

**MINUTES OF A BUSINESS MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ART STUDENTS LEAGUE OF NEW YORK, HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2022, PURSUANT TO NOTICE DULY GIVEN, VIA INTERNET TELECONFERENCE (ZOOM).**

President Frank noted that a quorum of members was present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. President Frank welcomed the Members and introduced members of the Board of Control.

**I. Reading of Minutes.**

This being the first Members Business meeting of the year, there were no minutes to be read.

**II. Election of Members.**

The list of nominees for membership was projected on-screen. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the nominees were approved for membership.

**III. Deferred Business.**

There was no deferred business.

**IV. New Business.**

Board of Control member and co-Chair of the Constitution Reform Committee Yoko Cohen introduced the proposed amendment to By-Law I, regarding membership:

Resolved, that new By-Laws I and VIII be adopted concerning membership and dues to replace the current By-Laws I, VIII and XVII and Amendments 20, 21, and 30.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, there followed a brief discussion led by member Andy Reiss regarding member voting status and membership status of members who failed to pay their dues and became “dropped” members requiring reinstatement by the Board of Control.

There being no further discussion, President Frank called for a vote. The resolution was projected on screen and members proceeded to vote.

Following the poll, Artistic and Executive Director Michael Hall gave his report, providing an update on the following:

- Removal of 57th Street scaffolding and sidewalk sheds
- Re-opening of in-person classes
- Re-start of student salons in the gallery, as well as the imminent start of online e-telier exhibitions
- Continuing exhibitions in the lobby
- Prominence of instructor exhibitions in 57<sup>th</sup> Street windows following removal of scaffolding
- Online e-telier class offerings increasing

At the conclusion of Mr. Hall’s presentation, Director of Development Elizabeth Kingman reviewed a report on the annual appeal and reviewed League programs that are supported by fundraising, including:

- Keeping tuition low and affordable
- Exhibitions, Public Programs & Lectures
- Protecting the Permanent Collection and Archives
- Seeds of the League – reaching underprivileged youth across NYC, including foster care kids & LGBTQ+ centers

President Frank provided a report on recent League activities, including:

- A review of enrollment from September through December, and a discussion of falling numbers in January due to cancellation of in-person classes and the transition to Zoom classes
- Plans to re-start in-person classes for February
- A review of The League’s draw-down policy and the health of the investment portfolio
- Asking monitors to submit studio maintenance requests by email to the maintenance department

Upon concluding her remarks, President Frank opened the floor for discussion.

Member Dimitri Papathanasiou raised concerns about mask-wearing and discussed the effectiveness of various kinds of masks. Mr. Papathanasiou asked if there would be guidance from the administration regarding mask-wearing. Mr. Hall responded, stating that information was constantly changing and that the administration would continue to follow the best guidelines for safety.

Member Rowena Mohamed asked if online hours would count towards membership eligibility. President Frank explained that the Board of Control is actively reviewing this question, but that at the moment online hours do not count towards membership eligibility.

Answering a member's question from the Zoom chat, Board Member Stephen Rosenthal discussed improvements to The League's HVAC system.

Member Dominic Petito asked if online class enrollment was sufficiently compensating for the drop of in-person enrollment. President Frank responded that online enrollment dropped when in-person classes resumed. Vice President Charles van Horne noted that the number of classes that instructors are teaching has increased. President Frank and Mr. Hall reiterated that The League has not had to eliminate any classes.

A member asked if vaccination booster shots would be required. Mr. Hall responded that they would not be required at this time.

Member Anita Pearl asked about the impact of Payroll Protection Program loan. President Frank reviewed two government loans received by The League during the pandemic. Ms. Pearl also asked if The League would be able to provide N-95 masks for sale or offer good quality masks upon request. Mr. Hall responded that this was a good suggestion.

Director of Programs Robert Telenick answered questions regarding credit for January in-person class registration.

A member asked about enrollment numbers of in-person and online classes in September. President Frank responded that in-person enrollment was 1,501 and online enrollment was 1,035. There followed a brief discussion regarding enrollment trends.

A member asked where the financials for the previous ten years could be found. President Frank responded that League financials could be found on Guidestar. The member was referred to CFO Karen Gaines for further information.

Member Andy Reiss led a discussion regarding the utility of mask-wearing and the effectiveness of various masks and wearing methods.

Member Danielle LeBlanc suggested sending a communication regarding mask-wearing guidelines.

There being no further business, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, President Frank adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.



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Robin Lechter Frank, President

4/27/2022

Date:



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Thomas Tacik, Staff Member & Asst. Secretary  
(Taking Minutes)

4/27/2022

Date: