YAA Board Meeting Minutes – September 17, 2025

Submitted by Taryn Myers, Secretary

Call to order: 6:12pm
Attendance: Maryse, Anne, Laurie, Taryn, Steve

1. Welcoming the new Board
2. **Treasurer's report**
    a. AIP did well from a revenue standpoint
    b. Very healthy position financially
        i. Member dues way up - over budget
        ii. Gallery sales & shop sales up
        iii. $8k grant from Fabulous Find
    c. Currently tumultuous time, but stock is doing very well
        i. Letitia Moore - $376k
        ii. How much more do we take?
        iii. Have taken $7500 so far - will def take other $2500 (normal quarterly draw)
        iv. But how much more to draw & what to do with it?
            1. Anne Suggests we take $20k to put into Capital fund
            2. Last year we took additional $15k and only paid nominal taxes (check this amount in transcription)
        v. IF the trust makes a profit that we don't take out, the Trust pays the tax on that income
            1. If the trust can distribute money to a nonprofit, to avoid profit
        vi. Anne has asked a few people to join an advisory team for the Letitia Moore trust (not on the board) - goal it keep things honest
    d. Anne - Motion to allow us to move $20k from Trust and put it toward the capital fund in FY25 (before October)
        i. Second - Taryn
        ii. Discussion: if we don't take out enough & we have to pay taxes on the income to the Trust, that money will continue to sit in the trust
            1. The Trust has basically been sitting at around $350k
            2. If we take out too much, there is no financial consequence, there is potential to invite suspicion
            3. There is interest in finding a way to extend the terms of the trust (the current terms state that after 50 years IF there is still money within the trust, the remainder of the trust funds shall turn over to the Ogunquit Museum of Art)
        iii. Unanimous approval
3. **AIP Summary**
    a. Went really well!
    b. Net income was $7749
    c. Budgeted around $5000
    d. Question: printing for $705
        i. Mary printed something for $280 (list of vendors)
        ii. Maryse printed posters for $1XX (2 print jobs)

iii. For next year ideal numbers:
1. 400 cards for advertising/distribution
2. Don't think we need the list of vendors cards (or print them ourselves)

e. Paid more for music this year - totally worth it
i. A lot of compliments on Joyce & her husband and for the Seasmoke Trio as well
f. Anne sent out thank you cards yesterday (9/16)
g. Next year - heard a guy at Kittery Farmers Market (very good vocalist) - do we want a third musician in the mix to keep music all day long
h. Maryse suggested going to 5:00pm - but foot traffic slows down dramatically at 4:00 (by 2/3 o'clock it is already slowed down a lot)
i. Had 200 people coming through the gallery day-of
j. Anthony's for coffee & baked goods for vendors - will do again! -
i. Anthony's gave us the coffee free
ii. All baked goods were 60% off
k. 1250 came through the front gate of AIP
i. Made $3000 at front gate
l. Nancy & Martha will start reaching out to many business cards they have collected along the way from their visits to other fairs - need to have registration open earlier

4. Hiring of Sally Sulloway

- Was looking for something small to do to keep busy. Working on title (thinking Gallery Host)
- Open Thurs-Sun now (12-5)
- What Sally cannot fill with volunteers, she will be here
- She is flexible hours at $20/hr (will send hours to Anne every 2 weeks)
  - Check LGL correspondences out to membership - she is being listed as a volunteer - she is a paid position
- Office notebook (address the notebook to make sure someone looking & notes are managed/followed up on)
  - Someone noted that we should have emails coming from consistent source: Taryn agrees from a marketing perspective it is cleaner & having the LGL emails coming from LGL domain can cause emails to go to spam… Taryn to reach out to Mary to see if we can use a custom domain in LGL - to keep email from more consistent
  - Sally says that she will pay attention to the notebook

5. Renovation update

- **Fundraising**
  - Joe Lipton has offered to hold 1 of his 5 benefits in 2026 to support York Art
  - Plan to open up mass fundraising October
- **Contractor vote**
  - Met with Brian Sleeper, Conrad Delesario, and Gary from Shoreline
  - Brain gave us a quote on par with other quotes & is expressing a lot of interest (Gary seemed wishy-washy)
  - By Jan 1 Brian can start - estimating 5 months
  - Motion to accept Brian Sleeper as the contractor

- Second Steve
- Discussion: Mary & Anne are up to about $380k in either received or pledged. Would like to be closer to $500k before mass fundraising
- Brian's quote was about $380k (but this can change based on what's behind the walls)
- Once we vote to go with him, he'll give us a more specific list
- Has great energy - has a good reputation (did Steve's house)
- Mary & Anne talked about putting together as small building team so that it's not only Anne & Mary
    - Thought Jay (former architect) and Tim Ellis (Ellis Insurance) to invite in outside eyes & knowledgeable eyes
- Anne talked to Harry at Code Enforcement and the town is good with what we are planning on doing (but need to get the appropriate zoning)
- Why not going bigger - right now, this is what this org can sustain right now - if we want to expand, let's expand how we outreach OUT to York rather than always trying to get people to come here
- Will have some space for storage, but small space - will need to be creative
    - Discussed the potential for storage unit
    - Tried to talk to Sentry Hill about possibly being able to utilize the right of way next to us, but Sentry Hill is now owned by a Chicago Based Org - can try to approach them, but likely will end no where
- Maryse challenges us to have the plan for where we have exhibit space available while we are closed for renovations (ideas include York Harbor Inn Ballroom, Stageneck, talk to Cliff House)

- Unanimous Approval for Brian Sleeper

- What to accomplish during renovations
- IF membership grows post renovation, how do we address the potential increased need for space (if we're not expanding with the renovations) - why not go up now….. Anne mentioned would cost twice as much to go up. We could always go up later if we see this need later - we could use temporary walls to expand space to show, also outside exhibit expansion

6. **Effect of building renovation on calendar**
    - Themes - need to work on adjustments if we're not open for Mar-Apr-May
        - Student exhibit is normally in Feb - could reach out to Town Hall to host the student exhibit
        - Could still stick with the themes, but truncate the schedule
    - Consider off-site exhibits?
7. **Fall workshops**
    a. Carrie Connors - paint & wine in Oct or Nov
    b. Todd Bonita wants to do another 4-day workshop (so hard to get a hold of) - wants to do Nov 10-13
    c. Margarite Dwyer - Water color

d. Wall for November - December 21 (do not have an artist for the wall in Nov or Dec) - Mary & Laurie have been talking about it - Mary would like to spruce up the wall for Nov - could offer members to bring in 1 small work for the Wall. No Makers Market either - for small work wall aim for 12" x 12" (offer participation for free - limit ONE work)
    i. Could change the close date earlier if we need to / want to start renovations in December
e. Motion to use Artist Wall in Nov into part of Dec for Small Works during Spruce it Up Exhibit - max size 12" x 12" limit 1 piece per artist - no cost
    i. Second Steve
    ii. Unanimous approval

8. Poetry night

a. Kitty will do again, but not sure when - typically Sunday & would not conflict with any workshops (October or November)

9. October newsletter items

a. Mary was thinking Talk of Lichen and Art in October - another Sunday - Maryse will double check exact date (either 12th or 19th)
b. Opening for Jean Lincoln 2nd Fri of October
    i. Will have an article in York Weekly about her and her exhibit
c. Mention invite to Small Works (any theme)
d. Open up mass fundraising for capital campaign
    i. Logistic of closing for renovations will hold until November

10. New Business

a. Anne was at Town Hall - Dianna is administrator - have room for about 13 pieces of art - does York Art want to be involved in placing art routinely at Town Hall
    i. Love the idea and we support it, but it isn't as simple as just putting up art (need to curate, how long, who hangs, how long, etc). Need to figure out those details.
    ii. No hanging systems
    iii. Who has the bandwidth to manage the coordination of this project?
    iv. They also have some permanent pieces that may not look good opposite of certain works
    v. Dianna does not want to curate it - she wants York Art to curate the art at Town Hall
    vi. At this time, we do not have the capacity to manage this, but could possibly in the future
        1. We can offer to revisit with her next year
    vii. This is more of an opportunity to exhibit, not to sell
b. November opening to use an acapella group (Maryse bid on at an auction & won the auction bid)
    i. Could use the opening event as fundraiser & details announcement - invite food
c. Holiday Cheer for December event - need date
    i. Could do gift ideas to donate $100 in someone's name get a card to put in their stocking, etc

Adjourn

Next meeting: Oct 8 @6:00pm