

Belmont Art Association Meeting: October 28, 2021

Location: Our thirteenth Zoom meeting featured a presentation by treasurer Bert Halstead.

Attendees: Karen Berman-Mulligan, Diane Covert, Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas (Co-Chair), Bert Halstead (Treasurer and Membership Coordinator), Louise Halstead, Kirstin Ilse, Anne Katzeff (Webmaster), Dari Paquette (Co-Chair), Rebecca Richards (Belmont Gallery of Art Co-Director), Janet Smith, and Jane Wentzell (Recording Secretary).

Business Meeting

- 1. Utility Box Public Art Project:** Dari announced that she and Naomi have applied for a grant from the Belmont Cultural Council in order to paint more utility boxes in Belmont. If the BAA is selected to receive a grant, boxes will be chosen to paint, and there will be a Call for Entries in the spring. Notification of grant recipients takes place in January 2022.
- 2. Holiday Small Works Sale:** Rebecca Richards discussed a possible outdoor art sale on the first weekend in December in the Homer Building parking lot. Due to the pandemic, many holiday art sales have been cancelled. Juliet Jenkins and her neighbor Katia Muser first proposed this idea after doing something on a smaller scale in their neighborhood last year. If anyone is interested in participating, email Naomi or Dari ASAP.
- 3. Nourish Show:** Rebecca officially opened BGA's new show, "Nourish," today. She reported a steady stream of visitors. The virtual reception is scheduled for tomorrow night, Oct. 29th, and will be broadcast by the Belmont Media Center.
Rebecca and Adine Storer, Co-Director of the BGA, are planning special events to go along with this exhibition. Under consideration are virtual talks on pastry making, bee keeping, and Haitian cooking. An art-making event is also being discussed.
The Nourish show is up until December 3rd. It can be visited whenever the building is open, but it is staffed on Thursdays from 10-4, Friday mornings from 10-12, and Sundays from 1-3 pm.
- 4. BGA's birdhouse project** has been postponed until spring (late March-early April) of 2022, and Kirstin Ilse has volunteered to oversee the project, which involves wooden birdhouses to be painted by children and other artists. The Belmont Garden Club may be involved, and the birdhouses may be hung next to the library in the garden planted and maintained by the garden club. This is another public art project sponsored by the Belmont Cultural Council.
- 5. Karen Berman Mulligan** discussed Lexington Open Studios, in the planning stages for Saturday June 11, 2022. This outdoor event is normally only open to artists and craftspeople who live or work in Lexington, but this year BAA members have been invited to participate. The Lexington Arts and Crafts Society will host a number of artists displaying their work outdoors on Waltham Street and also at the Munroe Center for the Arts on Mass. Ave. Several other artists will be giving home studio tours. This will be a large marketplace, with possibly 48 tables/tents.
- 6. Member Janet Smith** announced her show currently hanging in the Piper Gallery in the Lexington Public Library. She is showing 28 photos that she calls, "Images from the Boatyard." These photographs focus on the organic designs of peeling paint on metal boat hulls. Janet recommends the Lexington Public Library to other artists as a good space for their shows.

Presentation by Bert Halstead: Views of Iceland – The Search for a Unique Angle

BAA Treasurer Bert Halstead started exploring photography as a boy and especially enjoys combining photography with his love of travel. In September he traveled on a photography tour to Iceland and spent two weeks touring the beautifully scenic country. He shared some of his work from that trip and commented on how his artistic goals were achieved.

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