

MINUTES OF A BUSINESS MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ART STUDENTS LEAGUE OF NEW YORK, HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022, PURSUANT TO NOTICE DULY GIVEN, VIA INTERNET TELECONFERENCE (ZOOM) AND IN-PERSON IN THE PHYLLIS HARRIMAN MASON GALLERY.

President Frank called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, declared a quorum, welcomed Members attending the meeting both online and in-person, and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

I. Reading of Minutes.

The minutes of the Members Business Meeting, held January 27, 2022, were read by League staff member Tom Tacik. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved.

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.

Constitution Reform Committee member Charlotte Bialek provided an overview of the proposed amendments to the by-laws and acknowledged the work of the Constitution Reform Committee.

VOTE 1 – Order of Business

Board Member Stephen Durkee introduced and read the following resolution:

Resolved, that By-Law XIII “Order of Business” for membership meetings be amended as presented in the interest of clarity, alignment with current practices, and flexibility for future needs.

The resolution was duly moved and seconded.

The floor was then opened for discussion. Mr. Durkee provided further clarification regarding how the Board President might alter the order of business in a meeting.

President Frank provided guidance on the casting of paper ballots and called for the vote. Voting took place through online polling and through the collection of paper ballots.

VOTE 2 – Non-substantive Edits to the By-Laws

Constitution Reform Committee member Joshua Nathan introduced and read the following resolution:

Resolved, that the League’s By-Laws be amended and restated as presented in the interest of clarity and organization in light of the series of amendments to the By-Laws made over the last several years.

The resolution was duly moved and seconded.

The floor was then opened for discussion. There was no further discussion.

Voting took place through online polling and through the collection of paper ballots.

VOTE 3 – Notices and Communications

Constitution Reform Committee member Charlotte Bialek introduced and read the following resolution:

Resolved, that a By-Law entitled “Notices, The Bulletin Board, and Communications” be adopted as presented and that this By-Law follow the By-Law entitled “Executive Director, Employees and Agents” and that the By-Laws be renumbered accordingly.

The resolution was duly moved and seconded.

The floor was then opened for discussion. There was no further discussion.

Voting took place through online polling and through the collection of paper ballots.

Director of Development Elizabeth Kingman discussed the location of physical bulletin boards for members and the Board of Control in the office. Ms. Kingman also described electronic communications to members through regular emails and newsletter, and also reviewed member information on the League's website.

President Frank began her remarks by provided further details about how to contact the Board of Control, and went on to give an overview of:

- Recent fundraising efforts and successes
- Grants and scholarships competition, and tuition relief in the form of the Director's Scholarship
- Printing of the new catalog
- Upgrade of the website
- Artworks approved for acquisition to the Permanent Collection

President Frank then gave an extensive presentation on the Harvey Dinnerstein Estate.

Member Karen Harris asked if any of Mr. Dinnerstein's artwork will be offered for sale to League students and members. President Frank discussed this possibility and commented on the formation of the Lois and Harvey Dinnerstein Foundation which will decide the disposition of artwork.

Artistic and Executive Director Michael Hall gave a presentation on the League's financial future and current projects, reviewing:

- Building renovations such as new lighting for studios, the elevator modernization, HVAC upgrades, the exterior survey, and façade restoration
- \$2M budget deficit due to reduced revenue and enrollment numbers
- The need for a tuition increase in September along with an increase to material fees which would include a newly implemented model fee.
- A robust revitalization of The League's fundraising efforts
- New marketing initiatives
- An expansion of The League's scholarship program
- An increased emphasis on exhibitions, public programming, and partnerships with likeminded institutions

Mr. Hall reiterated that the League subsidizes classes 50%.

The floor was then opened for discussion.

Member John Galloway asked about development efforts to raise funds that differ from past effort.

Mr. Hall explained the work that Ms. Kingman is doing to pursue new grant opportunities, engaging with New York City government agencies for increased funding sources, and working on fundraising events.

Member Ben Walker asked how the League is supporting senior citizens and students with fixed incomes for whom tuition might be a burden. Mr. Hall explained that the League offers tuition relief scholarships for those with financial difficulties.

Member Jeff Sauber opened a discussion regarding recent tuition increases. Mr. Hall explained that tuition increases are necessary to keep pace with rising general expenses. President Frank commented on the relative low cost of League tuition and the availability of scholarships.

Member Sandra Richman thanked President Frank for bringing back the in-person members meeting, and commented on using online platforms such as Artsy for selling student artwork.

Member Richard Caraballo asked what the income is from online classes after costs. Mr. Hall responded that the revenue from online classes is positive.

Member Elaine Thomas raised a question regarding eligibility for scholarships. Mr. Hall responded that application for scholarships is not tied to being a member or a current student.

Member Bruce Feingold commented on the low cost of attending the League and discussed possible methods for offering opportunities to students to pay graded tuition and matching donations.

It was noted that the results of the voting for the amendments to the by-laws would be announced by email.

There being no further business, and upon a motion duly made and seconded, President Frank adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.