



**Board of Directors Meeting
March 11, 2021**

Present: Allison, J., Crowthers, C., Greene, H., Harrington, S., Hust, D., Kogut, J., Leamer, S., Luchsinger, J., Phillips, L., Pontier, A., Porter, K., Price, MS., Roth, J., Sable, K.

Executive Director: Shanberg, A.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, this meeting was held by Zoom internet communication.

The meeting began at 6:31pm.

I. Board Chair Opening Remarks

- Our new website has been launched and looks wonderful. It is still a work in progress and comments are welcome.
- The Sunshine Free Library Nancy Stevenson Memorial fund was the subject of a River Reporter article. DVAA was mentioned in the article citing the wonderful volunteer work performed by Nancy.
- The first of the Salon series was a great success.
- Daniel Light continues to modify the survey for use in the libraries. We expect the survey to provide good information that may be used when soliciting sponsors. We need to think about the other uses of the survey results.

2. Review of Minutes:

Corrections were cited on the draft of the January 14 meeting. Under financials, the word *appreciated* should be substituted for the word *mature* when referring to stock. At the #3D listing, the word DVAA should appear at the beginning of the sentence. A motion was made by Mary Sue P. and seconded by Jean K. to approve the amended minutes from the January 14 and the January 31 meetings. Motion passed.

3. Executive Director's Report, highlights (complete report attached)

- a. During a recent storm, glass blew out of the upper floor window on to Main Street. This is a further reminder that we are caretakers of a very old building.
- b. The recent staff meeting was full, with staff contributing many ideas.
- c. Membership is about double of our projections for this time.
- d. Ariel has just become aware of the Laura Jane Musser Fund which targets funding to rural arts organizations and Sullivan County, NY is on their list of rural areas eligible for funding. He will apply next funding cycle.
- e. We have a rollover of \$2,000 to the re-grants program. A 2020 recipient did not cash the award check and has not reached out to DVAA for an extension of their intended project.

DEC grants -A motion was made by Jane L. to accept the recommendations of the DEC review committee and award individuals/organizations according to the attached list. Sean Harrington seconded the motion. Motion passed.

4. **Re-Branding** - The website has been launched and we will be able to get better information about users of the site. The Artsletter will become *Landscape*. The publication will focus on a series of articles and information rather than remain predominately a calendar of arts events. Calendar information will appear on our new website. Other Arts organizations will be able to enter their events directly to our website. The new calendar fulfills a suggestion/desire that came out of our Advocacy meeting held with numerous arts organizations.

Strategic Planning report- Dan is working on a review document that he will share with Steve Leamer (strategic planning facilitator) and Ariel. It should be shared with the board in the very near future.

5. **Financial Report (attached for review)**

- We continue to do well financially. Normally this time of year is difficult with reduced cash flow, however we are experiencing a steady level of income. Also, our accounts payable is at a very low point.
- We do qualify for a 2nd round of PPD funding and Ariel will be submitting an application to receive funds.
- NYSCA has increased support from \$18,000 to \$30,000 this year which contributes to our positive financial state.
- Signatures has had diminished sales this FY. Reasons include that Indie Mart was not held this past holiday season. Jane Roth and Jeff Allison will create a marketing plan for the shop.

6. **Committee Reports**

- Advocacy** - Daniel Light is working with the libraries to develop an appropriate survey for patrons.
- Board Development** – Megan Gallin has agreed to serve on our Board but as an elected official she needs to receive clearance from the County. We have a candidate Ari Pontier has recommended we are reaching out to. Desired skills are: legal, accounting/financial, facilities and fulfilling our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusivity.
- Fundraising** – committee report attached.
- Programming** – nothing to report
- Facilities** –

- New regulations have been established as a result of COVID 19. Any fixed space where the public will be gathered for an extended period of time must undergo an air exchange test. This will apply to the theater and possibly Kraus recital hall.
- Sean will do a walk-through of the upper floors and calk those windows needing maintenance.
- The gardener (Star) has agreed not to use a soaker hose this year since the water seeps into our basement. Sean will be donating a new hose to DVAA to be used for watering the flowers.
- Suggestions to put artwork on the outside of the Tusten theater were discussed. All artwork must be approved by the Tusten Town Board prior to installation.

7. Building Project Committee Reports:

- **Needs Assessment-** continues to form focus groups and questions to be asked of each group. Ariel will be seeking information regarding Lord Cultural Resources, a firm specializing in assisting arts organization to determine future needs. There will be a cost associated with this consulting firm. We have put an RFP for the needs assessment focus groups.
- **Capital Campaign-** The estimated appraisal on the building, in its current condition, was determined to be \$510,000. The committee will need to identify grant funding sources for necessary maintenance issues. Dan will contact the Sullivan County Grants office for assistance in identifying grant funding sources.
- **Building-** This committee has met and now needs to develop a list of maintenance projects that must be done. A cost analysis to build out the top 2 floors to a “white box” condition will be developed by this committee.

8. Old Business

Nothing to report

9. New Business

Nothing to report

Adjournment: Motion made by Jane Luchsinger and seconded by Sean Harrington to adjourn at 7:54pm

Submitted by:

Jane Luchsinger, Secretary