

**MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING OF THE ART STUDENTS LEAGUE OF NEW YORK, HELD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2018, PURSUANT TO NOTICE DULY GIVEN, IN STUDIOS 15 AND 16 AT THE LEAGUE'S BUILDING AT 215 WEST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY**

**I. Call to Order**

President Thomas Harvey announced that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In the interest of efficiency, The Order of Business was altered to allow ballot processing to begin.

**II. Appointment of Election Inspectors**

President Harvey appointed members George Nader, William Schuppman and Edward Stonehill as election inspectors.

**III. Reading of the Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of December 6, 2017, were read by Tom Tacik, staff member acting as recording secretary, and accepted. The minutes of the Business Meeting of October 10, 2018, were read and accepted.

**IV. Address of the President**

Vice President Harvey read the following statement:

*Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen — League members all.*

*My name is Tom Harvey and I have had the honor to serve as the President of your Board of Control for the past year.*

*Let me start by apologizing for the mess-up that was involved with the distribution of tickets for the Holiday show. Many of you have approached me to complain about how disorganized the process was this year. I am sorry for the inconvenience this caused to many and will be working with the staff to implement a better process for next year — and to develop a communication plan so that everyone knows in advance what that process is.*

*With that one exception, it has been a good year, filled with a number of positive changes in the League. Among them, the appointment of a new inspirational and visionary Executive Director, Michael Rips. Since Michael's arrival, we have been discussing where the League will be going in the years — indeed, the decades — ahead. As plans begin to gel, we will be engaging more with the membership to assure that all of us are committed to getting to the same place.*

*Tonight is an important one in the cycle of League life. Tonight we elect three officers and three members of the Board of Control. According to our constitution, they then meet to appoint an additional six members of the Board. All serve a one year term, and, except for the President, all the others are limited to three one year terms before they must step down and take at least one year off from Board service.*

*There are disadvantages to this limit to Board tenure. It makes it very difficult to achieve continuity on the Board. About the time a Board member feels that he or she is able to make a significant contribution to the League, they have to step away. We have*

*discussed ways that we may be able to tap into the resource those former Board members — and indeed, other members of the League — represent. Informal advisory panels are one way we might do that. That is something that member Andy Reiss has suggested to me. We could also have members sit as ex officio members of some Board committees, thereby assuring that they remain current on certain aspects of League governance in the expectation that they will seek reelection to the Board in the future.*

*But now on to the important matters at hand. In a moment, Ken Park will discuss with you the procedures we are following this evening with regard to the election.*

*But before he does that, let me recount a remark I heard at an Easter sunrise service several years ago. The minister said that in the seminary, he learned one very important lesson. That is, any time a group is gathered together in the Lord's name, "that is an opportunity to take up a collection." While we don't have collection baskets here, we are in the middle of our year end appeal for contributions to the League. Michael Rips recently wrote to you asking for your support and I hope you will be generous in giving it.*

*Now let me take a moment to thank my fellow Board members who work very hard during the year to assure that the League remains the stellar institution that it is. Let me especially thank Carole McDermott and Beth Alberty, both of whom have reached that magical third year of Board service and will be stepping down after the meeting this evening. And let me also thank my Vice Presidents, Lisa Chakravarti and Judah Feigenbaum, who have contributed so much during the past year and who are not seeking reelection. We are all fortunate to have members of this caliber who are committed to the service to the League.*

## **V. Treasurer's Report**

Finance Committee Chair Mary Jo Anzel presented the Treasurer's Report, providing a review of Fiscal Year 2018, with an update on investment funds, noting an enrollment increase of 4%. Ms. Anzel also discussed infrastructure upgrades, the lobby gallery, and an increase in revenue from the cafeteria and the art supply store. Ms. Anzel introduced Kym Blanchard as Director of Marketing and Communications and highlighted the success of the Seeds of the League program directed by Denise Greene. Ms. Anzel concluded her remarks by discussing the role of the investment advisory committee.

## **VI. Election of New Members**

A list of candidates applying to become members was projected. The new members were approved without opposition.

## **VII. Election of Board Members**

Director of Special Projects Ken Park explained the ballot casting process.

At 7:50 p.m. President Harvey opened the floor to member comments.

A member asks about uninstructed classes and workshops being included in the Concours exhibition series. President Harvey responded that the issue is limited time and space to exhibit in the gallery

Member Marian Symczyk commented about the Mercury statue and the benches being moved to the gallery and requested that they that both be moved back to the lobby. Ms. Symczyk also commented on security staff, noting that The League should hire its own staff members. Board member Ezra Bookstein responded that security guards from the outside firm have certification and CPR training. Member George Nader commented that students can show ID cards when entering the building. President Harvey revisited issues regarding the proposed nearby homeless shelter, which necessitates an increased focus on security. Member Margaret Beels asked about the gallery being open to the public. President Harvey noted that not only the gallery but the store and the cafeteria are open to the public as well.

Member Neil Kaplan commented on the benches and the lack of familiar security staff having led to a degree of sterility in the lobby. President Harvey responded by discussing the overall strategy of the lobby gallery.

Member Anita Pearl commented about the homeless shelter and asked about security for the doors facing 58th Street and included a comment about leaking skylights in the stone room. President Harvey noted that these issues will be looked into.

Member Andy Reiss spoke about forming a member advisory committee to provide regular feedback to the Board of Control. President Harvey responded that members of the board are always happy to meet and speak with members during various events and meetings, and look forward to their input.

A member noted that it is a good idea that the Board is available and accessible, but that there need to be better communication channels. President Harvey noted that there are multiple ways of finding Board members to share opinions with.

Member Kent Smith compliments the Board on forming an investment advisory committee. President Harvey noted that executive director Michael Rips and his staff are responsible for forming the investment advisory committee.

A member asked if the vending machines could be brought back to the cafeteria. President Harvey stated that this could be looked into.

A member noted that the lobby has lost its function as a place to socialize. President Harvey noted the importance of having a place to congregate and discussed returning the benches to the lobby.

Member Jaron Newton discussed the holiday show and the number of tickets available.

Member George Nader suggested meetings between members and the chairs of Board committees. Board member Julia Salinas responded by stating that the "Notes from The Board" email will include updates on committee activities. Mr. Nader commented that it is important to have face-to-face communications with Board members. President Harvey noted the inclusion of committee reports in the minutes of monthly Board meetings. Ken Park confirmed that this year's minutes are already available online.

The results of the election were then announced.

(Elected candidates are listed in boldface.)

	<u>Total</u>
For President	
<b>Thomas Harvey</b>	<b>560</b>
Jaron Newton	247
For Vice President Nominated by Men	
<b>Ezra Bookstein</b> (unopposed)	<b>629</b>
For Vice President Nominated by Women	
<b>Mary Jo Anzel</b> (unopposed)	<b>712</b>

The following top three vote-recipients were elected to the Board of Control:



	<u>Total</u>
<b>Robert Morris</b>	<b>481</b>
<b>Cathy Blake</b>	<b>467</b>
<b>Robin Lechter Frank</b>	<b>424</b>
Anju Narula	352
Julia Salinas	344
Joanne Sephine	291

### VIII. Miscellaneous Business

There was no miscellaneous business.

President Harvey called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

	
Thomas E. Harvey, President	Thomas Tacik, Staff Member (Taking Minutes)
Date 12.16.19	Date 12/16/19