



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS TELEPHONIC MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 31, 2011**                      **7:00 pm**

**ROLL CALL**

Peggy King	Vic Barr	Joyce Rosen	Jeanne Scott
Don Kelley	Stephanie Witte	Garnetta Sullivan	Bill Merritt
Jeff Walker	Danya Roselle	Brenda Beck-Fisher	
Martha Greer	Michael Gaines	Mary Beth St. Claire	

Peggy King called the telephonic conference to order at 7:04 pm.

Brenda Beck-Fisher moved to approve the June 21<sup>st</sup> Board of Directors Meeting minutes. Vic Barr seconded the motion. All approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Peggy King stated that all matters she would report on would be discussed later in the meeting and turned the floor over to Vic Barr.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Vic Barr delivered a 12-month profit and loss report. As of this point the organization is just about \$1000.00 in debt, but Silver Dollar City jury fees have not been reported to date. Vic further reported that [the new Quickbooks software upgrade](#), ~~the new bookkeeping software agreed to~~, had not yet been downloaded.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Jeanne Scott reported that copies of the approved May and June Board Meeting minutes as well as an updated copy of the Board of Director's Handbook needed to be forwarded to Garnetta Sullivan. Garnetta agreed to update the website as soon as possible after receiving the necessary documents.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Joyce Rosen opened discussion regarding the 2012 election of members to the Board of Directors. Joyce reported that she has contacted several people she believes would make great future Board Directors. Joyce agreed to gather biographies for Board of Directors

nominees. Martha Greer thanked Joyce for all of her hard work in developing a list of Board nominees.

Mary Beth St. Claire and Bill Merritt agreed that it would be valuable to have some Directors from outside the art community. Martha Greer agreed that outside resources are essential for a healthy organization.

Michael Gaines stated that it is the duty of the Nominating Committee to determine the strongest candidates before they are presented to the General Membership. Vic Barr offered that we have the option of nominating a slate of candidates for the General Membership to vote on. Mary Beth St. Claire expressed concern that some members may vote against the entire slate should they disapprove of a single nominee.

| The conference call ended abruptly -due to technical problems, and everyone called back in.

Martha Greer turned the conversation to voting procedures and asked if an online/email ballot could be used as the preferred method of voting. Carol Knox offered that she has a list of members who do not have access to email, and it was generally agreed that we could provide paper ballots to members who are unable to vote online. It was also agreed that we could provide paper ballots by request for any member who preferred one.

Peggy King stated that all we can do is provide the opportunity to vote. Mary Beth St. Claire offered that an online voting link should be included in the Members Only section of the website. Michael Gaines stated that providing an email link to voting is good enough, and that the easier we make it for people to vote the more likely it may be that they will vote, though there are no guarantees that members will cast ballots.

Discussion followed regarding the duties of Board Directors due to the lack of achieving a quorum for several past meetings. Bill Merritt asked how a Director can be considered viable if they do not attend meetings. Mary Beth St. Claire noted that Directors have value outside of meeting attendance.

The discussion turned to the contractual obligations of the Directors. While it was generally agreed that we want MAA/BOMH to be as inclusive an organization as possible it was also recognized that we are having trouble conducting the business of the organization due to the inability of Board Members to meet in person. While telephonic conferences do help us meet our obligations, Martha Greer offered that face-to-face presence and discussion is valuable, and that we all need to re-evaluate what we are able to commit to the Board. Mary Beth St. Claire stated that we can focus on policy and directive to make the duties of Directors more clear. It was generally agreed that the Board of Directors contract clearly states what is expected of Directors and that the President and Advisors could play a more active role in reminding seated Directors of their contractual duties.

## **ACTIVITIES REPORT-Status Reports**

### ArtStravaganza! 2011

Joyce Rosen reported that she had received 3 new applications for ArtStravaganza! 2011 in the past 2 days. 21 of the available 44 spaces are currently full. Vic Barr reported that the final layout of the show would depend on how many vendors will participate. Joyce Rosen asked if another announcement should be placed in the next newsletter and it was agreed to do so if space was available. Vic Barr and Peggy King offered to use the weekend show at Queeny Park to try to find more participants for ArtStravaganza!.

### Big Red Box

Martha Greer reported that she was waiting for a call back from Jane Eisenberg [from the Foundry in St. Charles](#). Joyce Rosen reminded the group that Jane is a part-time employee and difficult to contact. Martha agreed to continue to try to contact Jane and will report back on her progress.

### Celebrating Creativity 2011

Martha Greer reported that the exhibit is up. Martha organized local press releases for participating artists, and Peggy King [noticed recognized](#) the press coverage for the show in the Columbia Tribune and Columbia Life [Magazine](#).

### Silver Dollar City

Jeff Walker reported that the Made in Missouri Show will be set on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Jeff has been picking up work and Patti Zieche will also pick up work at Queeny Park during the Labor Day weekend show there.

Jeff reported that there were 58 accepted entries and that Silver Dollar City is taking care of all press releases. As of the meeting all is on schedule for Made in Missouri. Vic Barr asked about storage of original transit containers for artworks and Jeff stated that all original containers were being stored and labeled and that artworks would be returned in their original packaging.

### ArtSmart 2012

Martha Greer reported that the place, date and keynote speaker were all secured for the 2012 ArtSmart Conference. The keynote speaker, Jason Horejs, seems open to structuring his presentation according to membership interests. Jeanne Scott and Stephanie Witte offered to help with breakout sessions for the Conference.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

### Activities

Martha Greer reported that she has been talking to non-members, juried members and to rejected juried artist applicants. She enjoys the one-on-one and group contact and feels like she is learning more about the membership at large. Martha secured advertising for

the Trails West show in St. Joseph, MO that included individual press releases for participating artists.

#### Status of Grants

Martha applied for a grant through the Missouri Humanities Council for funding for musical performances. The current status of the Regional Arts Council grant is unchanged. Martha is working on the filing report for a \$6000.00 grant through the Missouri Arts Council.

#### Wholesale Shows

Martha reported that she spoke with Dodie Eisenhower regarding several wholesale opportunities and that it was decided that at the current time only the Kentucky Crafted show was worth pursuing. Martha is seeking a liaison for the show and Mike Ochonicky was recommended.

#### Member Benefits

Martha Greer reported that Bill Merritt would report on the results of the online survey later in the meeting, but that the survey had been a valuable tool for determining which benefits our membership wants.

#### 501c6 Status

Martha Greer opened conversation regarding the 501c6 Not-for-Profit Status. Martha reported that our next step is to choose a name for the entity and we can move forward from there. Vic Barr reminded the group that the original intent for [securing](#) the 501c6 status was to apply to Juried Membership and sales/fundraising.

Mary Beth St. Claire stated that there were several grant opportunities available with this new status and that Martha should research them. Vic Barr read the IRS description of 501c6 status requirements and opportunities to the group and it remained unclear whether any fundraising/grant opportunities were inherently available. Martha Greer agreed to research opportunities on Mary Beth's recommendation. Mary Beth St. Claire also recommended that Peggy King meet with the lawyer regarding 501c6 status.

#### Potential BOMH partnership with Arts in Healthcare

Martha Greer described the Arts in Healthcare program as a pilot program of a rotating gallery providing artwork for long-term care facilities throughout the state. This program is still in the formative stages. Martha wants to ask the membership if there is an interest in participating in this kind of program. To begin with Arts in Healthcare would need 30 pieces of 11" x 14" artwork.

Michael Gaines reminded the group that this was a great opportunity to allow artists to participate in this program at their respective local or area healthcare facilities. It was agreed that whenever possible local artists should be included, and that Martha should continue moving forward with this program and report back to the Board.

#### Programs and Organizational Progress Report

Martha requested that we all pay closer attention to emails and that we try harder to give her timely feedback regarding existing programs and progress reports.

#### Future Surveys and Online Voting Capabilities

Martha reported that the online survey seemed to have been a success and that this will be a good tool for information gathering in the future. She also agreed to report to the Board regarding email voting sites that are free to use.

#### Volunteer to Write Member Articles for Newsletter

We are seeking volunteers to write Member Articles for the upcoming Newsletter. Lynne Lampe, our current Newsletter editor is resigning her post after the November 2011 issue. Martha asked the Board to recommend anyone who would be capable in this position.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Carol Knox reported that the organization gained 6 new members in the last quarter.

### **JURY COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### Results of Summer Jury Session

Vic Barr reported on the results of the Summer Jury Session. Vic stated that there were nine new Juried Artist Members from the Summer Session. Vic further reported that all relevant materials have been transferred to Lisa Becker and that she is ready to take over as Jury Chair.

#### Further Uses of EntryThingy

The Jury Committee is planning to expand their use of EntryThingy and discussion of using EntryThingy as the primary application vehicle for Big Red Box was discussed.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Governor's Mansion Display

Michael Gaines reported that changing the display at the Governor's Mansion is moving forward. All 5 geographical regions as well as St. Louis and Kansas City will be represented. A total of eight 2-dimensional pieces are needed to fill the display.

#### Web Site Status

Martha Greer reported that development of the new website is moving forward and that we are ready to send out for bids. September 16, 2011 is the deadline for submission for bids.

#### Fall Fundraising Status

Joyce Rosen and Martha Greer reported that they are still working toward a Fall Fundraiser in Columbia but that it has been difficult to schedule and organize. They will continue working toward finalizing this project, but that it may have to be pushed back to a date in the spring. There will not be a -Fall Raffle this year.

### Part-Time Assistant Position

A short discussion followed regarding the need for a part-time assistant to the Executive Director. Without a permanent office space to work from and further funding, ~~this seems an impossibility at the moment.~~ It was generally agreed that this topic should be set aside for later discussion but that an assistant's position will become a necessity in the future.

### Bylaws Language Revision re: Corporate Member Voting Rights

General discussion followed regarding the exclusion of Corporate Members from voting. It was agreed that a minimal change to the Bylaws would alleviate the situation but that further discussion would be tabled until the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Executive Director 6-Month Review

Results from Martha Greer's 6-month performance reviews were discussed. In general the reviews were very strong, but left some room for improvement as Martha continues to learn more about her duties. Peggy asked Martha to describe the job as she sees it.

Martha reported that she is working an average of 25 hours-a-week, sometimes more. Martha values the flexibility of the job and feels that her core responsibilities have been met. Martha stated that she loves the work and that she can see a future need for a full-time Executive Director position, but that more funding resources are needed before this can be realized.

It was generally agreed by the Board that Martha had more than met her job requirements. The Board recognized that there is still room for improvement, but that improvement is mostly needed due to the newness of the position. The Board has every confidence that Martha will continue to learn and grow in the position and we all agreed that we are quite lucky to have her at the helm.

As a matter of business the Executive Board unanimously approved a \$200.00 per month pay increase back-dated to July 1, 2011 for the Executive Director position. This pay increase was offered as a part of the original contract should performance warrant it.

### Results of Summer Member Survey—Next Steps

Bill Merritt discussed the results of the online membership survey and stated that the survey had been a great resource for determining which benefits are most important to the membership-at-large. Bill reported that the Former Members survey would be left up for the month of September, and Peggy King agreed that this was a good idea. Bill asked that the Board review the comments reported through the survey and asked for help in strategizing how to move forward with the information.

Bill Merritt informed the Board that he was owed compensation for three months of expenses for conducting the survey. It was agreed that all relevant expenses would be forwarded to the bookkeeper for reimbursement.

Offer of Office Space from Parkade Plaza

Peggy King discussed the offer of office space ~~made by at~~ Parkade [Center in Columbia Plaza](#) for \$250.00 a month. Martha asked if we knew exactly what we hoped to achieve with office/gallery space. While it was agreed that this is a wonderful offer, the organization is not ready to accept the offer at this time.

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2011.

At approximately 9:46 pm Jeff Walker moved to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie Witte seconded the motion. All Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jeanne Scott  
Recording Secretary