS

- Be part of an artists' community to replace the Kendall.

- Show our art
- Sell our art
- Mount a show a year at the Belmont Gallery of Art
- Demonstrations, both by our members and for our members
- Education for artists
- A place in Belmont for artists to hang out
- Meetings in artists' homes
- Produce a second artists book
- Create the seed for a new art center
- Stray out beyond Belmont as a group with a show
- Make art together
- Make a specific proposal to a bank to show our art there, either in Belmont or elsewhere
- A landing service for our art - theme shows
- Approach the Black Bear Cafe again after they get lights installed
- Have fun
- Establish a concrete goal we can all get behind and vote on it
- Create a platform in Belmont for artists
- Make art visible in Belmont
- Schedule workshops
- Art brigade, defined as a group presentation to potential showing opportunities
- Raise the profile for artists in Belmont

#### THE BELMONT CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Belmont Cultural Council offers some reimbursement for expenses for public art events. The BCC requires proof of publicity for these events so they will be well attended. The BCC does not pay for an artist's time to produce these public events, although they will pay for a teacher.

The BCC has received a grant approval for three or four public programs in April, May, and June of 2018. Suggestions include:

- A landscape drawing class taught by Damon Lehrer
- A stall at the Farmers' Market to share art with children
- A poetry reading at B&A during a show
- A pottery class at Indigo Fire
- A glass-making class at Avon Glass in Cambridge or Waltham
- A rug-painting class and demo
- Craft demos

Naomi has also received a grant proposal from BCC for an advanced Kumihimo beading workshop.

Comments include: Regular events help to get people to attend - the more consistent, the better. These public events can raise the profile of the B&A in Belmont.

#### SPACE OPPORTUNITIES

- The Belmont Hill School has gallery space.
- Habitat has gallery space which is scheduled well in advance.
- The town schedules rooms in Town Hall for no fee.
- The East Cambridge Savings Bank or one of their offices in other towns may have a showing opportunity if they are presented with a concrete proposal.
- Cushing Square currently has a rent deal because of the ongoing construction. Possibly twelve artists could pay \$1000. each to rent a storefront for a year. There is an available storefront where Revolve used to be.

#### COMMUNICATION DETAILS

- Naomi Ellenberg - Dukes sends out email notices once or twice a month. Send your show notices to her if you want them disseminated.
- Anne Katzeff is in charge of the B&A website. Check the website for updated details.

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Jane Wentzell - Recording Secretary 617-489-0412

