Mother Lode Art Association Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting was held on **June 15, 2020 at 9:30 am** in the picnic area below the Sonora Library.

Attendees: Maureen Carden, Linda Happel, Barbara Conley, Bob Feigen, Brenda Ehmann, Celia Niemerow, and John Sharum.

We had the required quorum to conduct business for the Organization.

Treasurer’s Report: John Sharum is temporarily filling the role of treasurer and membership chairman for Lisa Massey. We have a current checking balance of $5548 and a savings balance of $3200. Until we start having regular meetings or until we start to have expenses associated with the annual art show, we should have sufficient funds for the remainder of the year. We added eight new or returning members, mostly from the new artists at the expanded Aloft Gallery giving us a total paid membership of 98.

Next Meeting: Our next regular meeting is scheduled for September21, 2020. Because of Covid 19 restrictions, we were forced to cancel meetings in March, April, May and June. The future use of the Community Room at the Library is still in question even if we are able to hold a meeting, due to budget restrictions and additional restrictions on opening the library. Therefore, we will look for alternate sites for September. Linda Happel will contact Hurst Ranch and if not available, Indigeny. We will continue to monitor the situation and advise the membership of the venue in early September. John Sharum will contact Andrea Morris to see if she would like to try again for doing a demo for us in September.

Discussed our ability to fund school art programs even if we could not raise money through our annual art show. Ideas of other fund-raising ideas were raised, but deferred until a decision is made on the art show. Similarly, we deferred a detailed discussion of which schools and by how much to support them. Generally, we hope to continue with our current level of support. The idea of four $500 mini-Grants that schools could propose to MLAA was discussed during the Art Show discussion below.

The next turnaround at Aloft Gallery is July 28. John Sharum will contact Susan Kendall to make sure we have at least two member artists who are not in the gallery or recently shown in our other venues to be picked for showing during the next period ( July, August, September) He will check on who is slated for the Anticoagulant venue and propose any changes in the process that he recommends for Board approval.

A major topic of discussion was the Annual Art Show: Linda Happel contacted the City and they are not sure what events will be allowed in September but they have not been cancelled, so we will proceed on the assumption that our show slated for October 23-25 could be held. The first payment for the Opera Hall was made on December 2, 2019. **The next payment of $450 is due August 21, 2020—60 days before the event. A refundable cleaning deposit of $300 is also due before the show.** Linda will keep in contact with Rochelle Kellogg as we approach that date in case we need to cancel.

We discussed judges for the show and Linda will contact Jeannie Vodden and Barbara Conley will contact Chuck Waldman. If unavailable, we will contact Dan Peterson and Peggy Kroll-Roberts. They will be judging in the hall on October 21.

The issue of food—no buffet? —was a potential future issue, as will be the number of people allowed to attend at one time depending upon if we are in Stage 3 or Stage 4. We believe the wine pouring/fund raising could proceed with proper protocols as wine tasting is now able to be held. The raffle donations and general donations will likely be more difficult. We will try to hold our costs down by getting donations of baskets and ribbon, etc. The thought was to have fewer but more valuable baskets.

We discussed alternate venues if the City will not let us use the Opera House. Linda will follow up with Hurst Ranch and Intersactum as possibilities but we will probably cancel the show if the Opera House is not available.

On the website we will solicit volunteers and art for art donations. We revised the prospectus and Linda will circulate a new copy. We need to also get back to the schools to let them know we are trying to move forward with the show, subject to possible restrictions.

Celia asked that someone write a publicity piece to go to the papers, etc. to announce that we are planning to proceed. Maureen and John will collaborate.

The Board meeting Adjourned at 10:55 am.