

VAST Executive Committee Meeting April 2004

President Jo Williams called the meeting to order and introduced C.J. Solberg, new Volunteer Coordinator who is also a recent new member of VAST. Her duties will officially begin the first of June 2004 though she has taken on some tasks dealing with volunteers and volunteering as of this meeting.

Executive Board members present were Jo Williams, Ruth Keefer, Nancy Donley, Judy Uebelacker, C. J. Solberg, Vidya Kagal, Ingrid Scobie, and Mary S. Morris.

The minutes now appear on the VAST website, www.NTAAL.org, and as there had been a substitute taking minutes at the March 2004 meeting, no copies of the previous minutes had been brought today. Ingrid Scobie produced a copy for verification, and as the minutes had been read earlier by the members, a motion to approve same was made by Ruth Keefer, seconded by Vidya Kagal, and passed by vote of those present.

Treasurer Nancy Donley reported as of March 31, 2004 a balance of \$5,581.55 in the checking account and \$5,390.67 CD balance for a total of \$10,972.22. We spent about \$1,100 more in March than February 2004. President Williams has asked Donley to change category numbers to names that can better identify the items that are being recorded. She asks that this be completed by the end of the VAST year, May 31, 2004.

First Vice President - Program/Workshop- Ruth Keefer reported that all guest artists are in place for programs for the coming year, 2004/05 and more than half of the contracts have been returned to her as commitments. A few did not reply early on and dates were filled with someone else. Two of these have been put on an alternatives artists list to possibly act as substitutes. It was suggested that these be recontacted and scheduled for the following year. Williams suggested that artist Gail Webb be asked to do a program for fall 2005 and a workshop for spring 2006. Keefer will investigate the possibility of using the main area of CVA for larger workshops. Keefer also reported that the Sharon Zimmerman workshop is full with a waiting list.

Second Vice President -Exhibits - Donna Lewis was absent and her report was given by Williams. Lewis has been trying to gather information from Golden Triangle Mall about displaying members' work but has not been able to talk with the person in charge of this area. Vista Ridge Mall, Lewisville, sent a form that pertains more to sales from a kiosk. Barnes and Noble Bookstore was also contacted but required that an exhibit there would need to be book related with a specific theme. Visual Art League of Lewisville replied with a plan of their space and fees for rental of the areas. Their gallery areas are available for \$75 and \$60 a month. Randy Robinson, President of Texas Bank, Denton, suggested to Executive Director Ingrid Scobie that Robson Ranch might be interested in displaying members' art. This will be pursued.

Spring Exhibition chair Deanna Wood was absent. Williams stated that a volunteer is needed to make computer generated labels for the art work and name labels for volunteer

greeters at the reception, exhibiting artists, contributors, and sponsors. C.J. Solberg offered to do this job. Nancy Donley and Judy Uebelacker will serve as reception volunteer greeters.

Executive Director Ingrid Scobie reported on awards status for the exhibit.

\$10,821 has been given in awards, \$3,100 of this is for cash awards. Peoples' Choice Award has not yet been finalized. Martha Lynn Nelson has contributed \$50 to this in the past but not able to contribute this year. Scobie is waiting to hear from Elements of Design about a donation. This year, anyone contributing \$200 or more to the spring exhibition will be designated a Patron Sponsor and given a link to the NTAAL/VAST website. Board member Ruth Keefer volunteered to donate \$100 for the Peoples' Choice Award.

In the absence of Members Exhibition chair Deanna Wood Jo Williams reported that a juror still has not been selected. Uebelacker suggested Carol Fairlie, artist and university professor, who may be available.

The exhibit is to open July 24. Work will be juried into the show again this year. As this show hangs in the smaller East Gallery at the CVA, there is space for only about 50 pieces of art. As the organization now has about 200 members not everyone who enters the show will be able to be accepted.

Executive Director Scobie also asked for volunteers to help her proof the catalogues for the Spring Exhibit Friday morning, April 2. As none of the Board could help she will ask at the general meeting this evening. Deanna Wood will also work with a volunteer to proof catalogues during the first full week of April. Vidya Kagal volunteered to help place awards into envelopes for the show.

Scobie has used North Texas Mailing for the first time to mail items for the coming exhibition. Using a service costs about \$15 more than last year when we did the mailing ourselves using the GDAC permit. We would save money if we had mailings of 500 or more, but this is much faster. Because there was not complete satisfaction Scobie will also try another mailing service in the near future. The time saved using a service frees member volunteers to do other activities for the organization.

Scobie is still working on 501c3 application. She also reported that she averages about 44 hours monthly working for VAST though this month will require many more hours due to demands of the Spring Exhibition. Scobie plans to be gone about six weeks during the summer. She also reiterated that she loves this position.

New Business:

Due to increased membership and the need for more funds for the organization, it was recommended that annual dues be increased also. It has been several years since the last increase. Our grant request to GDAC this year is for over \$10,000. We hope that we will receive \$8,000. Ideas were discussed on how to increase student membership. It was suggested that all fees be raised making individual membership \$30, \$15 for students, and \$50 for families. Motion to adopt the increased fees was made by Nancy Donley, seconded by Vidya Kagal, and passed by unanimous vote of Board members present.

Review of Goals (see separate sheet for VAST Short and Long Term Goals)

Several of the presented goals were reviewed and discussed. The position of Volunteer Coordinator was outlined in the revised By-Laws and is now filled by C. J. Solberg.

Calendars, featuring VAST members' art, will be available for sale later in the year. Slides are due by May 1, 2004 for judging. Sharmin Suit is currently selling ads for \$100 each that will run across the bottom of each page. There will also be a page featuring business card size ads for \$40 each. This will probably run on the page for "The Year at a Glance." WheelerPress will be doing the printing. It was decided to add "Printed by Wheelers Press" as a free ad line. Five hundred (500) calendars will be printed for \$6 or less each and sold for \$12. A volunteer is needed to head the sales project.

Other goals are to set up an advisory board to meet four times a year to discuss the overall workings of the organization. It would consist of probably five members that would include the President and Executive Director, former Executive Board members, and possibly interested community members.

More goals will be discussed at the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary Mary Sigle Morris