

Milton Artists' Guild Monthly Membership Meeting  
Minutes for February 18, 2016  
Held at the Milton Town Offices

**Attendance:**

Gisela Alpert, Dave Lesperance, Christina Lesperance, Maureen Genzlinger, Barry Genzlinger, Heidi Chamberlain, Doris Bergeron, Elisabeth Finstad, Julie Griffis, Amy Cook, Cheryl Alwine, Frank Alwine, Jane Morgan, Christine Porter, Sheila Mizzi, Ann Allen, Frank Mason & Sue Mason, Lori McLaughlin, Lorraine Manley, Mary Ann Duffy Godin, Dee Christie and Colleen Bunnell.

**Current treasury report: \$5,856.12.** This balance is after all of the posters for the poster project have been paid.

**Agenda**

**—Art Assault: Poster Project**

Several of the posters have been delivered to several of the venues in Milton and some in Burlington. The posters are being very well received and the intention is for all of the artists to be present for the presentation of the poster so they can meet the business owners to have a report with the artists and pictures have been taken of the artists presenting their posters. Plans are in place for the remaining posters to be delivered by March 10th.

The business venues have been asked if they want to be added to our mailing list to be sent MAG updates and letter of appeal- Gisela has business cards for all of the businesses who have agreed.

Courtney Lamdin will attend the poster presentation at Milton Family Practice on March 2nd to write an article for the Milton Independent. Gisela will also contact Seven Days, Burlington Free Press (Buyer's Digest) to see if they would be interested in running an article.

**—“Come as you Art” Summer Art Festival**

This will be a summertime, outdoor event at Bear Trap Nursery in Milton for artists within the Guild to demonstrate their form of art (i.e. stone sculpting, pottery, painting, wood carving, etc.). The intention is to have a day where artists can get together and have fun and camaraderie will also invite the public to be able to attend and see how different forms of art are created. Tonight we voted on whether to proceed with planning the event, and get an idea of when we should schedule it. The members present at the meeting unanimously voted yes to proceed with planning the event, and this will now be passed on to the Event Planning Committee to begin organizing the details. Sign up sheet was passed around to members to sign up to participate in and/or volunteer for the event. Also, if anyone is interested in volunteering to be on the Event Planning Committee, please let Gisela know as we will need help planning these various events.

After much discussion on timing of the event, general consensus was the beginning of the summer there are many conflicts with end of school and other craft & art show events in the area. Mid summer (July) presents the difficulty of dealing with bugs & deer flies which would make for a less than favorable experience. Potential dates to propose to the event planning committee are the weekends of September 10th or 17th, or one weekend in August. Would like

to have some kind of food there, will get some information on food truck vs. potluck or grilling food on our own. If we provided food ourselves, we would ask for a 'donation' instead of a set price. Maureen said that it had been much more profitable for the 'beCause' show with that strategy.

This summer we will also have a booth at the Milton Farmer's Market Thursday evenings. Sign up sheets were also passed for members interested in participating in this opportunity as well.

## —E- Newsletter

The February E-Newsletter was recently published by Gary Walz who took over for Barry Genzlinger. Everyone wants to thank Barry for his hard work on the Newsletters this past year. The next Newsletter will come out in April. All members are encouraged to please send any and all Art related information to Gary for Newsletter content. It can be information about your personal art, or interactions with other people about art, or anything that might be interesting for other members to read about. Colleen suggested maybe we could put the request out to the membership to see if anyone is interested in acting as the MAG "reporter" who can ask members questions about their work, process, and/or events and put together a short article for the newsletter. She made the point that it may be easier for some people to be interviewed than write about themselves.

## — Rewards of Service

This is an opportunity for members to talk about the benefits of choosing to volunteer your time and service to the Milton Artists' Guild in order to learn about some of the benefits and positive outcomes that have become of that experience. The nominating committee this year is Tina Lesperance and Amy Cook, and our annual meeting in June will be an opportunity for all members to be nominated for elected positions. There are always opportunities, however, to volunteer and get involved in the organization by being a part of various committees, helping and participating in events. Here is a summary of what some of the members had to say:

Doris- Director position: It was a lot of fun and was really nice getting to know new people, as well as going through and understanding the process for going through the budget and organizing the Barnes & Noble fundraiser.

Tina- Vice President & (former) Secretary: She has been able to build her confidence speaking out in front of others at meetings and events, and had been really great getting to know new people.

Maureen- Treasurer: Getting to know other people and artists on deeper level and gaining new friends and being able to share good times together.

Barry- past Director: Volunteering to write the Newsletter allowed him to pull together really interesting and important information to share with the membership and has learned so much about members and their creative work and process.

Jane- past Director, Secretary, Volunteer work: Finds it's a great way to be in an Artistic environment, and has learned a lot of great lessons which has allowed her to grow artistically and as a person.

Lori- Volunteer work: Had fun meeting a lot of new people at the Barnes & Noble fundraiser.

Julie- Secretary: Finds that being a member of the executive committee really gives her an opportunity to be an advocate for MAG and spreading the word about Art. Being involved allows you to take ownership of enhancing the community and people's lives through art and creative process by representing the organization.

Betsy- Director: Agrees with what everyone has expressed as benefits so far, as well as finding it interesting meeting other artists with similar perspectives and points of view. Being a part of an organization helps her to feel more confident about her own art and has been able to connect with many more people in the community than she otherwise would have.

Colleen- Volunteer work: Really enjoys just being a part of an organization helps give her confidence to create her art in front of other people and step outside her comfort zone, and then having the opportunity to help someone else in the future the way she has been helped.

Ann Allen- Past Treasurer: Feels like serving on the board allowed her to "do her part" to be a member of an organization. Has had a great time volunteering for fundraisers in the past.

Amy- has volunteered in many different capacities over the years and feels like working with others in MAG has an organizational design which is a creative thing. She enjoys seeing how the energy and work of the organization translates into a blossoming affect that she experiences this form of work much in the same way as she approaches her own creative process for creating her artwork.

Lorraine- Founder and various elected positions: She agrees with all the benefits that everyone has mentioned so far, and she has watched MAG grow since being one of the founders of the organization in 1988.

Cheryl- Past Director: Enjoyed getting together, discussing and being a part of creating and revising the policies. She also always enjoyed the retreat that Gisela provides at her home every year for the executive committee. Also helped organize the Festival of the Arts which was challenging, but a lot of fun and enjoyed seeing things come together into a great event.

Mary Ann- Various positions: Finds it very rewarding to help when you are a part of a group to contribute in any way you can by stepping out and trying something new and fun to make to make the organization better.

Dee- Volunteer work: Believes that it's important to give back to anything that she is a part of as many organizations rely on the generosity of those involved to volunteer their time.

Frank- Volunteer work: Finds volunteering is extremely rewarding when contributing to a group.

Gisela- Various Positions: Has been involved since 2008 and has made countless new friends and has found all her experience to be very rewarding. Also finds it rewarding to encourage others and be a part of growing an organization and the rewards outweigh all the hard work. Also wanted to make note that the chairs of each committee will be invited to attend a day of sailing on Lake Champlain this year as a thank you for all their time and hard work.

## **—Open Discussion:**

### **Upcoming workshops & events:**

- Colleen Bunnell will be demonstrating ice sculpting in front of the town offices on 2/19 from 12-2pm.
- Dave Lesperance will be holding a Digital Manipulation technique workshop on 2/24 for \$5 donation.
- Betsy will be holding a Photography 101 on 2/25 at her's and Julie Griffis' studio in town.

### **Exhibits Committee:**

Looking for members who want to display their work at our group show being installed at the US Attorney's Office. Two date options: please contact Linda Stech for more information: [lstech@comcast.net](mailto:lstech@comcast.net)

## **—Show & Tell:**

Lorraine- painting

Doris- prints

Cheryl- pottery baking dish

Frank Alwine- film camera

Barry & Maureen- wooden candy dish with decorative ornament hanger, diverse wooden bowls

Jane Morgan- painting

Christine- watercolor painting

Respectfully submitted by Julie Griffis, Secretary