

## **Belmont Art Association Meeting: March 22, 2023**

**Location:** This Zoom meeting was brought to order by Co-Chair Dari Paquette. There were varying numbers of people present due to some initial issues with the Zoom link and other meeting conflicts.

**Attendees:** Sheila Benedis, Juliette Carignan, [Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas (Co-Chair) - started the meeting but had a conflict], Bert Halstead (Treasurer and Membership Coordinator), Kirstin Ilse, Anne Katzeff (webmaster), Lauren Palmer-Merrill, Dari Paquette (Co-Chair), and Jane Wentzell (Recording Secretary).

### **Business Meeting**

1. Lauren Palmer-Merrill joined us from her car to report on the status of the BAA table for artists at the Belmont Farmers' Market this summer. The table and tent will be provided. Application forms and details regarding costs and scheduling are now live on the BAA website at:

<https://belmontart.org/2023/03/23/belmont-farmers-market-artisan-booth-2023/>

For questions, email Lauren at: [bfmartisanvendors@gmail.com](mailto:bfmartisanvendors@gmail.com)

2. Utility box update: Our yearly public art project, "Transforming Belmont," is now accepting design submissions, which are due by Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The Call for Entries is on our website at:

<https://belmontart.org/2023/03/23/call-for-entry-transforming-belmont-2023/>

Three of the boxes will be sponsored by the Belmont Cultural Council and two additional boxes are funded by private donors. Two of the boxes are located along Concord Avenue in front of the high school; the third is on School Street at the intersection with Common Street near St. Joseph's Church; the fourth is at the intersection of Sycamore and Lexington Streets, on Sycamore. The fifth box will be a redo of the "Dogs of Belmont" box at the corner of Slade Street and Trapelo Road, which unfortunately has not weathered well. Compensation will be \$500 per box.

3. Tomorrow there will be another meeting to discuss the immediate and future needs of the BGA. Last month Rebecca Richards and Adine Storer announced their retirement from co-directorship at the end of 2023. Rebecca is now working at the Munroe Center for the Arts in Lexington, and Adine moved to Maine during the pandemic. Two shows are planned for this summer, and the gallery needs help with them.
4. Reminder: BAA's annual \$35 membership fee was due by the end of January.
5. There are two new locations for local art classes. Grace Julian Murthy, who has painted two of our utility boxes, is teaching classes at The Gallery@57 in Malden and recommends interested artists to inquire. Trinktisch, the Belmont Center restaurant associated with Craft Beer Cellar, is experimenting with hosting various art and craft classes on select Sunday afternoons from 3-5 pm with a program called "Arts and Drafts." Trinktisch likes to do fun programming to bring customers into their restaurant, so they are seeking local artists to run activities there. They are hoping to schedule first and third Sunday afternoons from 3-5 pm. Artists would handle the class, while they provide a free location. Artists determine the fee for materials and tuition and don't have to pay Trinktisch anything.

### **Presentations**

After the success of our last meeting, the remainder of this meeting was a "create together" experience by participants, inviting comment from others if desired. Some members shared their screens to show what they are working on.

Recording Secretary: Jane Wentzell, 617- 489 - 0412  
Edits and additional notes by Dari Paquette