

Fredericton Arts Alliance Board Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2008
Edmund Casey 324, STU

Present: Maria Bourgeois, Dianne Roxborough Brown, Sabine Campbell, Katie FitzRandolph, Russ Hunt, Karen LeBlanc, Maggie McLaughlin, Tony Merzetti, George Strunz
Regrets: Meredith Snider

1. Call to Order

2. Adoption of Agenda: Katie/Sabine with the addition of “Royal Astronomical Society of Canada correspondence” under item 13. Other Business.

3. Approval of Jan. 23 Minutes: Russ/Tony

4. Treasurer’s Report: Karen/George moved adoption of the January 2008 statement.

i) Karen presented two scenarios for the proposed 2008 budget. Desmond Maillet recommended using the \$18,000 figure for the Arts Branch grant in developing the 2008 budget. Katie and Dianne moved to adopt “Scenario A” which included this figure and to proceed with the grant applications. Karen recommended keeping the Coordinator at 25 hours per week until the end of 2008 so that there would be some overlap with the new Provincial Alliance.

ii) The income tax returns have been completed up to and including the 2006 return. The accountant has been paid. Karen and Maria noted how helpful and congenial the accountant has been and at a very reasonable fee.

5. Co-ordinator’s Report: Maria added that the Provincial Alliance group had met on Feb. 26 and discussed the survey results, funding proposals and organizing forums. Under item k, it was noted the Fredericton is one of the top 7 intelligent cities, not necessarily the 7th. George Fry suggested having the Excellence in Arts recipients from Fredericton at the next Mayor’s Breakfast. George Strunz suggested that a written acknowledgement of these people be presented at the breakfast, rather than asking all of them to appear. Maria will invite the award recipients to the breakfast but only to appear at 8AM so that they may be acknowledged. Under item m, the Secretary position is currently empty and it needs to be filled in order to complete the signing authority changes. It was moved that recording secretary fill the Secretary position. George/Karen

6. Adjustment Committee Report: Maria and the consultant will arrange a date to meet with the board to continue the strategic planning.

7. Business arising out of the Minutes: Lawyer Kitty Maurey will replace the previous Pro Bono lawyer. Maria had a productive meeting with her.

8. Membership campaign: Some new members have recently joined FAA.

i) Tony will ask an expert to talk to the board to explain Paypal. Maria believes that the cost will be minimal. The board agrees that having a way for members to pay online would be beneficial.

9. Nominations to replace vacancy on the Board: After some discussion, it was decided that George would contact Carlos Gomez to join the FAA Board. If Carlos Gomez declines, George will approach Valerie Hillier. Maria will contact the Multicultural Association to get a list of potential candidates which she will pass on to George.

10. Considering a change of status: Advocacy to Charitable: Maria gave some information she had learned about Charitable status. The FAA must apply if they wish to be considered. Charitable organizations are exempt from income tax, they can issue tax receipts for donations, they may be audited

periodically. It appears that FAA is eligible for Charitable status. Sabine/Tony moved to pursue attaining Charitable status.

11. Proposed activities for 2008: Some wording of the document has been amended. The new wordings are:

FAA is applying for charitable status.

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.....provide arts information to *government* and sponsor *Election* Forums

Russ/Katie moved adoption of the 2008 projects.

i) FAA Awards- after some discussion, it was concluded that a committee would need to be formed to develop criteria for the award. It was decided that there should only be one award per year. A committee would be formed after the completion of the strategic planning sessions.

ii) It was agreed by the board that fund raising activities would be discussed after the strategic planning sessions.

12. Website proposal: offer of a collaborative effort: Cathie LeBlanc from the Film COOP offered to help FAA develop a website free of charge. Russ will contact her for more information.

13. Other Business: The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada wants to offer a visual arts contest but indicated that they needed some assistance in getting this project off the ground. Maria heard of this and tried to contact them by email to see if the FAA could help but she hadn't received a response.

14. Adjournment: Next meeting EC 342, STU, March 26, 08, 5PM