Annual Meeting

Monday, March 17, 2025

Minutes

President David Morrison opened the meeting at 11:25 and welcomed those present. In attendance were Board Members, David Morrison, Christine Bart, Sue Hensler, Millie Morrison, and Jacqueline Marth. Also present were 33 Estero Art League members. Those present did not represent a quorum.

The following matters were discussed:

Financial: Balance of the Bank of America Checking Account is $17,187.71. Balance of our CD is $33,075.40. Our total assets are $50,263.40. Our total fixed liabilities are $2,272.05 and our total optional liabilities are 4,118.23. Our CD has matured and will be reinvested with Achieva Credit Union.

Membership: At present we have 80 full memberships, and 7 gallery-only memberships.

Election of Officers: This year three Board positions were up for election. Notification was sent to all Estero Art League members asking for volunteers to fill these positions. As no volunteers have come forward as of today, the Board will remain as it is.

David Morrison announced he will be stepping down as President after next year. He asked for volunteers to help take over some of the duties he performs. Help is needed for membership drive, web site maintenance, posting next season's classes, collecting dues and payments for classes, printing labels and information sheets for exhibits. David emphasized that everything is automated, easy to learn, and only requires basic computer knowledge.

COCO Gallery:

Sue Hensler is our new delegate to the Art Council of Southwest Florida. Bonnie Delp is our new alternate delegate. There is a meeting Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at which new officers will be elected. This is important for us as our membership in ACSWF allows our members to exhibit at COCO Gallery.

At this time, we have 32 members signed up for the April Exhibit at COCO Gallery. Each artist will be allowed two paintings if they are under 30" wide and one painting if over 30" wide. Artists will also be able to submit three paintings in the small works category. Instructions for the exhibit and registration will be sent by David in an email. The inventory sheets will now be printed by David as well as the labels.

Finemark Exhibit:

The Finemark Exhibit was a success with both the first and second place winning paintings being sold at the reception. The delicious food at the reception was prepared by the bank's chef. The art league provided beer and wine, and the harpist who played during the evening. The reception was attended by thirty of the bank's patrons. David Morrison gave a short presentation of the art league and what we hope to see in the future. Patrons were surprised to learn that we are the only town in the area that does not have an art presence.

The art league has been invited to have another exhibit at the bank next year. A continuing relationship with the bank and their patrons is of great importance to us as it could be very beneficial in the future.

The Finemark exhibit was fairly costly for us this year as we purchased new hanging clips for the exhibit as well as expenditures for beer and wine, ribbons for the contest, and the harpist.

In addition to exhibiting at Finemark next year, we may also be exhibiting at the library.

Estero Art League Permanent Space: In the ongoing pursuit of a place to call our own, and in addition to the Finemark Exhibit, David has sent a letter to a well- known philanthropist in this area who supports many different causes. It very much looks like we are not going to get any help in our endeavor from the Village of Estero. They seem to be interested only if you are a developer.

Classes:

Chris Bart and Sue Hensler have done an excellent job this year providing the membership with a variety of classes. The classes have been well attended and we are getting a lot of positive feedback. Chris has created a class survey that is available on the website. Those surveys are then summarized by class. Students are urged to share their thoughts about classes they attend. The surveys are extremely helpful in the scheduling of next year's classes. Chris asked for a show of hands of new class suggestions for next year. Classes included were: Pastel (7), Beginning Acrylic (6), Advanced Acrylic (9), Landscape/floral (6), Abstract (7). There was also interest in a Basic Watercolor class.

Chris also presented the idea of demos by different artists in their studios or other spaces outside the rec center. She is interested in presenting some new "out of the box" ideas to the membership.

There are a few openings in Tammy DeCaro's Resin class on April 3. It is a half day class from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students will be creating designs on two small trays. David emphasized that all supplies will be provided including the surfaces. There will be detailed instructions including how to do resin on canvas.

Open Forum:

There will be no Open Paint on May 5.

Community involvement includes Sunshine Cards. Gloria Holman was in charge of cards previously, but has been unable to continue. Mary Weaver volunteered to help with this.

Christine Reichow informed the membership that there was an opening at Tower Gallery on Sanibel. If anyone is interested in applying, please see Christine.

Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:57.

A buffet luncheon immediately followed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Marth, Secretary