

Milton Artist's Guild Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2016 10:00am-11:30pm

Held in the Community Room at the Milton Town Municipal Building

Attendance: Elisabeth Finstad, Tina & Dave L'esperance, Linda Stech, Annette Hansen, Deborah Dolby, Lorraine Manley, Greg Drew, Michael Purcell, Ellen Young, Judith Taylor, and Nicole Vance.

Agenda:

Budget Update

Balance is \$6193.61

All major bills are paid. We just paid Bill Kaigle for the work he has done on the poster project for 2015 which was \$10 per poster and totaled \$150. We also received \$17.09 from Amazon Smile. Please continue to use it when ordering from Amazon.com, spread the word to friends and family to sign up for it at <http://smile.amazon.com> and choose the Milton Artist's Guild as the benefactor! Every little bit helps!

Poster Project

The poster project has been very successful and well received. The Milton Family Practice sent a thank you note in regard to Leeza's poster. If anyone wants to purchase their own MDF board poster for whatever reason it will cost \$100.70 with tax. Contact Gisela or Bill.

Come As You Art

(info presented by Nicole Vance)

We discussed the pros and cons of the times of year that might be best to hold this event. Because it is our first time attempting this and because there really is no perfectly ideal time between holidays, school events, weather/insects, and customer traffic at the nursery we decided to just pick a time and date and go for it. September 17th from 10am-3pm was the best for those present. Colleen is open from 9am to 6pm.

There is a signup sheet available for anyone who has not gotten a chance to indicate interest. Participation would involve demos, an opportunity to showcase and sell without commission, and interaction with each other and anyone who was coming to the nursery. No live music would be allowed but you can bring iPods, etc. if you wish. There is limited space available indoors in the greenhouse but it is very warm and humid inside so that would not be ideal for some mediums. Bringing screen tents/portable awnings is fine, and Michael noted that there was a sale at Costco for 10'x10' tents with sides for \$200 right now.

We discussed if we should come up with some kind of entertainment for kids such as a bouncy house (not sure if allowed), a Community Canvas, scavenger hunt, etc. This was not finalized, just discussed. We would also possibly have a food/bake sale which would be by donation for the MAG's benefit.

Farmer's Market

The market runs from June 9th to October 10th on Thursday evenings from 4-7pm. That is 16 total weeks to sign up for. Elisabeth Finstad volunteered to help coordinate the signup sheet to ensure that every week is filled. The cost to the artist is \$10 per week, and there is a rules and regulations web page here:

<http://miltonyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/2016-MFM-APP-Guidelines.pdf>

Please review these guidelines before signing up. Contact Elisabeth (Betsy) at egfinstad@gmail.com if you have any questions for the MAG side of it.

Exhibition Committee

(presented by Linda Stech)

Mr. Little has installed two 5' sections of hanging track at his South Hero law offices and is ready to exhibit! Please contact Linda if you are interested in displaying your work at this location. There are two month blocks available (see below).

The US Attorney's Office is looking to display work from MAG artists. They have two very long hallways plus a stairwell. Debra and Bill currently have art hanging there now. The contact at the office is Amy Sterns. She asks for a 6 month commitment to hang there due to the security issues of coming in and out (metal detector, no cell phones allowed, etc).

Linda is working on organizing a group show for the end of August that would last 6 months here. She would like to have us pick a theme for the show. Please email any ideas to her, and we will vote on a theme. This would not just be a photography show as we have had in the past, it would be mixed media. Also we have noticed that if the theme is somewhat loose or vague that more creativity is allowed (i.e. the Passageways exhibit). We are hoping to have this decided on by next week so she has time to get everything set up.

Some limitations on displaying at the US Attorney's Office exist. Most likely 3 dimensional art would need to be able to hang on the wall. They also have no hanging system in place so whatever you contribute would need to be able to hang on a nail and not be excessively heavy. On the other hand, art has been selling from there! Amy Sterns keeps a list with all info for each piece, including price, and there has been a lot of interest from both employees and visitors/dignitaries that come through the office. It was suggested that we pick a theme that promotes Vermont in hopes that there would be a greater chance for sales by out of state potential customers.

Other exhibit news

The Law Offices of Matthew Little in South Hero has openings for June/July and Dec/Jan. The Community Gallery has been allotted to the High School this month. Please go and see what our town's students have been up to!

Julie Griffis currently has an exhibit of her beautiful acrylic paintings at the Town Library. Dee Christie is currently exhibiting at BioTek. Please contact Gisela to coordinate showing at BioTek! It is a wonderful opportunity to display! They have a state of the art hanging system in place and you will receive \$50/month to have your art there!

Show and Tell

Annette Hansen showed us two of her latest acrylic landscapes. One was the view of Mount Mansfield from Pleasant Valley in Underhill, and the other was the view from Golf Course Road in Williston. She will be teaching a landscape painting class on Monday evening at CVU to 15 people!

Dave L'esperance brought in three photos he had made. He has been experimenting with a laser jet printer and portraitures. One photo was a large colorful print of a field of flowers with bees (not laser jet printed), one was a monochrome portrait of a seated guitar player, and the last was a wonderful photo of a wood carving that looked like it should be in a magazine.

Nicole Vance brought in a beautiful felted wall hanging with a folk art style tree that she has been working on, along with a smaller Pennsylvania Dutch style design of a flower, also felted. She had two glamorous models along with her to showcase her work!

Elisabeth Finstad has also been playing with felt and brought in two peacock wall hangings and a landscape of Mount Mansfield.

Michael Purcell brought in his stone carving project that he has been working on since last summer of a bearded dragon. It is coming along very nicely with details added by his Dremel. Katherine Stockman has been his instructor (contact Gisela if you are interested in taking a stone carving class with Katherine!)

Greg Drew brought in some wooden carvings he has been working on. The first was a very striking tall vase that was shaped almost like a woman's torso. It elicited much conversation due to its color and shape. He also had what he called an irregular bowl (looks different from different angles) and a wooden sculpture shaped a bit like a square with a hole in the center.