

FAA Board meeting
Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 5:30 p.m.
Auditorium
Charlotte Street Arts Centre

Present: Sabine Campbell, Dan Gleason, Bruce Gray, Russ Hunt, Heather McTiernan,
Tony Merzetti, Penny Pacey, Cynthia Ryder
Absent: Allen Bentley

1. Call to order by Penny at 5:38 pm

2. Adoption of the agenda

Adoption was moved by Dan, seconded by Bruce, and carried. (During the meeting it was agreed to add e. Artists in Residence under 7. Programs / Issues.)

3. Adoption of the minutes

Adoption of the minutes of the January 6 meeting was moved by Russ, seconded by Sabine, and carried.

4. President's report

Penny said that her report would be quick. Penny said that she had checked the webpage and couldn't see how to become a member. She suggested that it could be/should be more obvious in order to encourage membership. She also asked if email being sent to info@frederictonartsalliance.ca was being received as it had bounced back several times for her. Russ answered Yes.

5. Treasurer's report

Cynthia summarized the [January financial statement](#). Acceptance of the report was moved by Cynthia, seconded by Russ, and carried.

6. Membership report.

Cynthia reported that there had been 75 members as of the AGM last year, and as of tonight's meeting, about 60 now. There was some discussion of the current level and it was agreed that, as Heather suggested, the membership engagement committee should have some work to do.

7. Programs / issues:

a. AGM

Penny said it seemed we were well prepared; the room seemed ready, and the pizza was ordered and the beer was in the Film Co-op office.

b. Grant applications

Heather reported that the grant for this year's Artists in Residence would need to have a "theme." She asked others for suggestions and reiterated ideas that Penny had emailed her which were suggestions from last year. One of these was "Age

Friendly.” Penny suggested that an age friendly theme might work as a mentorship by pairing senior and emerging artists in the residencies. She also suggested that anything to do with the Syrian refugees would be very appealing this year. Heather wondered whether there was a way to use the idea of “beginnings.” Russ agreed, suggesting that immigration and beginnings and new places might form some ideas that could yield a theme that artists could be “invited to address.” Heather also noted that the summer student grant would be coming up, and said that she understood that Clio Windust would probably be interested in doing it again. Sabine said that while she liked Clio and she'd done a good job with the Artists in Residence, she was worried because of the amount she'd simply left undone. Russ said that it seemed early to make a call; we should, when we've got the grant, advertise and then decide.

c. Art in the Schools

Penny asked if the board would be interested in emails from Dianne Kay reporting on the meeting of the jury. She offered to send them to Russ for the minutes [they are [here](#)]. She said that four of the applications had been accepted, and five turned down, in some cases because applications were incomplete. Several were conditional acceptances and Dianne was to follow up asking for more information and adjustments. Dan wondered whether there had been repetitions of applications from last year; Penny said yes but those accepted were not repeats.

d. Art off the Streets

Penny said there were lots of good applications in, and Warren and the jury will decide on them as soon as Warren Maddox is back on his feet (surgery eight days ago has slowed things down). Sabine wondered when they might start: Penny said pretty much as soon as the decisions have been made, so almost certainly by March.

e. Artists in Residence

Penny said we've been contacted by the city and asked to join an advisory panel regarding revised guidelines for the Casemates. She accepted. Penny summarized the changes. A fuller description followed via email:

There will be an application for a primary tenant, this will be the main contact for each shop. This person will sign the lease with the City. They will be required to submit an application (in the works) along with 3 examples of their work. They will be required to have their application and items in to us by April 4th. The panel will meet sometime between April 5th -7th to go through applications and the items and we will select the primary tenants.

The selected primary tenants can then bring on as many partners to their shop as they wish. Each of these partners must be approved by the panel as well; they will also need to submit an application to us along with 3

examples of their work for review. They will be required to have their application and items into us by April 22nd. The panel will then meet to review those applications and items sometime between April 25th-28th.

If the applicant is a member of the FAA, Craft Council or Fibre Arts Network that we would exempt them from having to submit their items for review. There is a possibility we may decide to exempt NBCCD students or past graduates from having to submit their work for review as well. An application and info sheet are being developed and we will have the opportunity to make additions.

There was some question about whether all this applied to us; Penny said as she is on the panel we are part of the system rather than applicants, and many of the requirements do not apply to the FAA, as we are approved (and funded) on a different basis.

f. *ARTSnews*, Web site

Russ said the main news was that the distribution method for the newsletter had been changed from the server at STU, which is being decommissioned, and moved to an open source called phplist, which was originally created at the National Theatre in London. It seemed fairly certain that it had been successful; at any rate there had only been a few emails with problems, and it seemed they'd been dealt with. He said he was still concerned that some people might not be receiving it but hadn't noticed or didn't know who to contact, but had no evidence of that. Heather said she had received hers at the gnb account marked as possible spam, and wondered if some people might be missing it because of that. Russ said he would see if he could find a way to ask subscribers at that domain if they'd had any problems. There was nothing new about the Web site.

g. Bylaw amendment process

Russ said that he'd assumed from the lack of negative response to his emails about proposing the updating at the AGM that we should go ahead. Bruce wondered what the main changes were; Russ said the preamble and the terms of the board members. Bruce wondered why eight years was better than six; Tony said it seemed that at least some times we'd lost people from the board who'd have wanted to continue and who we'd have preferred not to lose, but that most people wouldn't want to be on for that long. There was some discussion of whether the board should be defined as a minimum of ten, or "normally" a minimum of ten. Russ thought "normally" was reasonable, since in fact we'd been operating with nine for months. Bruce was concerned that some minimum should be stated, otherwise we might find two or three people running the show. Russ said that if there were issues that needed to be discussed we should simply decide not to go ahead at the AGM, and discuss it later; we'd been working with an outdated document for some time and it had had no consequences. Tony said that we should go ahead, update it, and we could fix it next year if it turned out there were changes we really didn't like. With the agreement that it would go forward

without the “normally,” it was moved by Bruce, and seconded by Heather, to submit the changes to the AGM. The motion was carried.

h. FAA Response to government policy on ArtsNB

There was extensive discussion of the draft letters which had been circulated on email. Russ said it might be a good idea to set up a committee to work on a response; Penny said that Akou Connell had thought we should do something quickly, this week if possible. Dan said that the first letter had actually appeared in the Gleaner that morning, signed by Katie. Cynthia said that she was concerned that the FAA had already taken a public position although Katie is not a board member, because the letter had also appeared on our Facebook page with no author identified (Katie, among others, is an administrator, and so can post to the page). Tony reminded us that we don't have to worry about “taking a position” because we're not funded by government, so can't lose it. Others expressed the opinion that even though we don't have government funding it may be best to be somewhat conservative in our approach. After some discussion it was agreed that Tony and Russ would tweak the second letter and send it around to the board for approval. It was agreed that we should restrict ourselves to opposing the change.

8. Other business

There was no other business.

9. Time and date of next meeting

It was agreed the time couldn't be set till after the new board was elected at the AGM.

10. Adjournment at 6:45.

Russ Hunt
Secretary