

Milton Artists Guild meeting     May 19, 2016

Milton Community Room         10 am – noon

Attending: Gisela Alpert, Heidi Chamberlain, Mary Ann Godin, Sue Hoffer, David Lesperance, Tina Lesperance, Lorraine Manley, Christine Porter-Holler, Linda Stetch, Ellen Young

The minutes from April 2016 stand as written.

The bank balance was reported to be \$6500 with no outstanding bills.

**Nominations requested** - Gisela gave a reminder that the nominations for the Board of Officers and Directors are due no later than May 27<sup>th</sup>. Members were asked to send nominations to Amy Cook ([amy@amicusstudio.com](mailto:amy@amicusstudio.com)) and to Tina Lesperance ([castlegarden\\_vt@yahoo.com](mailto:castlegarden_vt@yahoo.com)). The nominations are sent to both members of the nominating committee is standard 'best practice' in non-profit management. Absentee ballots are available. Voting will take place at the Annual Meeting. An email was sent out to the membership with a description of the positions.

**The Annual Meeting** potluck supper will be held at the home of Barry and Maureen Genzlinger at 17 Stacy Street in Milton on June 16<sup>th</sup>. The Genzlingers will be serving chicken on the grill, and wine will be offered. Extra chairs are requested.

**Fourth of July parade** – Gisela brought the umbrellas for any MAG members who sign up to walk in the parade. The route is 1.5 miles, from Herrick School to the town library. The white umbrellas are a blank canvas and can be decorated in any manner of your choosing (and free to keep). Please contact Gisela to obtain your umbrella.

**Exhibits** – Linda reported that the exhibition committee has discussed adding venues. Under consideration are the new Cathedral Square and Northwest Medical Center, however more volunteers are needed for (occasional help) in hanging artwork at venues. The possibility of group shows at Burlington City Arts' gallery and at Frog Hollow are being investigated.

The 'Local Inspirations' show at the state's attorneys' office is a six month show set to run from September to February 2017. Several pieces have been sold at this venue at previous exhibits. They take no commission on sales. It must be 'hang-able', two dimensional pieces or three dimensional pieces that have a safe and secure method of display (think: shadowbox). Please contact Linda if you would like to participate in this show, or in any other venue, [lstech@comcast.net](mailto:lstech@comcast.net).

Gisela mentioned the new space at Biotek tentatively scheduled to open late spring of 2017. The theme of the show is inspiration from the cellular microscopy portrayed in Biotek's calendar. Pieces can be any medium, any size. No commission is taken, and the company has offered a catered reception.

It was reported that we have asked the Milton selectboard to budget for an improved hanging system for the library and the community gallery. There is a current opening for Build a Bagel in St. Albans for exhibiting, no commission is taken for pieces sold.

For solo shows, the exhibitor is responsible for providing their own wall labels. The instructions for printing them is provided when someone signs up for a show. David Lesperance offered assistance for anyone who may need help with this.

**Juried shows** - Gisela brought up the subject of sponsoring a juried show. Discussion comments included:

- Would we offer cash prizes, ribbons?
- jurying categories, and should we invite other art groups if not enough entries in a category
- opening it to other groups could raise money
- jurors would need to be paid, and credentials accepted by the group
- judging criteria would have to be determined and agreed upon
- experience in juried shows is gained through participation
- rejection is difficult and can be discouraging
- members felt that we should start with a 'judged' show rather than 'juried'
- discussion will be discussed further at the July meeting

**New fundraiser** – Gisela brought in several old galvanized sap buckets with the intent that these could be painted and sold at Coleen's nursery, Bear Trap Nursery, with all proceeds returned to the MAG. Please contact Gisela as soon as possible if you would like to participate. Timing is short – the goal for completion is Memorial Day weekend if possible, as it is Colleen's biggest sales weekend.

**Publicity committee** – We are asking for an additional person to volunteer for the committee. That person's primary responsibility would be to help us with advertisements for the Holiday Show.

**Workshops** – Gisela asked if anyone is interested in participating in another sculpting workshop to please send her an email. Mandy Hotchkiss' workshop will be presenting a marketing workshop on June 14<sup>th</sup> in the Community Room, free to MAG members, \$5 for non-members. Please RSVP to Gisela.

**Facebook** – As of this meeting, we have 590 'likes'; our goal is 1000 by the end of the year. If you haven't done it already, please invite your Facebook contacts to 'like' our page.

**Milton Farmers' Market** - Betsy Finstad is maintaining the calendar for Farmers' Market signups. If you are interested, there is a \$10 non-refundable fee if you are a no-show, but refundable if you find another member who agrees to take your place. If you have not yet chosen a particular week, please contact her at [egfinstad@gmail.com](mailto:egfinstad@gmail.com) for availability.

### **Show and Tell**

Sue Hoffer brought in jewelry and suncatchers made from sea glass and other natural materials.

Christine Porter showed a pastel of a duckling. She is looking for a workshop to learn more about working with soft pastels.

Lorraine brought in a new painting of a foliage scene with water.

Heidi Chamberlain brought in several pieces, including cross stitch canvases, monoprints, and collages.

Lori McLaughlin said that her second book, 'Trouble by any other name', was release as an eBook on Monday and will be released in print this week.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Lesperance