

Mamaroneck Artists Guild: Minutes, Annual Meeting, June 11, 2020

Secretary: Jane Black

Present via Zoom: Mitchell Visoky, Larry Gordon, Jackie Lorieo, Sheila Fane, Don Sexton, Jane Black, Barbara Hamill, Lisette Overweel, Marion Schneider, Christine Timmons, Kristin Krauskopf, Kathy Pure Wright, Fabien Wesner, Elana Rosenberg, Myra Hafetz, Ellen Valle, Linda Greenhouse, Christine Vogenson, Lori Pepe, Tatyana Polyak

Welcome:

Mitchell welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He added that 2020 and 2021 have been very difficult with the pandemic's influence on the organization. The board decided to close the gallery as of September 1, 2020 to meet its fiscal responsibilities to the members. MAG worked with a pro-bono attorney to get out of the lease. Everything from the gallery was put into storage. Mitchell thanked Tatyana for her dedication and expertise in putting everything online. MAG now has a presence on Facebook and Instagram as well as posting all shows on the website. MAG will continue with online shows and Zoom receptions through the summer. Many successful workshops were organized by Barbara Hamill through Jump Start Your Art. The board has continued its membership in the Larchmont Chamber of Commerce and has received support from Arts Westchester. The board has been looking for new space, with a current focus on a new space on Palmer Avenue. Once the gallery has relocated to a new space, the ten hour volunteer program for members will resume.

Treasurer's Report:

Kristin reviewed the treasurer's report, which showed a profit this past fiscal year (April 1, 2020-March 31, 2021) due to greatly reduced expenses with the gallery closed. Normally, MAG breaks even or operates at a slight loss. Contributions totaled \$15,000. Sales were down by 80% but programs down only slightly, due to the success of the online programs. MAG received two rounds of PPP loans, both of which are eligible for forgiveness. As of May 31 \$32,000 is in the bank accounts.

Committee Reports:

Programs: Barbara reported that Jump Start Your Art, begun in 2018, is a professional development program focused on enabling artists to maximize their ability to exhibit and sell their art. She is looking at programs on using social media, websites, and Photoshop. The program has been an income producer for MAG.

Shows: Tatyana reported that shows this year included one open juried show, two that were open to both members and non-members (for a higher fee), two for members only, three pop-

up shows, and a crafts boutique. All shows are posted on the website. She urges everyone to join the Facebook group and Instagram. MAG worked closely with Arts Westchester to have all the events listed.

Membership: Tatyana reported that letters for a \$50 dues installment were sent out in April. One hundred members responded with checks and twenty more responded verbally. Three members are on leave, three resigned, eleven new members have joined, and several haven't been heard from.

Fundraising: A fundraiser will hopefully be held in the fall.

Elections: Four candidates were running for the position of board member. Over four seats are available. Thirty six votes were received for three of the candidates and thirty five for one candidate. Jackie Lorieo made a motion, seconded by Christine V., to accept all four candidates as a slate. The vote was unanimous. The first board meeting of the new board will take place on June 14 at 7:00.

New Business:

Search for a new location: The board has been looking at possible new spaces over the past few months. They are currently reviewing the lease for a space on Palmer Avenue. If all goes well, MAG can take possession on July 15.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM. A motion to that effect was made by Marion and seconded by Jackie.