

**Women's Caucus for Art
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Saturday & Sunday, July 25 & 26, 2009
Earle Brown Heritage Center, Brooklyn Center, MN**

Board Members Present: *Marilyn Hayes, Janice Nesser, Holly Dodge, Margaret Lutze, Rebecca Kramer, Liz Dodson, Brenda Oelbaum, Laurie Allen Carlock, Yuriko Takata, Linda Gilbert-Schneider, Priscilla Otani, Marsha Heck, Roxanne Phillips, Ulla Barr, Yueh-mei Cheng, Avinger Nelson, and Leslie Broersma.*

Also Present: *Karin Luner (Nat'l Admin), Jill Waterhouse, Leslie Hume, Lynnette Black*

Saturday, July 25th, 2009

8:50 am **Welcome and Call to Order by Marilyn Hayes, National Board President**
Hayes starts with a physical exercise as an embodied commitment to self-knowing in order to bring balance and calm to the meeting

9:10 am **2009 February Board Minutes approved without changes
MSP (Motioned, Seconded and Passed by all)**

9:14 am Marilyn Hayes, National Board President
Needs to re-submit report, mistook prior report as final report

9:16 am Karin Luner, National Administrator
Luner urges the board to make more effort using the correct titles for board positions and committees, the correct spelling of names, as well as conducting a spell check before submitting the reports.

9:18 am **Board adopts the reports of the Treasurer, the President-Elect, the Past President, and the Nat'l Administrator.**
15 Yes
2 Abstentions

9:23 am Brenda Oelbaum, Regional VP Midwest
Oelbaum gives oral board report but will submit a written one after the meeting. She states that the only direct contact other than the Michigan Chapter was with the Chicago and Nebraska chapters.

Discussion

Margaret Lutze explains the positions and responsibilities of the board. She draws out a map of WCA's long standing board structure of 18 elected positions and 18 appointed ones, and makes it clear that reports must be submitted as a historical record. Every board member needs to know her purpose on the board, as well as what goes into her report.

ACTION: Hayes will send out a reminder to send out missing or amended board reports by giving the board a deadline of a week after her reminder, or by August 15th -- whatever date comes first.

9:34 am

Rebecca Kramer, Regional VP Northwest

Hands out an update to her report concerning the Palouse Chapter. She learned from her contact that the Palouse Chapter has currently 35 members of which, however, she could locate only five members in good standing in WCA's online database. Further research proved that the given names of chapter officers are also not listed as WCA members.

Discussion

Hayes is not sure how the board will address the issue of local chapters not paying national dues, which also presents a legal issue of people representing themselves as part of a national organization when they are not. This issue definitely needs to be remedied.

ACTION: Membership issues with the Palouse Chapter will be followed up by Hayes and Wolanin.

9:38 am

Helen Poole Newman, Regional VP Pacific (not present)

Gave word to Hayes that she thought she had submitted a report, but was mistaken and will submit after the meeting.

9:39 am

Board accepts the board reports of the Regional VPs of the Northeast and the Southeast as submitted, and the Northwest with an addendum
MSP

9:40 am

Janice Nesser, President-Elect & Co-Chair Chicago Conference

Talks about the Chicago Conference, which will take place Feb 11-14, 2010. This year's title will be "**From the Center**", which was first suggested by Oelbaum and is also the title of a book by Lucy Lippard, who will jury the national show at held at Woman Made Gallery in Chicago.

Nesser and Hayes went to Chicago at the beginning of July and made arrangements with the Chicago Cultural Center to host the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Awards. The Chicago Chapter received a grant and will support National with a sum of \$3,500. The chapter will present three regional awards scheduled prior to the Lifetime Achievement Awards. Also planned is a bus tour linking several on-going exhibitions.

Discussion

- How to better market the events;
- What has become of WCA's branding goals set at the February board meeting?
- Importance of broadcasting and promoting the conference panels and events on twitter, facebook, and blogs;
- Problems with CAA and their fundraising shortfall resulting in a shorter CAA conference; WCA-CAA timing issues, which concern hotel bookings and reservations and prevent WCA to make timelier choices;

Continuing with Nesser's report, she updates on positive events with the Chicago planning, like renting a Hospitality Room for conference attendees, and a Reception at CAA, which will be used to host the Video Shorts Festival Screening. However, the timeslot for this event is still to be determined.

Discussion

Video Shorts screening issues past and future, as well as the New Media Caucus handling of its funds. Currently the caucus is in the red by \$33.

Nesser wraps up her report, highlighting again WCA's two panels at CAA, and securing the Video screening reception.

10:26 am **Board accepts the Chicago Conference Report by Janice Nesser**
MSP

10:27 am Linda Gilbert-Schneider, Co-Chair New York Conference

Has no written report, but will submit one.

States that the Hilton Hotel probably will be booked by CAA, and has still to survey other possible hotel options. She has made three failed attempts to meet with the Brooklyn Museum to secure a date for viewing the Judy Chicago piece. Nesser, who is also co-chair, adds that the theme for New York will be **"live space-women, art and activism"** and will focus on younger women's organizations. Planned are a national show in Brooklyn, and activities on the Sunday part of the conference.

Nesser reminds the board that July 27th is the deadline for the proposal for the New York 2 ½ hour panel at CAA, which should address the theme of "women, art and activism." The proposal has to be vetted by the board and needs to be submitted to CAA by Aug 1st.

10:40 am Yuriko Takata, Nominations Chair

States that the only submission for the 2010 president-elect nominee slot came from Priscilla Otani. The next step will be a ballot in the Fall Newsletter.

Discussion

Takata, who also works on the fundraising committee, asks the board to start with its fundraising efforts in securing the next raffle prize.

She also conveys a message from Eleanor Dickinson, who could not be present, to think of other kind of raffle prizes, maybe a weekend vacation, or another kind of service or goods.

The Chapter Raffle needs to be planned earlier, and a more concerted effort needs to be made to connect with the chapters and engage them with the LAA awards.

Elizabeth Catlett's name comes up as a possible raffle prize donor and Takata will make the connection.

Otani suggests a silent auction to raise money, and Takata brings up Dickinson's observation that the board needs to get more involved in the

fundraising. Otani underlines again the importance to connect to the chapters, thank them for their prior efforts, and engage in dialog.

Gilbert-Schneider suggests placing the silent auction in the Hospitality Room.

11:24 am **Board accept the Nominations Chair report**

MSP

11:25 am BREAK

11:50 am Anne Swartz, Honor Awards Chair (not present)

Board moves on to discuss Swartz's report, especially, that the awards selection process needed to be two years forward, and that on Aug 15th, 2009, the committee will announce their 2011 awards selection.

Otani wants to know the criteria of database inclusion of newly submitted names, which Nesser explains that regardless of age, the only rule is that the person has to be alive, to which Otani states that she wants to know more about the rules under which the selection committee works.

Nesser replies that there might be a need for more transparency and that the committee needs to write an article about their processes.

ACTION: ask Anne Swartz to write an article in the next *Artlines*.

The 2010 Awardees are:

Tritobia Hayes Benjamin

Mary Jane Jacob

Senga Nengudi

Joyce J. Scott

Spiderwoman Theater

Hayes announces Juana Guzman, Director of the Mexican Museum in Chicago as her choice of President's Award.

12:06 pm **Board accepts Anne Swartz' Report**

MSP

12:06 pm Marsha Heck, Chair of the WCA Site Selection Committee

Concludes that the committee will continue with its research, because it could not arrive at any alternative schedule for the awards

1:04 pm **Board accepts Marsha Heck's Report**

MSP

1:04 pm BREAK

2:30 pm Priscilla Otani, International Committee Chair

Otani and committee collected all activism activities originating in WCA's chapters for the UN Quadrennial Report.

Also, WCA will be participating in the upcoming UN DPI/NGO Conference workshop in Mexico City. This event will be celebrated with a postcard exhibition, “Zero Weapons- Disarmament Now”, at the UN, which Otani organized. She invites the board to spread the word and submit entries.

2:36 pm **Board accepts Priscilla Otani’s Report**
MSP

2:37 pm Liz Dodson, New Media Caucus Chair
She announces that the 2010 Video Shorts will be directed by Leslie Hume and that the prospectus will be ready shortly.

2:36 pm **Board accepts the New Media Report but wants Dodson to submit a separate report concerning the exhibition “Women and Water Rights.”**
MSP

2:47 pm Rona Lesser, Jewish Women Artist’s Network Chair (not present)

Board accepts the report
15 YES
2 Abstentions

2:48 pm Karen Frostig, Publications Committee Chair
Wants a presence on WCA’s website ASAP

Board accepts the report
MSP

Discussion
The board discusses the rightful actions of a committee and the board’s responsibility for the actions of its committees and caucuses.

3 pm Holly Dodge, Advisor
Does not add any other information to her report

Board accepts Dodge’s report
MSP

3:03 pm Janice Nesser, Chair of the Mission Statement Development Committee
Nesser states that the committee invited people to respond to the new draft and then followed up with a re-draft. The addendum to her report quotes some of the responses from WCA members.
Board accepts Nesser’s Committee report
MSP

3:10 pm Yueh-mei Cheng, Young Women’s Caucus Chair
Provides the board with a written report, despite the fact that she did not receive the call for reports. She introduces the mission of the caucus and its leadership involved. However, her presentation raises questions about her

understanding of WCA's board and chapter structure, and Nesser suggests working on guidelines for caucuses to prevent future confusions.

3:38 pm **The board does not accept the report as is and expects a new report to be submitted.**

ACTION: Developing "A Guideline for Caucuses", and writing an *Artlines* article about new caucuses, also adding them to the 2010 membership form.

3:39 pm Again, Lutze takes time to talk about the board structure and explains that the ad hoc committee rules in the bylaws are the same rules under which caucuses are governed.

ACTION: Rework the list of original directors' positions, namely the "Helpful Persons", which are elected by the board.

ACTION: Board will elect one outside person to the board in February 2010.

ACTION: Fix grammar in the bylaws: Article N, Point 10 on page 3. ...who through the profession, to who through **their** profession

PROPOSALS

Sponsor: Priscilla Otani, Chair International Committee

Title: Add WCA Activism Information on WCA's Website

Cost: TBD

ACTION: Add the link "Activism" under the "About" link on the homepage
Barbara Wolanin, Laurie Carlock, and Priscilla Otani will survey activists activities in their chapters and submit to be uploaded onto the website.

4:41 pm **MSP**

Sponsor: Mission Statement Committee

Title: Mission Statement

Nesser reads the new mission statement as proposed, but changes and discussions are tabled till next morning, Sunday, 8:30 am.

4:50 pm **Meeting Adjourned**

Sunday, July 26th, 2009

8:58 am **Call to Order**

Proposal February 2009 board meeting

Title: Mission Statement

Sponsor: **Janice Nesser-Chu**

The proposal as submitted carries the wrong date “February 2009” should read “July 2009”. The proposal is not submitted by Janice Nesser but the Mission Statement Committee, and should be corrected in the Board Report Bundle.

The board votes for changes to be made

14 Yes

3 Abstentions

9:15 am **Proposal**

Title: WCA’s New Mission Statement

Sponsor: Mission Statement Committee

Discussion – Statement of Purpose

10:29 am The board arrives at this version:
(long version)

The mission of the Women’s Caucus for Art is to create community through art, education, and social activism.

(short version)

The mission of WCA is to create community through art, education, and social activism.

Discussion- 2nd part, the Bullets

The board unanimously adopts the new mission statement as:

The mission of the Women’s Caucus for Art is to create community through art, education, and social activism.

We are committed to:

- recognizing the contributions of women in the arts
- providing women with leadership opportunities and professional development
- expanding networking and exhibition opportunities for women
- supporting local, national, and global art activism
- advocating for equity in the arts for all

11:33 am **The new mission statement is approved**

MSP

Proposal

(proposal needs to be submitted as a separate part from the board report)

Title: Travel fund of \$ 400 for YWC

Sponsor: Yueh-mei Cheng, Chair Young Women's Caucus

Board agrees to place \$100 earmarked for the WCA Conference Travel Fund into the Young Women's Caucus (YWC) fund, which needs to be established on WCA's books, like the JWAN account.

The first \$400 in the fund will cover travel costs for the names on list provided in the proposal.

WCA agrees to promote the fund by providing a "donation" box on the national website and promote donating to the fund through newsletter and president's updates.

12:59 pm

MSP

1 pm

BUDGET 2009-2010

Lutze goes over WCA's financial statements, and Hayes explains the items in her proposed budget.

The new budget list Income at \$ 80,055 and Expenses at \$ 80,010.

Net Income will be \$45.

MSP

2:14 pm

Board moves on to discuss Fundraising Strategies

ACTION: Osterle and Takata will do the raffle, and Kramer will chair the silent auction activities.

ACTION: Each board member will research one awardee.

Oelbaum: Mary Jane Jacob

Hayes: Tritobia Benjamin and Joyce Scott

Cheng, Heck, and Otani: Spiderwoman Theater

Broersma: Senga Nengudi

ACTION: The document submitted by Holly Dodge, "WCA Lifetime Achievement Awards: Resources Needed - 5/11/09" needs to onto the web.

2:31 pm

Meeting Adjourned

(Minutes written and recorded by Karin Luner, Nat'l Administrator)