

**DVAA Board Minutes**  
**June 18, 2020**

Attending: Jeffrey Allison, Hester Greene, Sean Harrington, Dan Hust, Kristin Lockwood, Jane Luchsinger (in part), Janice Meyerson, Liza Phillips, Kristin Porter, Mary Sue Sweeney Price, Jean Kogut Raazi, Jane Roth. Also attending: Ariel Shanberg, Executive Director.

**Call to order:** 6:30 PM

**Board Chair Opening Remarks:** President Allison thanked the board and staff for helping to prepare the solidarity statement, which will be discussed under new business. He also congratulated DVAA Live @ Home series for being important and great fun.

**Review of Minutes:** President Allison asked that the year 2021 be added to the sentence (under the Financial Report section) “It is projected that we will have a deficit of \$34,745 at the end of June.” Mary Sue Sweeney Price made a motion to approve the minutes with this amendment. Janice Meyerson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**2020-21 Board Elections:** After discussion, Liza Phillips made a motion to ask the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Dan Hust, to cast one ballot to elect board members to a 3-year term on behalf of the board. Hester Greene seconded that motion. The motion was approved. Hester Greene, Dan Hust, Steven Leamer, and Marla Puccetti were duly elected for a 3-year term. Dan Hust verbally cast the ballot. The paper copy will be given to Ariel Shanberg for the record.

After discussion, Janice Meyerson made a motion to ask the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Dan Hust, to cast one ballot on behalf of the board for the election of officers and the Executive Committee. Mary Sue Sweeney Price seconded the motion. The motion was approved. 2021 Officers: Jeffrey Allison, President; Dan Hust, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Liza Phillips, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Kristin Lockwood, Treasurer; Jane Luchsinger, Secretary. Members-at-Large of Executive Committee: Hester Greene, Robin Dintiman, Kristin Porter, Jean Kogut Raazi. Dan Hust verbally cast the ballot. The paper copy will be given to Ariel Shanberg for the record.

**FY 2021 Budget:** The budget for FY 2021 was reviewed and discussed. Mary Sue Sweeney Price made a motion to approve the budget. Jean Kogut Raazi seconded the motion. The budget was passed. Uncertainties exist due to the Covid-19 pandemic for the budget, including NYSCA and SCAHG funds, Big Eddy Film, and Business Supporter program.

**Executive Director Report:** Items from full report highlighted during the discussion:

- Current Grants Coordinator will leave DVAA on June 30. Candidates are being interviewed.
- Candidates for Gallery Director will have 2<sup>nd</sup> round of consideration.
- Financials: In absence of bookkeeper due to Covid, Treasurer Kristin Lockwood is reconciling accounts to bank statements. Reconciliations are up to date through May.
- FY 2020 Sullivan County support has not been received, but the Executive Director has completed all necessary actions for the money to be released to DVAA.
- Jean Kogut Raazi is assisted in building DVAA's new chart of accounts into QuickBooks.
- Nantucket Raffle has been approved to move forward by the NYS Charities Gaming Commission. The website will be updated and a flyer distributed. A maximum of 100 tickets for each of the two weeks being raffled will be sold. Date of drawing will be July 26—or sooner, if all tickets are sold.
- The Executive Director, with assistance from staff and the Facilities and Executive Committee, is drafting a reopening plan. Reopening is anticipated for early July, when the state enters Phase 4 of the Covid-19 state reopening plan.

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- Riverfest is in the planning stages for a virtual event. All posters are outstanding with artists. Artists are now entitled to a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of their posters, but many have said to keep the funds or donate them elsewhere. An online auction platform has not been selected, but several were suggested, including Bidding Owl; 14 applications have been received for the virtual street fair.
- Bizzy Coy has been retained to help develop copy for the new website.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Advocacy:** The survey of our members and subscribers is under way. So far, 406 individuals have completed the survey. Results will be tabulated and shared.
- **Board Development:** The committee will meet to identify needs and skills for new board members and distribute to board members.
- **Facilities:** DVAA is advising on color of new paint for the Tusten Theater exterior; it was pointed out that DVAA's driveway shares a right-of-way with property on Bridge Street.
- **Fundraising:** Membership/donor letter will go out shortly. Jean Raazi suggested contacting Kat Andrews to host a drive in movie.

**Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.

**New Business:** Discussion of solidarity statement: comments were made that this was an honest, sincere effort to address racism and prejudice in our society. It was also thought to be beautifully crafted. It should be a lens through which we look to understand DVAA's past and provide guidance for future decisions and actions. We would like to identify leaders and stakeholders in underserved communities, so that they will become part of our larger community. One wording change was recommended: changing the word "bettering" to "strengthening." President Allison stated that initial responsibility will be with the Executive Committee to review the statement and suggest a path forward for implementation. The board and staff will identify specific actions that DVAA can take to actualize the statement.

Jean Kogut Raazi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Submitted Respectfully, Janice Meyerson, Board Member