YAA Board Minutes, meeting on 6/22/2020

NEXT BOARD MEETING ON JULY 13 AT 6P

Submitted by Betsy Cromley, Secretary

Present: Andrew Poulopoulos, Tom Merriam, Maryse Newton, Taryn Myers, Scott Blanchard, Glen MacWilliams, Betsy Cromley, Helen Burns

Absent: Dave Mazur

Taryn, Chair of the Media and Communications Committee, reporting on research by herself and the Committee for Re-opening (Taryn, Maryse, Andrew, Deb, others?), said that 4-5 visitors would be allowed in the gallery at one time; 2 would be allowed in the gift shop. She has studied the CDC guidelines for ME, NH, and MA. That committee suggests sending a questionaire to members to find out who would be willing to volunteer, should we open the gallery.

Helen reported that CDC Guidelines for reopening retail would apply to YAA. This lists stringent requirements for sanitizing surfaces and other cleaning, probably requiring the services of professional cleaners. Also sales people need protective plexiglass shields. While masks and hand sanitizer will not be too expensive, other services will be.

The Board reconsidered the risks of re-opening in the pandemic. People who come from other states increase the risk of infection to our volunteers and each other. Our membership is mainly older people who get worse symptoms if infected. Legally YAA would be liable if people who caught the virus could attribute it to coming to our premises.

Glen moved to amend our decision to re-open (as voted on at the 6/15/20 Board meeting); the amendment to that decision is to not re-open due to the current difficulty of managing the Covid-19 risks. Vote: 6 in favor of amendment; 3 opposed. The decision is to not re-open at this time. Tom praised the Committee for Re-opening for its research and energy.

The Board supports Music and Art Camp (and considerations as identified by Taryn) and Open Studio, managed by Maryse, both at Moulton Park. Plans continue for a virtual Art in the Park event in September, chaired by Scott.

We need a plan to solicit members' art and get it onto the website. The Board wants to see separate shows up on the website to keep the site and e-store fresh. Taryn, who will be charged with putting material on the site, requests that new shows be spaced apart every two months. Show-Chair Maryse suggested a shorter time-frame with opening dates of July 17, Sept. 4, October 16, and December 4. Whether to limit the number of works per artist, charge a fee to show, announce show themes or have open admissions is all still to be decided. After a new show is posted on the site, the retiring shows' art will remain on the website in an accessible gallery so the content of the site is maximized.

In order to engage YAA members and encourage them to submit work for the website, Tom will write a welcoming letter and general invitation. Guidelines for picture quality and dimensions, etc., for submissions have been written by Taryn and emailed to members last March, but did not garner many submissions. Betsy suggested telephone contacts with each YAA member to encourage sending work in.

Tom moved to close the meeting at 7:30p.