



**FREDERICTON ARTS ALLIANCE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Gallery Connexion, Chestnut Complex on York Street 7 p.m., December 1, 2010

Present

Board Members: Katie FitzRandolph, Tony Merzetti, Sabine Campbell, Kim Vose Jones, Myrna Gunter, Renée Davis, George Strunz, Leo MacNeil.

Coordinator: Maria Bourgeois.

Members: Marilyn Mazerolle, M. Travis Lane, Daesun Park, Penny Ericson – FAL, John MacDermid - Gallery Connexion, Julie Scriver – GooseLane, Russ Hunt - St Thomas University, Margie Pacey, Penny Pacey, Sarah Petite - CARFAC Maritimes, Jane Stewart - We Can Too, Marie Maltais - UNB Art Centre, Derek Davidson, Susan Pierce, Jean Rooney, Kathy Tidswell, Brigid Grant, Janet Crawford, Karen Ruet, Meredith Snider.

1. Call to order- Katie FitzRandolph, 7:10pm

2. Adoption of the agenda

Revision to order to agenda- Financial Report will be given before President's Report.

Motion to adopt the agenda- Sabine Campbell

2nd- Renée Davis

All in favour, motion carried.

3. Minutes of the 2009 AGM, Nov 18th, 2009.

Corrections-

a) Date correction- under item 3- minutes adoption from the previous year should be recorded as **2008** instead **2009**.

b) Meredith Snider to be added to "present" list.

Motion to accept the minutes- Myrna Gunter

Second- George Strunz

All in Favour, carried.

4. Business arising from the minutes.

none

5. Correspondence.

Letter received from New Brunswick Deputy Minister of Wellness, Culture and Sport Ellen Barry concerning late receipt of grants to FAA.

Read allowed by Katie, please see-attached letter.

Highlights: FAA will now be eligible for "project based funding", please see website for more information on the programming of FAA.

Comments from Floor: none

Motion letter be received: George Strunz

Second: Meredith Snider

All in favour, carried.

6. Reports:

(i) Treasurer's report- Presented by Sabine Campbell

Sabine read allowed the attached report. Please see attached report.

Motion to adopt the report: Sabine Campbell

Second: Tony Merzetti

All in Favour, carried.

(ii) President's report- Presented by Katie FitzRandolph

Katie read allowed the attached report. Please see attached report.

Highlights-Katie reminded the membership of the letter she read earlier in the meeting which said we would not be getting the operating money for 2011 from the Duputy Ministers office.

Katie thanked Cathy Leblanc for developing the FAA website.

Motion to adopt: Katie FitzRandolph

Second: George Strunz

All in Favour, carried.

7. The Future of the FAA

Katie posed the following questions to the membership-

Is there a will for the FAA to continue?

Have we done all that needs to be done and is our mission accomplished?

What other sources of funding would enable us to carry on?

Are there other organizations that can effectively take over the work that the FAA has been doing for more than a decade?

Should the FAA seek to merge with another arts organization?

Discussion ensued.

Questions and key discussion points from the floor:

George Strunz- How much financial support would Enterprise Fredericton give to FAA to start a "Chamber of Culture" organization?

Katie FitzRandolph- The money would be start up money to form another organization, gather commitments from other organizations in the arts, and to create a more effective organization. Katie is not sure how much money would be involved.

Marie Maltais asked what the membership fee scale is for FAA.

Maria Bourgeois - clarified that the scale which is posted on the FAA website ranges from \$10.00 for students to \$60.00 for corporations.

Marie suggested raising the price of associations and corporate memberships fee. Marie noted that such organizations expect to pay a higher level for such a service.

Katie wished to see more of a commitment from established arts organization.

Leo MacNeil noted that 100 was not a lot of members considering that the readership of the ArtsNews was over 1000 people.

Katie wants to keep ArtsNews as a free service and doesn't want to jeopardy grants.

Sabine noted that galleries only pay a \$40.00 membership fee.

Meredith Snider suggested that those who submit ads regularly pay a yearly fee.

Travis Lane asked where does the money come from for paying the fee? It was noted that some organizations couldn't pay the fee because they are offering a free venue for artist.

Julie Scriver proposed an annual fee. She also mentioned that she never received a notice for renewal.

Travis mentioned that she was uncomfortable with paying an annual fee.

George suggested that not- for- profits shouldn't have to pay a user fee.

And that people who place ads should become members.

John MacDermid framed the economics of the situation by pointing out that these submissions act as ads for the organizations.

Jane Steward suggested that if everyone was agreeing that FAA should strike a committee to generate money from corporations and new memberships.

Katie noted the suggestion and clarified that this task would fall to the new board to execute.

Renee Davis reminded everyone that this type of funding is a small piece of what FAA needs to survive- FAA needs more money then this will generate and that the organization has been surviving mainly due to the work of a small group of volunteers.

Katie explained to the membership that FAA would not have any paid staff after January 1st. Katie also noted that we will be able to keep Amani on hopefully through the New Year but nothing is guaranteed at this point.

Sarah Petit asked for clarification as to how ArtsLink was formed. She thought ArtsLink would be a bigger FAA. She asked if more partnerships could be established between these two organizations?

Katie called on George and Russ to answer this question.

Russ and George noted that ArtsLink was created to be an umbrella organization for the arts serving all arts communities in New Brunswick. It was not expected that the funding of FAA would be cut because of its formation. The membership was to be directed to the ArtsLink website for a more extensive explanation of its mandate.

Russ did not know why ArtsLink and FAA were not more connected and believed that perhaps a partnership would be worth exploring.

George noted that ArtsLink was a suggestion of government granters.

Sarah asked if there was a list of organizations supported by ArtsLink. No one knew the answer to this question.

Penny Erickson suggested that ArtsLink needed FAA's direction and that FAA should be the first link of ArtsLink.

Maria noted that FAA was the model for ArtsLink in terms of development.

Sarah asked that ArtsLink be informed about all of FAA's programs.

Leo addressed the practicality that FAA consists of a volunteer board with no staff. He asked what programs do we keep? How do we initiate on-going fundraising?

Katie asked the membership if they thought FAA should continue?
All agreed.

Katie said this gave the new board a sense of value, energy and direction.

Russ thought it would be best to figure out FAA's link to ArtsLink.

Motion

The new board will investigate/explore FAA's relationship with ArtsLink.

Motion-George

Second- Sabine

All in favour, carried.

Katie asked if there were any more suggestions.

Russ asked what the bottom [financial] line was for FAA to continue if FAA could find a corporate donor?

Katie said that \$15000 would see FAA through to the next period.

Jean suggested that we explore alternative fundraising options. She would be interested in donate a piece to help form "an art library for rent" to a corporation.

Maria said she fears burn issues. She pointed out how much work it takes to explore other options, fundraising, get partnerships for some of the programs. She suggested FAA really needs to spread out the work and that even the research is time consuming research.

Sabine suggested that FAA needs a volunteer organizer.

George suggested with more volunteers we could survive another year without a staff.

Katie noted that Maria is creating a handbook of how to keep FAA going.

Katie suggested that FAA should develop partnerships such as with Gallery Connexion during the next year without staff to help organize and run such programs as the Artist- In- Residency Program.

Marie asked if it was possible for someone such as Fredericton's Cultural Affairs officer run ArtsNews.

Katie believes the City wants FAA to continue running this for them. She thinks we will receive the funding for this program.

Tony noted that right now we have two organizations in the city FAL and FAA. FAA had a focus on political forums, and FAL created a cultural centre. Tony asks if it would be easier/ more effective to carry on the activities of both by one organization if it meant saving the programs?

Penny Ericson explained that although the groups overlap, they are distinct and serve different mandates. She noted that she is not sure how it would benefit each organization.

Sarah noted that there may have been a legal reason to keep them separate.

Maria suggested that it may have had something to do with the charity status.

Renee suggested that it may be difficult to balance creating and running an arts centre and FAA programming

Maria suggested that FAA's three distinct programming could be taken on by appropriate organizations such as the Artist- In- Residency Program to Connexion, the political forum to ArtsLink.

Penny suggested that the membership ask the new board to be specific about what they need. So that if it should come to a year various organizations such as FAL could do the residency because of their volunteers, or FAL could offer space for the Artist- In- Residency.

Motion

John moved that the new board will review what was suggested during the AMG and explore partnerships with ArtsLink and other arts organizations.

Motion-John

Second-Tony

8. Unfinished business.

None dealt with during the meeting.

9. Report of Nominating Committee.

Presented by George Strunz

George informed the membership that there would be three non-returning board members- Tony Merzetti

Meredith Snider

Leo MacNeil

George informed the membership that there were six returning board members.

These returning members are-

Myrna Gunter- completed 1 term

Katie FitzRandolph- 2 term

Kim Vose Jones- 3 term

Renee Davis- 3 term

George Strunz- 3 term

Sabine Campbell- 3 term

The following members were nominated to the board-

Russ Hunt

Marie Maltais

Jean Rooney

Penny Pacey

Katie called three times for nominations.

No more were suggested from the floor.

The new board members were called by acclamation.

10. Election of directors (board members) from the membership.

11. **Adjournment**

Maria thanked the board and membership.
Katie thanked Maria for her work with FAA.

Motion to adjourn- Sabine Campbell
All in favour, carried.
Adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Vose Jones