

[DRAFT]
FAA Board meeting minutes
Monday, December 2, 2013
NB Film Co-op Boardroom
Charlotte Street Arts Centre

Present: Sabine Campbell, Renée Davis, Katie FitzRandolph, Russ Hunt, Barbara Roberts, Cynthia Ryder, Jean Rooney

Absent: Allen Bentley, Bill Johnson, Marie Maltais, Susan Pierce

1. Call to order by Jean at 4:07

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda distributed by Jean was moved to be adopted by Russ, seconded by Sabine, carried. Katie asked to have contacting the city about our grant and about Amani's Christmas bonus added to the agenda.

3. Adoption of the minutes of last board meeting

Moved by Katie, seconded by Renée, passed. Discussion arising from the minutes included Barbara asking about whether the \$750 cheque issue had been clarified (yes), and about the discussion of Bill Johnson's continuation on the Board. Jean said that she had left a number of messages and had no response. Renée wondered whether there wasn't something in the bylaws about this; no one knew. It was agreed that we need to do something about replacing him; Russ wondered whether it couldn't wait till the AGM.

4. President's report – Jean

Apologies

To all the board for late cancellations and scheduling of board meetings. Especially Barb, Katie and Allen who showed up last week.

Regarding the AIR exhibiton

Spoke with Sophia Bartholomew, the associate director of *Connexion ARC* (Gallery Connexion) with regarding to having the AIR exhibit at Gallery there. Also discussed the show at the newly branded NNex – the playhouse.

In general they do not have exhibitions that are not chosen through their selections committee since they have the reputation of Connexion ARC and don't want it to be confused with another group exhibiting there. Only works chosen by their own selections committee will be shown. The NNex gallery (playhouse space) while it would be accessible cannot house 3D works, as plinths can be used and it is limited in space. Only 2D works could be show here, so this is not suitable.

City Hall: Recently it was decided that the City hall is to house the permanent collection.

The feeling is they don't get enough traffic and it is an unsuitable public exhibition space. Also they need to show off and house their own collection. So they will not be hosting other shows.

Currently investigating the possibility of the show at Yellow Box Gallery. Left message with William Forrestal regarding this. There is no contact number for this gallery or email other than William's.

Reports have yet to go in. The artists have been informed as to that the show will happen sometime in the new year and that they will hear after Christmas regarding the space and timeframe and thanking them for their patience.

Arts and Cultural Committee Meetings. The committee is working hard on producing a final copy of the plan. Since late August, the Nordicity consulting team and the steering committee have been meeting on average once a week. Our last meeting was Friday to continue our way through the current draft. The 3rd draft of the plan is being directed back to Nordicity at present for word-smithing and more editing. I have been asked to sit with the steering committee and go give feedback, which I have been doing.

Downtown Fredericton – since last board I called downtown Fredericton to investigate why we only received the \$750 of the \$1500 grant for AIR. I spoke with Vickie Stickles. They usually send the monies in two parts. One during the project and the other after. I explained that our exhibition is a finishing component and that we are searching for a new venue that will not happen till some time in the new year. She confirmed that at that point in time 2 cheques had definitely been sent out to us. Numbers 10104 and 10109 for \$750 each.

Discussion during the report included suggestions for alternative venues for the Artists in Residence exhibition, including the Playhouse, the Conference Centre, Brookside Mall, and the Centennial Building. Difficulties were suggested with all. Jean mentioned the Lieutenant Governor's House Gallery, to which Barb noted that they're usually looking for materials. It was agreed that Jean should explore that. There was also discussion of the cost of outside consultants for the Arts and Culture report (Jean noted that they are not to be paid till the report's accepted). Katie wondered about urgency because of city budgeting; Jean said that money has been set aside for that.

Adoption of the report was moved by Katie, seconded by Sabine, passed.

5. Treasurer's report – Cynthia

At the end of October our balance was \$33,222 (see [attached financial statement](#)). There are still cheques incoming and artists' payment to be made but, Cynthia said, it wouldn't make a large difference. It was agreed that we need to think about ways to deal with this money. Cynthia reminded us that we can't count on the city grant for the Artists in Residence program, but that even if we don't get the grant we can support the program ourselves. We might extend the length of the program. Sabine wondered whether that was practical, since we'd had trouble attracting participants last year; a number of people

pointed out that that was in significant part because we'd decided – as a way of complying with the City's requirement for “something new” – to draw half the participants from the first nations community. Barbara wondered why, or whether, the city didn't see it as a tourist attraction. Cynthia said that in fact it is heavily promoted to tourists; the problem is it's so badly promoted to Fredericton. She said that this year probably the city would again want us to come up with a new approach. Russ said that posed logistic difficulties: if we agreed to a “new approach” to get City support, and then didn't, it would be too late to go back to an original, straightforward strategy. Jean said it seemed that we should be in touch with Angela continuously rather than just at the point where we apply for the grant. Further ideas for program possibilities were suggested – working in the schools (artist in residence programs, art supplies, etc.. There are many schools, especially in rural areas, desperate for such experiences (Jean said she has done visits to some. There was a suggestion that the Beaverbrook Gallery might be interested, or that other institutions might be approached for matching grants. Jean said that she had been exploring working with the homeless shelter, and that we could support a couple of hours of an artist's time and the necessary materials. Russ wondered if it were time to set up a committee to explore some of these great ideas; Jean, Katie and Penny all volunteered to make up such a committee. Cynthia moved to give Jean the approval to go ahead with work with the homeless shelter, and to authorize a budget up to about \$150 (more could be approved if needed); Katie seconded, motion carried.

Sabine moved, and Katie seconded, adopting the Treasurer's Report; motion was carried.

6. Programs/issues

a. Artists in Residence exhibition

Jean had reported on this in the President's report.

b. Reports for Downtown / City

Jean said that these reports were in process and we were letting them know they were on the way, but there seemed no urgency on their part.

c. RBC Grant

Jean said it was important to make sure we'd done what we could to pursue this and that it was still a possibility

d. Arts and Culture planning process

Jean had reported on this in the Presidents' Report.

d. Other business

We need to contact the city to make sure we're still on the list for grants; Katie said she would do this.

Cynthia said it wasn't going to be long before we need to be thinking about a replacement for Amani – though she's still doing a good job, we should have an editor resident in Fredericton rather than working from Nova Scotia. Sabine wondered whether we knew whether Bridget Spence would be interested in taking

over. Cynthia said she thought probably she would, and she's certainly done a good job as interim editor when Amani's been away. She noted that she'd probably also be competent if we decided, as we might, to reconfigure the news and its distribution. After some discussion of the nature of the job and appropriate compensation, it was agreed that Katie should approach the city and explain that we've given Amani a raise and ask about whether they'd be willing to support that by an increase in the annual grant.

Sabine wondered if the Playhouse has ever actually taken out a membership, given how much space they are allotted in every issue. Renée said she wasn't sure whether Tim Yerxa had been invoiced, but that she'd send one in any case.

There was some discussion of possible replacement members of the Board; Dan Gleason was mentioned. Cynthia said that we need to plan for replacements. She also pointed out that we should be assembling a list of our planned projects.

7. Time and date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be Monday, January 6, at 4:00.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08.

Russ Hunt
Secretary