

**Delaware Valley Arts Alliance
Board of Directors Meeting
Delaware Arts Center
Narrowsburg, NY
March 11, 2010**

Attendees: Bidwell, B., Boudman, G., Hafkin, F., McClernon, R., Luchsinger, J., Hughes, M., Peck, A., Ahern, C., O'Brien, R., Bystrom, T., and Giguere, E., Executive Director. Megan Lord, our student intern who will be working with us at the Arts Alive brunch, joined us for the evening. Megan has volunteered to support the Arts Alive Drive through a program sponsored by John Ogozalek, her Social Studies teacher at Sullivan West High School in Lake Huntington.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by our President, Robin McClernon, at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of February 11, 2010 were read. A motion was made by Jane Luchsinger, to accept the minutes, and seconded by Bruce Bidwell.

Committees Reports:

Fundraising – Elaine Giguere

While there are still some details to be worked out, progress continues to be made in preparation for our Arts Alive Kick-Off. Our lawn signs have been strategically placed through out the county for all to see, and party plans are being finalized. Most of the parties will be held on the weekend of April 10, 2010, and some will be held later on in the season, keeping our year-long initiative current and visible for everyone to support. Christine Ahern is our point person to keep track of all the parties that are going on. She has offered to speak with the party givers to help with any and all details. Alison Peck will take the lead and organize the Sunday Morning Brunch on April 11, 2010. Megan Lord and the remaining board members will be available to handle the various jobs that contribute to a successful event. Our ads for this event can be seen in many of the county's weekly publications. As our kick-off draws closer there will be public service announcements of the local radio stations.

The new 2010 DVAA Journal, complete with 36 pages, goes to the printers on March 19th, and will be available at our Sunday Brunch, April 11, 2010. It was noted that selling ads in this economy remains a challenge. Our Arts Alive ballot boxes will begin to show up after April 11, when the board will be placing them in various businesses around the county. Each board member will be responsible for maintaining the box that they put out in each location. George Boudman's students have completed the first batch of the Arts Alive buttons that all party goers will be given on April 10th. The buttons will serve to admit the wearer to the Sunday Brunch at no charge. All others will be charged \$10.00 to attend. Our president, Robin McClernon urged the board to begin thinking about Riverfest. Preparations for this annual event will begin next month.

Finance- George Boudman

George presented a detailed outline of our finances. We have received a certified copy of the County resolution for our 2010 appropriation. We will be able to re-grant a total of \$23,750 to Sullivan County non-profit cultural organizations this year. Tina Spangler will be running re-grant seminars on how to fill our forms and apply for the grants. We are still awaiting a \$10,000.00 Stimulus Grant. These grants are slowly being released, and NYSCA is checking on our behalf to see what might be delaying the release of funds. The board looks forward to realizing our \$100,000.00 Initiative to secure the future of the Arts Alliance. The finance committee continues to meet the hour preceding the monthly board meeting.

Facilities – Rich O'Brien

Rich, along with Bruce Bidwell and George Boudman, will be scheduling a work day Saturday, March 20, 2010, to work in the Tusten theatre to remove an outdated ventilation system that is no longer needed. The theater is now air-conditioned, and the old system takes up valuable space on stage that can better be utilized by each performance. The town of Tusten owns the theater; the DVAA leases the theatre. Elaine will check with the town before we proceed.

Sullivan County is applying for a Main Street grant that would provide 75% of renovation costs for projects that enhance buildings or the ability to do business. The DVAA will work to prepare a letter of intent to apply for such a grant to help defer some of the costs involved in renovating the Arts Center. The deadline is April 12, 2010. This is a reimbursable grant.

Program- Elaine Giguere

The programming committee continues to look for new and innovative entertainment for the theatre. In addition to the already announced spring/fall line up, we will present Margolis Brown Adaptors on June 26, 2010, the Paul West Trio on October 27, 2010, and the Delaware Valley Chamber Orchestra on October 16, 2010. The full line-up will be in our 2010 journal, due out in April. The committee is contemplating hosting a Cabaret event for the summer crowd this year. Jane Luchsinger would like to see a Labor Day event bringing people into town as the summer winds down.

Board Development - Elaine Giguere

The board was happy to welcome Troy Bystrom this evening as the newest board member to the DVAA. Troy will fill the unexpired term left vacant by Gloria Krause. The board will continue to recruit from the list that the committee has prepared, paying attention to the Northern & Eastern ends of the county for better representation in those areas.

Director's Report

See attached Director's Report dated March 11, 2010.

Old Business: Christine Ahern mentioned suggesting to Roasters, the local coffee shop in Narrowsburg, the idea of bartering an ad in our Newsletter in exchange for catering our gallery openings.

New Business: George Boudman proposed the idea of creating an Ad Hoc committee that would help the DVAA with grant writing. The committee would be responsible for researching various grants that would be applicable to the DVAA. The committee would then assist Elaine Giguere, the Executive Director, in choosing which grants to target, and help to write up the necessary proposals. The committee would be called the "Grant Writing Assessment Committee."

Adjournment:

Jane Luchsinger moved to adjourn the meeting; George Boudman seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

The next regular meeting will be April 8, 2010, at 6:30 PM. This month, the hour preceding the board meeting will be reserved for the Fundraising committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Frann Hafkin

