

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL OF THE ART STUDENTS LEAGUE OF NEW YORK HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019, PURSUANT TO NOTICE DULY GIVEN, AT THE OFFICES OF STEPTOE & JOHNSON, 1114 SIXTH AVE., NEW YORK, NY.**

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05p.m. with President Thomas Harvey in the chair.

**Board of Control (BoC) Members Present:** Thomas Harvey, Mary Jo Anzel, Beth Berns, Charlotte Bialek, Cathy Blake, Robin Frank, Luz-Mary Harris, Julia Salinas, Raj Shahani.

Absent: Ezra Bookstein, Robert Morris, Jeff Sundheim

Also present: Executive Director Michael Rips, Jennifer Solomon, CDO, Karen Gaines, CFO, and Manager Thomas Tacik, taking minutes.

2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting of the BoC, held February 20, 2019, having been circulated to the members, were approved unanimously.
3. **Certificates of Completion:** There were no Certificates of Completion to approve.
4. **Membership Reinstatement Requests:** The following membership reinstatement request was approved: Enrique Flores Galbis, Genevieve Tissot Fuellemann, Pepper Pavlish
5. **President's Report:** President Thomas Harvey delivered the following remarks:

Seems like it was only a few weeks ago that we were last together — and it was.

I know that the Board's committees have been active.

Mary Jo Anzel's Finance Committee, with the assistance of Karen Gaines, our CFO, has been working on determining who best to manage the League's endowment — now amounting to about \$95 million. The Investment Advisory Committee that Michael Rips assembled has also done a great deal of work on that matter — all discussed at length when we were last together.

Beth Berns, Chair of the Development Committee is focusing on the creation of a fundraising strategy for the League. In actual fact, in the past, we have not been very successful in raising money — either from our members, from grant making institutions, or from others who would rightly have an interest in the world of art. I have been concerned about that, and recently drafted a letter — which is still in the works — to our members about that. Almost anyone you know with a connection to the League says: "I love the League." Yet only about 16% of our members contribute annually to the League they profess to love. As you know, I have asked each of you on the Board to contribute so that as we apply for grants, we can state that 100% of our Board is committed to the League, both with their time and with a financial commitment. It would greatly facilitate those grant applications if we could say the same about our members. Contributions are a tangible measure of the commitment of those individuals and a means to judge the value they place on League programs that benefit them.

And while we are on that topic, the League By-Laws provide at section VIII: "The Board of Control shall establish an annual fee for membership...as it deems requisite." I don't know when it was established that the annual dues should be \$35.00, but I know it was a long time ago and I believe we should move to raise that number as soon as possible.

Ezra has been working with the Building Committee to develop posters to be placed around the League addressing what to do in the event of various situations such as fire, lock down, etc. These are very well

done, contain a lot of critical information in a short, easily comprehended format. Ezra is not able to be with us tonight, but he has submitted a Committee report which Tom Tacik has included with your meeting materials.

I know that other committees have been active and they will be reporting separately.

Thank you all again for your support of the League in so many ways. It is a pleasure to work with such a committed group of artists.

6. **Executive Director's Report:** Executive Director Michael Rips delivered the following updates:
- Announcement of the passing of former Board President Lloyd Sherwood
  - Positive response to 57<sup>th</sup> Street window treatments and schedule of instructor exhibitions
  - Announcement of upcoming exhibitions in the AFAS Gallery
  - Proposed collaboration with the Ford Foundation on a treatment of scaffolding cover
  - The Faculty Advisory Committee has been disbanded in lieu of periodic meetings with instructors
  - Current Model-to-Monument program is progressing toward completion and installation; application process for the next round of M2M and future installments at the same site at 145<sup>th</sup> Street and Riverside Park will begin this spring

Chief Development Officer Jennifer Solomon provided a brief update on the League's application for funding for M2M from the New York State Council for the Arts. There followed a discussion regarding the types of available state funding.

7. **Finance Report:** Chief Financial Officer Karen Gaines discussed a proposed tuition increase. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, Board members present voted unanimously to increase tuition \$10, effective June 1, 2019. Ms. Gains then went on to provide updates on upgrading the League's registration system and the model payroll system; the completion of the audit; and the decision to move to a new fund manager. Vice President Mary Jo Anzel, chair of the finance committee, stated that the forthcoming budget was under review. Ms. Gains went on to discuss salary increases being tied to the staff review process.

Board member Beth Berns asked if there were plans to honor Lloyd Sherwood. Mr. Rips noted that he is in contact with the Sherwood family.

Board member Robin Frank provided board members with an update on the marketing website "In Collect" and stated that initial response from instructors was positive about the use of this online platform to sell artwork.

8. **Development Report:** Chief Development Officer Jennifer Solomon delivered a report on membership giving. There followed a discussion regarding reaching out to members for donations.

9. **Committee Reports:**

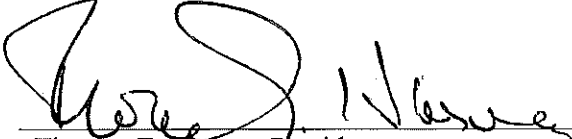
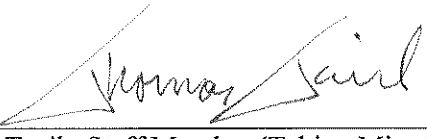
**Strategic Planning:** Committee chair Julia Salinas reviewed responses to the recent board focus group questions.

10. **New Business:**

Mr. Rips outlined plans to use the West Room for a residency program, noting that before the room could be used, a number of renovations to the space would have to take place. Ms. Anzel called for a vote to allow the administration to proceed with renovations to the West Room. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, Board members present voted unanimously for the renovation of the West Room. Ms. Anzel also discussed the budget for the renovation of the ground floor restrooms.

President Harvey noted that his letter to the membership would substitute for the next edition of Notes from the Board.

There being no further business and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm to Executive Session.

	
_____ Thomas E. Harvey, President	_____ Thomas Tacik, Staff Member (Taking Minutes)
_____ Date 4/10/19	_____ Date 4/10/19