

**FCA General Meeting
January 22, 2002
Lakeview Community Centre**

Attendees: 40

Approve Minutes of November 20, 2001 General Meeting

Motion to accept the minutes as printed in the January 2002 Newsletter. Motion by Kathleen McCombie, Lorna Hannett seconded. Passed.

Crescent Heights

Both Margaret Stevens & Neil Locke apologized for the last minute change with the Crescent Heights venue. Other options are being left open. The membership will look at Community Centres in their neighborhoods, and report back to Neil.

Treasurer's Report & Update

Jocelyn Goodman read the monthly report. We had problems with three VISA transactions from the Strathcona show and even though proper authorization had been received, everything had been submitted correctly from our end. Jocelyn deposited the transactions manually to correct the problem.

Increased Fees from National – Definition of 'Events'

As everyone is aware National have increased the dues starting January 2002. Marg Stevens asked Bob McMurray what the "events were that made this increase necessary, at this time. Bob McMurray explained the increase, as follows:

- Dues haven't increased in six years while overhead and administrative costs have risen annually, both in expense rates and in volume of activity.
- Painting sales were down by approx \$24,000 over the past two years, commercial advertising revenues have dropped by approximately \$8,000 and other revenues have been sluggish for the most part.
- The Fund-Raiser was for the purpose of supplementing the budget on the education program which was completely revamped in late 2000 and is expected to break even after 2002.

- They are expecting an operating deficit of approx \$20,000, working towards a break even budget for 2002.
- They have a New Gallery Manager, hopefully painting sales will return to their former levels.
- A New Chapter is forming in Grand Bend, Ontario.
- Arts Visions workshops are reaching unprecedented levels of participation.

A question was asked, are we in Calgary subsidizing Vancouver's workshops? Marg will check and get back to everyone.

Strathcona Debrief

Natalie Kurzuk did a debrief, what worked, what didn't and what they've learnt to make future shows as successful. Natalie asked everyone who volunteered/participated in the show to stand, it was noted that 95% of the membership stood. Natalie wanted to show how many people it takes to put on a show of this caliber. Participation and volunteers are key to a successful event.

It was noted that one painting had a wrong title card on it. This would be approached more carefully at future shows.

New Opportunities Regarding Shows

Natalie, presented a proposal to the membership for a show in February at a new venue, Lake Bonavista Village. Natalie, Neil Locke and Eileen Hirota attended a lunch at Lake Bonavista Village to meet with their Coordinator and have a tour of the facility. All were in agreement this location merited our participation. After discussion with the membership, it was agreed (the village is having an open house) that we would have a show there February 23, 2002. This show will have both juried and pre-juried works from as far back as 1999. Plenty of volunteers will be required to make this show just as good if not better than our Strathcona show. A show of hands was requested from members to approve Lake Bonavista for a February 2002 show and was passed.

A motion by Natalie for the Exhibition team to work with the Executive to approve costs incurred for Lake Bonavista as time is at a premium. Lillian Tkack-Matisons seconded it. It was passed by the membership.

Due to constraints with our current space, it was suggested that our current meeting area be reserved for jurying and that the membership meet downstairs, or that jurying take place previous to the General Meeting in February. Lorna Hannett will look into the availability of the space downstairs at Lakeview.

Natalie and Neil presented a proposal for a new location to replace North Glenmore for our May show. Proposed we move our May show to Edgemont Community Centre in the north west of Calgary. Asked for a show of hands from the members for approval, passed. Neil will be the Exhibition Coordinator for this show with assistance from Natalie. At the time of printing, Edgemont is reserved and we are in the process of signing a contract.

North Glenmore Show

As approved above with the membership, we will not be returning to North Glenmore in May. The show will be relocated to Edgemont and it will be considered a qualifying show.

Item for Discussion

In the past the membership had passed a motion to put blue qualifying dots on the awarded paintings during our shows. It was discovered that 1.) visitors to our shows thought that these paintings were already sold and 2.) it promoted unwanted competition amongst the members. It was noted that the purpose for that idea was to encourage artists to observe the characteristics of the qualifying paintings for educational purposes. Membership agreed (with a show of hands) that there would be no blue dots put on the paintings during the shows, but a list would be available that would be for artists' use only and not for selling purposes.

Workshops

Eileen Pasishnek has spoken with Doug Swinton and he has agreed to have an all day workshop on Composition and Colour Theory. Due to unreliable confirmations in the past, Eileen requires \$35 from anyone interested in attending this workshop by our February General Meeting. A date will then be confirmed after those interested have paid. This is stressed as being a very important issue. We need participation for these workshops to be successful.

Program – February

Margaret has booked Rick Calkins from the Faculty of Fine Art at U of C to speak. He will speak about paint.

A volunteer is required to arrange a program for our March meeting.

Requests from Charitable Organizations for Donations

As a group we receive many requests from organizations asking artists to donate pieces for a charitable cause and usually the bait is a tax receipt. This is a very individual decision for an artist. Robert Genn published a newsletter on this in December of 2000 addressing the issues and offering several options for handling these requests for artists.

To ensure you are all aware of what opportunities are being offered we've added a category onto our web page, called "Artists Opportunities", and we'll have the same category in the newsletter. This will give you a chance to be aware of what opportunities there are and let you decide if you want to support a particular charity, or not.

Some of the issues Robert Genn talks about are:

- The tax receipt, is not worth much or anything. He suggest you tell the charity you want to share to some degree in the auction – say fifty-fifty – less if you really like the charity.
- Put a reserve bid on your work that can keep the price above the gallery price on your reserve. It's better to have your work unsold at a charity auction than to undermine your dealers. Charities benefit from this system because they get better work from the artists.

We've posted Robert Genn's newsletter on the website for your reference and we have some copies here if you would like to take one. Sharon Williams also put together some points for you if you wish and we have copies here as well.

Currently we have two opportunities that we have been invited to participate in. The CNIB and Father Lacombe Nursing Home. We have copies available if you are interested.

Also, a gentleman from Peacock Furniture has contacted us, he is selling off his framing supplies if anyone is interested.

FCA Website Solicitation

Jim Graham discussed how everyone on our website have been solicited by Art Exchange and/or Art Canadiana. Before an artist acts on these contacts, he suggested the following:

- Find out who has worked with them and ask how business has been with them. Contact other artists.
- Research the address of the company. Is it questionable or not?
- Check with the Better Business Bureau.
- If you don't wish to be contacted, block e-mails.
- Research everything you possibly can about the company.

Remember that you are the one being solicited without request. You are not responsible for replying to them.

Any Visitors/New Members

Lyla Couzens – visitor

Olga de Sanctis – new member

Any Opportunities for Members

Cosmopolitan Art Gallery upstairs in the Eau Claire Market will be having a show. Morin Gallery is a new gallery in Lethbridge.

2002 Application Deadline for SFCA/AFCA Status

The deadline for application is February 28, 2002. If you are interested we have a few copies of the form and you can also download the form from Vancouver's website. If you have any questions please talk to Lorna Dockstader or any SFCA/AFCA.

Sharon Williams suggested that anyone wishing to ship work to Vancouver from Calgary should get together with other artists and do a bulk shipment of paintings to save on costs.

Misc.

Bruce DuPlessis has left Calgary and moved to Toronto. We wish him well.

Adjourn

Lois Fisch motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kathleen McCombie seconded it. Passed.

Program – Introducing New Active Members

New active members were introduced were as follows, not everyone was in attendance:

Jan Boydol
Beverly Farley
Carol Little
Lucy Rachynski
Neil Locke

Bonnie Curran
Dena Hohloch
Elena Mah
Jennifer Schinschick

Gabriella Dira
Linda Lawnde
Kathleen McCallum
Lillian Tkach-Matisons