

Belmont Art Association Meeting: October 21, 2019

Location: Benton Library, 75 Oakley Road, Belmont

Members Present: Martha Bazakas, Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas (Co-Chair), Bert Halstead (Treasurer and Membership Coordinator), Dari Paquette (Co-Chair), Derrick Te Paske, Ken Stampfer, Jane Wentzell (Recording Secretary).

Business Meeting

We began with a discussion about the techniques we each use to make art, a subject that feeds the souls of artists. Derrick showed us how he photographs his wood sculptures, which then evolved into a discussion of how artists can photograph their 2D and 3D work. Thereafter Co-Chair Dari Paquette brought the business meeting to order.

1. **Belmont Cultural Council Grant Proposals:** At the September meeting we discussed submitting a grant proposal for advertising and refreshments for our members show reception in January. Unfortunately the Cultural Council rules prohibit funding these specific things. However, two grant proposals were submitted for other projects.

2. **Grant Proposal #1:** was written by Naomi, Martha and Dari and was submitted requesting funding for the design and painting of the transformer/traffic control boxes on the streets of Belmont. Much work was done since the September BAA meeting to research and pave the way for this project. Other surrounding towns have painted some of their traffic boxes, and Martha researched the procedure used by Newton and Arlington. Dari photographed boxes in Arlington, and Martha contacted the Select Board and got the BAA on the agenda for the Board meeting a week before the grant proposals were due. Martha, Naomi and Dari went before the Select Board, where Martha made a masterful presentation using her research and Dari's photos. The project was unanimously approved by the Board. If we get funding from the Cultural Council, a request for design proposals will be put out at the beginning of 2020. One to three designs will be accepted per artist, and representatives from the BAA and the BGA will form a review committee with Patrice Garvin, the Town Administrator, to choose the designs. The number of boxes painted will depend on what, if any, funding we receive.

3. **Grant Proposal #2:** also was written by Naomi, Martha and Dari. They requested funding for four workshops geared toward BAA members and the general public. These included a watercolor demo and class by BAA member Fleur Thesmar, a Kumihimo beading class taught by Naomi and Yin Guang, a lecture by Joanne Cooper, the co-owner of Mobilia Gallery in Cambridge, and a parent and child craft class facilitated by Jenna Rounds, co-owner and craft teacher at Pinecones and Needles. If we receive funding for this proposal, we will organize and promote the workshops after our members show closes in February.

4. **BAA Members Show "2020 Vision: What We See":** The tentative schedule is as follows: Call For Entries will go out in early November. Submissions will be due by early December. Notifications will go out by mid December. Accepted work will be delivered to the BGA in mid January. The show will run from mid January through the end of February. Members may submit 1-2 pieces. The show is subtitled "New Work for a New Decade," and work submitted cannot previously have been shown at the BGA. Membership dues for 2020 are due at the time of artwork drop-off.

Naomi was able to secure a sponsor for the show's opening reception through the generosity of Waverley Eye Care, located at 466 Trapelo Road. Dr. Lixin Zheng recognized the synchronicity between his business and the title of our show and wished to be a part of it.

5. **Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will take place on Thursday evening, November 14th at the BGA, from 7-9 pm. We will have the opportunity to enjoy the current show, Elemental, while discussing BAA business. There will be no meeting in December due to the often hectic holiday season and the work required to prepare for our members show in January.

Recording Secretary: Jane Wentzell, 617- 489 - 0412

Edited by Dari Paquette