

**ROSSMOOR ART ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 11, 2019  
Gateway Complex, Multipurpose Room 2**

**Attending:** John Hopper, Ted Bush, Paul Moderacki, Pat Solari, Florie Baumann, Cathy Brostrand, Jeanne Rayher, Kathleen Stumpf, Marcy Wheeler and Carol Terry.  
**Excused:** Steve Osborn, Susie Symons and Linda Towson

**RAA Website Presentation + Q&A:** Marcy Wheeler & Sandeepa Nayak

Sandeepa prepared a slide presentation mock-up of a potential RAA website with our proposed added features using the WordPress platform. She demonstrated the navigation and link possibilities for such things as calendaring, running news, class signups/tracking for instructors plus login membership privileges including online payments for dues, classes and special events. The goal is to streamline many routine tasks by making them accessible via a website platform that's adaptable to the specific needs of RAA and its members, instructors as well as the casual visitor.

To build a platform, Sandeepa's rate is \$85/hour, a cost Marcy related later is less than comparable developers in the area. (Sandeepa and her team built the new platform for the Rossmoor News.) The basic WordPress platform is free and includes all updates; cost is incurred on a one-time basis when incorporating add-ons or "widgets", i.e., roster and online payment capabilities are add-ons; the associated costs for such includes all post-install updates. With all WordPress costs upfront there are no monthly fees as with some other platforms (for instance, Wild Apricot runs \$90/month).

**Regular Meeting Called to Order:** 1:40pm by President, John Hopper

**Announcements/Introductions/Comments:**

At President John Hopper's request, new RAA member, Bill Schwartz, introduced himself and said he was present to observe the board meeting.

John advised he, with Carol Terry's assistance, added a couple of items to the art studios:

- (1) two First Aid kits with all the basics were installed in each studio kitchenette; Carol will monitor them to ensure contents are organized and replenished as needed;
- (2) another power bar in Studio 2.

**Agenda additions/approval:**

With no additions, agenda approved as prepared.

**Approval of Minutes:** With no corrections or additions, the board moved, seconded and unanimously approved acceptance of the June 12, 2019 meeting Minutes as submitted.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Treasury:** Treasurer, Paul Moderacki reported he's sorting through class expenses and setting up a tracking system. In round figures RAA has, to date, taken in \$61K from classes and other sources and paid out \$53K. US Bank where RAA has checking, savings and credit card accounts is closing its branch office in the shopping center. The closest other branches are downtown Walnut Creek and Lafayette. Paul visited Poppy and Chase banks in the center to check out other nearby resources. He said Chase Bank offers the best services and perks. Following his recommendation, it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to authorize Paul to transfer all RAA USB accounts to Chase Bank. Paul to schedule a time to get authorized signatures in place.

**Membership:** Chair, Susie Symons, was absent and John reported that membership was approximately 300 by the end of August. (Pat said she'd used a figure of 296 to establish payment amount for annual GRF club liability insurance.)

**Education/Workshops:** Chair, Cathy Brostrand, reported two new classes have been added to RAA's curriculum: (1) a class offering by Colleen Gianatiempo, "Drawing & Brain Exercises", on Friday mornings in Studio 1. Colleen also teaches a Tuesday morning Mixed Media class. (2) a class offering by Carol Tarzier, "Costumed Portrait and Figure" in Studio 1 on Saturday mornings (charcoal only on 9/26 in Studio 2). Carol also teaches an on-going class "Landscapes From Photographs" Friday afternoons.

**Exhibits:** In Steve's absence, Carol Terry, reported he and she will be out of town for the next Gateway Exhibit change-out on Sunday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>. Clare and John Hopper will manage the exhibit hanging.

On an unrelated matter, Paul photographed and reported that a painting by Anna George in the current Gateway exhibit appeared to have been taken; the frame remained, but the painting was gone. At the time of his report Anna was still traveling. No further details.

**Hospitality:** Chair, Jeanne Rayher, reported that, during her absence, Carol Terry had successfully managed the September demo reception. No further updates.

**Program:** Chair, Marcy Wheeler, reported the September 4<sup>th</sup> oil painting demo by guest artist, Tom Taneyhill went well. The upcoming calendar includes returning artist, Randy Sexton in October; Jodi Madison in November with old masters oil portraits; Karen Kramer in February; the popular David Savellano will return for the March demo. There will be no demo in December due to the Annual General Meeting, election of officers and movie in Peacock Hall; as the first Wednesday in 2020 falls on New Year's day there will be no January demo; Marcy may schedule a movie instead.

**Publicity:** As Kathleen had to leave early, John handled her report. He announced a new program opportunity Channel 28 recently offered the RAA. As President, John was invited to conduct periodic 30 minute video-taped interviews with RAA artists. He

agreed and the first two interviews are scheduled with Kathleen Stumpf and Tim Dowell. Air dates are TBD. Announcements regarding RAA will now be available on Channel 28's "Post It".

**Soirees:** Pat Solari reported the regularly scheduled September Soiree on the 18<sup>th</sup> has been moved to Wednesday, October 16. Anna requested the date be pushed out due to timing and personal travel. The November Soiree on November 20<sup>th</sup> remains in place.

**Unfinished Business:** Led by John and Marcy, the board engaged in a discussion of the pros and cons of WordPress vs Wild Apricot. Many opinions and points of view were expressed. Marcy requested some guidance re: budgeting to discuss with Sandeepa who, during her presentation, mentioned she'd already put about 55 hours into a preliminary platform and estimated about 45 more to bring it to completion.

With little consensus and remaining questions/concerns about the best platform option, John wrapped up the discussion due to time constraints and room scheduling.

Next step (post-meeting update): a small group -- John, Marcy and Kathleen -- to meet with Sandeepa at a time TBD for more detailed information to help frame a decision on best platform, budget, timeframe, etc.

**New Business:** No new business

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm.

**Respectfully submitted** by Patricia Solari, Acting Secretary in Linda Towson's absence