

**Fredericton Arts Alliance
Board Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2006
Edmund Casey 324, STU**

Present: Maria Bourgeois, Brigid Grant, Katie Fitzrandolph, Russ Hunt, Karen LeBlanc, Neil McGill, Maggie McLaughlin, Roslyn Rosenfeld, George Strunz

1. Call to Order

2. Adoption of the Agenda: FitzRandolph/Hunt that the agenda be adopted

3. Approval of the Minutes of the March 9 meeting: FitzRandolph/Hunt

4. Treasurer's Report: Memberships totaling \$110 provided the only revenues for the month, with the closing bank balance \$8845.72. Report adopted: LeBlanc/FitzRandolph

5. Co-ordinator's Report: Maria reported that all grant applications were in, and that \$6000 had been received from the city (\$4000 for residencies and \$2000 for Art Trek). The Pro-Bono project was complete. A committee had been struck to plan the Chinese Artists' visit tentatively scheduled for June 4-7. Marie was to meet with Casemates co-ordinator Micheline Melanson sometime in May. The issue of insurance for the Casemates is expected to be resolved soon. Maria also reported on the Arts Evening of March 17 in which Carmen Gibbs outlined the development of the AAPNB. There is interest from that organization in seeing the development of an Anglophone counterpart.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

a) Participation in the CAR/FAC AGM:

Maria reported on discussions with Sarah Petite of CAR/FAC. The topic for the public event will be the Internet and the artist. The FAA is to provide general advice and assistance in the planning of this event, with no financial commitment involved.

b) Update on Chinese artists' visit:

Maria, Katie and Karen had listened through a conference call with the committee planning this visit. There have been offers of accommodation in Fredericton. The artists are expected to arrive here from Saint John Sunday afternoon. Plans include an opening at noon on Monday, demonstrations that afternoon, workshops Tuesday afternoon (tentatively), with a traditional Chinese dinner Tuesday evening. Other meals will be potlucks offered by the Chinese Cultural Association and the Multicultural Association of Fredericton.

c) Update on Arts Education Evening

While Steven was not present, board members acknowledged that it has been hard to get people from government to commit to a discussion of this topic. Other formats and topics were discussed, including programs devised by Keswick Ridge and Montgomery Street schools, Science East programs, a collaboration between a school and a theatre group, and Early Childhood programs (Helen May). We decided a committee should work with Steven. Brigid would serve and Peter Gorham should be asked.

d) Website Planning Committee report:

Russ presented his proposal for a website and provided quotes from Dave Canam (\$16,500) and Kent Wakely (just under \$10,000). Katie knew of a much cheaper option. During discussion, members began to see that this website might be better offered by a provincial organization. Russ asked that members read his proposal and give feedback.

7. New Business

a) Brainstorming on a province-wide organization:

An email from George Fry suggested that the idea of the provincial organization be sounded out at the meeting in Saint John on May 12. There was general consensus that a province-wide meeting was needed, with special guests invited, to be held under the auspices of either Sports & Culture or ARTSNB. It was suggested that we ask Marie-Paule to send out invitations. Participants could apply for travel grants from Sports & Culture. We should ask about other organizations to invite – and solicit input on items for the agenda. It should be made clear to all that FAA is not spearheading this.

b) Casemates Plans

Plans are proceeding for another summer of residencies, this year with a mix of emerging and more senior artists. Funding received to date is \$4000 from the city, with other grants pending. The deadline for applications is May 15, with jurying to take place shortly afterward. The jury will consist of Brigid Grant, Roslyn Rosenfeld, and George Fry if possible.

c) Angela Watson presentation:

Angela would be happy to give a presentation on her plans for arts in the city, but not until September.

d) Arts Evening on ARTSNB

A discussion about the whole interdisciplinary jury system could be undertaken now that ARTSNB is accepting only digital images. Disciplinary juries could operate electronically. Such a meeting would have to wait till September. It can also be seen as a provincial issue.

e) Concerns about Excellence Award Presentations

There remain concerns that the process is both too secretive and too exclusive. Public celebration seems a better model. Brigid will write a personal letter to that effect.

f) Report on Premier's Consultation Forum on Culture

This seems something of a motherhood issue with little of substance emerging.

g) Opening of new City Hall Gallery

George Strunz noted that the city is to be congratulated on establishing its own gallery.

10. Date and location of next meeting

Next meeting to be held May 18 at our normal location.

Respectfully submitted,

Roslyn Rosenfeld
Recording Secretary