

Art Committee Minutes

Wednesday, September 21, 2011 6:30 p.m.

Storytime Room, Lower Level, Hinsdale Public Library

Present: Johanna Delaney, Chair; Pete DeHaan, Trustee; Jan Letts, Trustee; Margaret Carsello-Chiappetta; Laura Milas; Denise Noell; Karen Kleckner Keefe, Executive Director

Absent: Pamela White

Call to Order at 6:34 p.m.

Review of September 16 Opening Event

Executive Director Keefe reported that 80 people attended Friday night's event. The Reading Room had a wonderfully energetic "buzz" as guests looked at art, talked to the artists, and connected with friends and neighbors. Johanna Delaney moderated a panel discussion among the artists, discussing the balance between artistic drive and domestic duties. Chair Delaney also commented on the new faces we saw at the opening and the positive comments about the food, setting, and overall experience of the event.

Art Policy

Chair Delaney introduced the Art Policy that will govern the activities of the Art Committee once it is approved by the Library Board. Several members of the committee complimented Delaney on the time and hard work that the Policy Committee put into creating the document. Laura Milas made two grammatical recommendations and mentioned that as the value of the collection grows, insurance requirements may need to be adjusted.

Other Business

- **Art Opening and Reception Checklists**

Executive Director Keefe provided a checklist that will help the members of the Art Committee who coordinate exhibits keep track of responsibilities and deadlines. The Committee agreed that this checklist may be modified by coordinators to best address the circumstances of their exhibits.

- **Acquisitions of Fine Art**

Executive Director Keefe shared an offer from Sheryl Srivastava of Acquisitions of Fine Art to partner with the Library on upcoming projects. The Committee doesn't have a relevant project at this time, but will keep Srivastava's interest in mind for the future.

- **Veronica Bruce**

The Committee reviewed a letter from artist and HCHS graduate Veronica Bruce expressing interest in providing artwork for a temporary exhibit. The Committee wants to consider the variety of mediums and styles when planning the calendar for the exhibit space. There was interest in a future exhibit partnering Bruce with another “emerging artist” from her cohorts at Hinsdale Central.

- **Spring Exhibit Proposal**

Trustee DeHaan suggested a spring exhibit featuring the digital art projects he saw on display at Hinsdale Middle School. He has already been in contact with Stephanie Stewart, the school’s art teacher. The Committee likes the idea of recognizing student art work and would expect that pieces on display be printed or mounted in a professional manner. If the school cannot provide the work in this manner, perhaps the Art Committee could subsidize production costs. DeHaan will follow up with Stewart and report back, with samples if possible, at the next meeting.

- **Summer Artist Ideas**

The Committee brainstormed ideas for a summer show. Pamela White has previously suggested Bret Steinhaus (<http://bretsteinhaus.com>). Johanna Delaney suggested fiber artist Maureen Bardusk (<http://www.maureenbardusk.com>). Denise Noell will contact Bardusk and ask if she would be interested in exhibiting at the Library.

- **Winter Exhibit**

Chair Delaney is coordinating the exhibit of Jim Kropp’s photography. Instead of an opening reception, Kropp is willing to give a talk at the Library this winter.

- **General Discussion**

Margaret Carsello-Chiappetta suggested that the Committee put out a call for submissions from local artists similar to what they do at WomanMade Gallery (<http://womanmade.org/index.html>). Chicago Art Coalition would be potential venue for placing the call for submissions. Trustee Delaney expressed concern that this might lead to too many submissions for the Committee to handle. For the time being, the Committee will rely on word of mouth and its own research for exhibition ideas.

Chair Delaney reminded the Committee to keep in mind that the Quiet Room must accommodate everyday, practical use by patrons. Proposed installations cannot interfere with the room’s intended use.

Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.