

## 2017-11-18 General Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by President Clare King at the Japanese Garden House. Other officers present were 2nd VP Hunter Cobb, Treasurer Debbie Guy, and Secretary Lynda Touart. 1st VP Mary Elizabeth Kimbrough was not present. 13 Members were present.

Lynda read the previous minutes and they were approved.

The first order of business was a discussion about the upcoming fall show. Clare stated that she, Hunter, and Satomi, among others, were signed up to hang the show. The hours for take-in are 11:30 to 2 p.m. on 2 December, at Cathedral Square Gallery. The judge is Mary Hardy from Ocean Springs. [<http://www.maryhardystudio.com/>] Hunter said that he will send out an email about the show and the judge. It will be a non-juried show with the judge being only responsible for the awards. The entry fee is \$30 for one piece and \$10 more for a second. The reception will be at the LoDa Artwalk on 8 December. CSG will handle the reception, but would appreciate additional wine and/or food from our members. Ainsley McNeely moved that the reception be from 5:30 to 9 p.m., with the cut-off for Members' Choice voting at 6:30. Debbie seconded. Karen further moved that awards be announced at 7 p.m. Debbie also seconded that. We voted by acclamation to accept both. With regard to the awards, Clare said she would contact Ashland. Karen McGahagin said she would contact Southern Art and AL Art. Debbie mentioned that we still have \$210 in funds for the Denise Inge Memorial Award. Hunter moved that we make that \$100 for the Members' Choice award as before. This was agreed.

Martha Ann Rowan said that she misses the older members, and that she believes that there may be a problem with them getting information. Lynda told her that the correct email address Martha Ann had sent recently was the one that had been used. Clare noted that we have two pages on Facebook, one public and one members-only. Martha Ann said she didn't use Facebook.

There was lengthy discussion about the problem of finding venues. Ainsley pointed out that having a good venue will make more people show. She said that she is hoping the new building that the Creeks are to open will have a gallery space. Clare asked if we could set up a standing arrangement with ESAC and/or MAC for a once a year show. Lynda said that ESAC had been inviting us every other year for some time. Hunter said he will talk to MAC. Clare reminded us that she had asked Conroy Hudlow about finding more venues, but he was not present. Hunter supposed that the optimum places would be along Dauphin Street for Artwalk. Ainsley said that it was more important to serve wine rather than food. Lynda added that art always looks better with a glass of wine. Barbara Rettig said that should be put on t-shirts.

Karen pointed out that the Sumi-e society had had their workshop on the second floor of the Alabama Contemporary Arts Center building and that there was lots of room for an art display there. We will need to know who to contact there about that suggestion. Ainsley said that the Alabama Contemporary Arts Center and MMA were determined not to host local groups even though some of their best-attended shows had been such, like the Shared Expressions shows. Martha Ann said that Elizabeth Sanders would be a good contact. Barbara reported that when she talked to Deborah Vettters about showing at the MMA, it was pointed out to her that "they are a museum, not a gallery", and that she understands their point of view. Mary Rodning noted that the Minnesota Museum of Art and the Rochester Museum of Art took the same attitude. Hunter commented that attendance was best in downtown Mobile. Renee Grimes acknowledged that when MAC had a kids' show, many people showed up. She added that people were still afraid of downtown.

Ainsley declared that we should find out when events are happening and ask to display during them. She mentioned 5 Gold Monkeys and Cats. She also said that we should get with other groups and find a building for an ongoing gallery, like the vacant Talbots. And we could participate in Christmas on the Hill.

We will post an event on Facebook for our fall show. Clare will get Roxanne Dyess to help investigate events downtown. Karen said she'd help. We need to see a calendar to send out requests to organizers at the time of their events. Martha Ann said that Linda St. John is in charge of the Springhill area.

Lynda asked if we wanted to continue the scrapbooks. At this point she needs to buy more supplies. Hunter moved that we continue. Clare seconded. Passed.

Barbara Cline asked if members were still being dropped from the roll after two years of unpaid dues as it seems that some just want membership to be included on their resume. Lynda replied that was still the case, but that sometimes there was a gap.

Hunter reported that the Spring Show would be at Innova Arts in May. Lynda mentioned that this would be the proposed members show. Lynda read the people proposed so far:

1. Sondra Carlisle
2. Sahar Alford
3. Lucy Gafford
4. Cat Pope
5. Susan Wertelecki

Debbie asked if it was too late to propose someone. Lynda said the cutoff was eight weeks out from the show, so there was still time.

Announcements:

- Ainsley announced that the Miniature Show has a cut-off date in February to enter.
- Hunter noted that there will be a 9th Nudes in November show next year.
- Lynda reminded everyone to sign the roll and to send news to her so that it can be included in the scrapbook and announcements. Barbara Rettig said she would send a list of those in the MAA show, currently at CSG.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Smith Touart  
Secretary, WGAS