

**Sherman Artists Association Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 11, 2023**  
**6:30 pm, Sherman Senior Center, Sherman CT**

**Attendees:** Bethe Bagues, Christy Bonaiuto, Jeff Ginsburg, Lisa Caron Hickey, Linda Hubbard, Cathleen Kessman, Herb Kroeger, Charlene Leichter, Kenny Litwack, MJ Newman, Claire Qiu

**Introductions**

Welcomed new member Claire Qiu - realistic oil painter, sculptor, and pottery

**Sherman Artists Meeting December 14, 2022, Minutes:** Linda  
Minutes approved

**Financial Update: Jeff**

- 2022 Revenue: \$5694, Expenses: \$2734, Overall, \$2960 Balance. – Approved.
- **Action:** Jeff is working on getting the bank account online and then accepting online payments via the website with Vemo business or another similar application. There will be fees for this direct payment method, so we will need to consider if we add to dues.
- For financial administration, Jeff is using excel, which will become cumbersome and not meet our reporting needs if we receive our 501(c3) status or receive grants. Two options are being considered:
  - QuickBooks (\$87/mo) – ability to import data from the bank, match it with payments made, and send invoices and reporting with good support.
  - Zip books (\$55/mo or \$35/mo options). – Less functionality compared to QuickBooks with minimal support.

**Action:** Jeff to continue to investigate and bring options to future meeting.

**Organizational Steps Toward becoming a 501(c3): Linda**

- Goal is to obtain 501(c3) status so SAA can apply for grants.
- Proposed bylaws (Copy to be emailed to all members):
  - Board of Directors (BoD) consists of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary as well as other members at large (recommended 1-3).
  - Members at Large:
    - In meeting voted on and agreed to 3 members at large for SAA. (There would be a commitment of at most 4 meetings per year. Read proposed bylaws for duties.)
    - To date volunteered candidates for 3 members at large: John O'Donnell, Denise Schlesinger,
  - Proposed Term Limits of BoD - *1 (one) two-year term and not for more than 2 (two) consecutive terms in a specific position.* (Half of initial BoD will be 1yr to ensure there isn't a full turnover of BoD at end of term.)
  - Proposed fiscal year - Jan thru Dec. Budget will be presented Qtr1 of year.
- **Action Prior to January 25 - ALL:**
  - Contact Linda Hubbard if you are interested in becoming a BoD member at large.
  - Review proposed bylaws and contact Linda Hubbard if you have any questions.

**Official Annual Meeting & Special Election January 25, 2023, at 6:30 pm via Zoom:**

**(PLEASE ATTEND. An invitation is forthcoming)**

- At this meeting, we will:

- Adopt the Bylaws
- Officially vote on the Board of Directors (Slate: Officers -Pres. Linda Hubbard, VP Lisa Caron Hickey, Treas. Jeff Ginsberg, Secretary Bethe Bogues and Members at Large volunteered candidates.

**Action:**

- All- Attend our first annual meeting.
- Linda - After the annual meeting, Linda will send in the 501(3c) submission and file the first 501(c3) state report by due date of February 5 2023.

**2023 SAA Calendar:**

- **ARTFEST** – June 23,24,25 at JCC (There will be a flat fee for participating artists no commission on sales)
- **Kent Art Show** – Month of August – Juried
- **OPEN STUDIOS** – December 2 and 3, plus Library Art Show

**Other Exhibits and Shows:**

- **Great Hollow Photographers Show May 19 – 21, 2023**
  - Juried paintings and photography nature theme in the area.
  - Membership voted for SAA to co-sponsor and help with the show's financial administration. Great publicity for SAA.

**Sherman Library:**

- Next Show: Christy Bonaiuto's "Pour Your Heart into Art" January 13 – February 22.  
**Note: Artist Reception – Friday, January 13, 2023, 6-8 pm. Artist demo January 28 from 11-12:30. Join if you can!**
- MJ Newman will do the next show from February 24 to March 29.
- **Action:** Applicants are welcome for follow-on shows.

**Sherman Commission for the Arts Vote:**

- SAA would be a member of the commission along with other Sherman cultural organizations to help promote arts in Sherman.
- **Action ALL: Please attend and VOTE! Sherman Town Meeting / Saturday, January 21, 2023 / 10 am /Mallory Town Hall and encourage other Sherman Artists of all types (SAA and NonSAA members) to vote as well.**

**Ongoing:**

- Website – ShermanArtists.org – update: Lisa
- Facebook - Sherman Artist Page –send info to [lisa@carondesigns.com](mailto:lisa@carondesigns.com) or share a post on the site.
- **Action:** Lisa to add SAA calendar and links to art education and classes in the area
- **Action:** Linda to granted rights to Lisa for Facebook administration to expand tool's capabilities

**Open Discussion:**

- What other activities would you like for 2023?
  - Suggestions for expanding use of Facebook and website info.
  - Several Committees are to be set up in future for events, publicity, and others. Christy and MJ volunteered for different aspects of publicity. It will be discussed in more detail in future.

**Next Meeting:**

- February 8, 2023. 6:30 pm Sherman Senior Center

Respectfully submitted: Bethe Bogues