

FAA Board meeting minutes  
Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 5:15 p.m.  
Film Co-op Board Room  
Charlotte Street Arts Centre

Present: Allen Bentley, Will Forrestall, Katie FitzRandolph, Russ Hunt, Kitty Maurey, Heather McTiernan, Tony Merzetti

Absent: Sabine Campbell, Krishna Khaitan, Penny Pacey

Guests: Don Bossé, Gary Weekes

### 1. Call to Order

Katie called the meeting to order at 5:19.

### 2. Introduction of visitors

Our two visitors, both considering whether they want to join the board, were introduced: a round of introductions was conducted.

### 3. Approval of the Agenda

Approval, with the addition of a discussion of [Russ' email](#) about the *ARTSnews*, was **moved** by Will, **seconded** by Allen, and **carried**.

### 4. [Minutes](#) of November 14 board meeting

Approval of the minutes was **moved** by Will, **seconded** by Kitty, and **carried**.

### 5. Treasurer's report

Tony summarized the monthly [statement](#) and the [forecast](#) (the [cheque register](#) had been circulated). He noted that the current balance was more than projected, and expenses about in line; bottom line was we have lots of money. He also noted that he's discovered that as a charitable organization we are eligible for a rebate on HST expenditures, and that on the basis of a look back we probably qualify for about \$300 for each of the last two years. Russ wondered what we'd spent money that we paid HST for, and Tony and Katie explained that many Gala expenses – for catering, primarily – would qualify. Russ wondered how Tony had discovered this: he said that the Film Co-op regularly gets such a rebate, and while doing that he realized he'd never seen such an item in our records. Tony **moved** acceptance of the report; Heather **seconded**, and the motion **carried**. There was some applause at Tony's perspicacity.

### 6. President's report

Katie reported that she had attended the Nashwaaksis Middle School Artists in the Schools finishing session. She said it was impressive to see the way the three classes of grades 7-8, about 80 students, all with challenges of one kind or another, had been engaged and challenged by the program and by Craig Budovitch's work. She said there were two opportunities next week [December 17, 8:45-10:30 at Harold Peterson; December 18, 10:30-12:05 at Nashwaaksis Middle School] for members of the board to go, and urged us to do so, both to see the amazing impact the program has had on these kids and to show the teachers that the FAA takes this seriously. There was some discussion of the issue of taking pictures, and of the policies of schools about this. Don explained that sometimes there's a blanket policy, but often individual parents sign waivers about a specific occasion. Katie also noted that she had

attended the Canadian Network for Arts & Learning session on “Arts and Learning in Communities” on November 29.

During this discussion, Gary left, explaining that he was teaching this evening.

## **7. Schools Program**

Will reported that we have an application for a program from Bliss Carman Middle School on First Nations and block printing which looks pretty promising. Don wondered if it were related to the indigenous arts program; Kitty said what we do is usually supplemental to the official curricula. Heather wondered if we tended to involve the same group of schools; Katie said we’ve been pretty successful at spreading things around, and mentioned a number of schools where we’ve sponsored programs. Don wondered how it related to the government’s program for artists in the schools, and Katie explained that our program involves individual teachers and artists; we pay the artists for 25 hours’ work in the schools, and facilitate planning between teachers and artists. Don said there were problems with the way the province funds arts in the schools, leading to wide variations between different schools. Some discussion of government policies and practical implications ensued.

## **8. Grants**

Heather said that two grant deadlines were coming up: Downtown Fredericton in early January and the City of Fredericton in February. Both usually support the Artists in Residence program. For the city grant we usually need to come up with a new “theme.” Typically the Downtown grant has been about \$1500, whereas the City grant has been more substantial. Russ wondered how much the recent city budget, announcing cuts to cultural organizations, will impact that grant. Katie noted that they’ve cut the Harvest Jazz and Blues grant back by \$20,000, so we should expect it will affect us.

## **9. Streets program**

Will reported that Stephen Scott looks likely to do a program in the new year. Allen wondered whether Marcus Kingston were proposing something; Will said he thought so, and he had suggested others who might be interested. He also said that Warren Maddox thinks this will be a good time of year for such programs.

## **10. Artists in Residence report**

Katie said there was nothing much to report beyond the fact that four items from the display have yet to be retrieved by the artist, and she expects to be contacting them soon.

## **11. Gala 2018**

Tony said that there are still a few people who haven’t cashed cheques; Katie said the CSAC had used our black tablecloths for last night’s dedication of the Jimmy Myles Auditorium. Other than that the Gala seems pretty well over with.

## **12. Other business**

### *a. ARTSnews report*

Russ summarized [the email](#) he’d circulated about the meeting with Stacey Russell (Fredericton Tourism) and Angela Watson (Cultural Development Officer) regarding the *ARTSnews*. Katie said it is great to be reminded that they like the newsletter so much. Russ said the email didn’t really convey how enthusiastic they are about it, and about helping to improve it. Heather said she was particularly happy about the idea of increasing cooperation between the parallel initiatives of the various organizations doing arts promotion. She wondered whether Charlotte had been helpful with the *ARTSnews*; Katie said that we’d hoped to hire a second student to

help with that and the Web site, but that that had not happened, and that she hoped that Tony's expertise in dealing with the student jobs program (the Co-op had been successful) would help next summer. Russ wondered whether we could count on Stacey's and Angela's enthusiasm to save our grant; Katie reminded us that we had succeeded, a few years ago, in getting the funding for the ARTSnews put into the regular city budget, so it's no longer a grant and so not so vulnerable to cutting.

b. New Board Members

Don confirmed that on the basis of this meeting he'd certainly be willing to be on the Board. Under article 4.04 of the bylaws, it was **moved** by Will, and **seconded** by Kitty, that Don be appointed to the Board until the next annual general meeting, and the motion **carried**. It was agreed that we should wait to see if Gary is interested. Katie pointed out that we have four vacancies remaining, and there was some discussion of possibilities. Allen wondered if Krishna had had any suggestions about people who might replace him; Katie said she had not heard from him.

c. Other discussion.

Heather wondered if anybody else had taken over the Facebook account since Charlotte had left, and said she would have a look at it. Russ wondered about whether we need to do planning for the AGM, if our next meeting isn't until January 9; in some years, he said, we've organized guest speakers in an attempt to increase attendance. There was some discussion of possible speakers – among names mentioned were Marc Braithwaite, new head of the NBCC, Johnny Leroux, Natasha MacLellan, the new Artistic Director of TNB, Tim Yerxa, and Ilkay Silk. Tony wondered why we have to have an AGM in February; the Co-op's is in July. Russ noted that we've been moving forward steadily, that it used to be in November, but since 2011 it's been February. Katie said she thought there was a requirement that no more than 15 months could elapse between AGMs. [The Bylaws say, Article 6.01: "The annual general meeting shall be held at least once in each calendar year, but not later than fifteen months from the date of the preceding annual general meeting." ]

It was agreed this should be discussed at the next meeting, January 9.

### 13. Adjournment

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35.

Russ Hunt  
Secretary