

**VAST Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2004, 2:30 p.m.**

- 1) The meeting was called to order by Jo Williams, President.
- 2) Present were Jo Williams, Beth Haywood, Millie Johnson, Fran Shurtleff, C.J. Solberg, Ingrid Scobie, Devon Wattier, Nancy Donley, Diane Dorn Vidya Kagal, Kathy Mendes, Judy Uebelacker, Beverly Sipos, Mary Emerson
- 3) Diane Dorn made a motion to accept the November 4, 2004 minutes submitted by Millie Johnson, which was seconded by Fran Shurtleff.
- 4) Treasurer Nancy Donley reported that there is currently \$4524.70 in the VAST checking account, and \$5390.67 in the CD, yielding a total of \$9915.37. The CD will be up for renewal on December 19, 2004 and it was suggested that Donley investigate some other options for investment of this money. She agreed to search for CD's or other types of accounts which offer better interest rates.
- 5) Executive Director Ingrid Scobie reported that the first VAST Studio Tour showed \$1722.00 income and \$1006.60 total expenses, yielding a profit of \$715.00.
- 6) Scobie reported that there are currently 170 VAST calendars left to sell.
- 7) Donley reported that the current income for VAST in 2004 is \$22,018.15, as compared to \$10,877.50 in 2003. However, because expenses have also been considerably higher in 2004 the total profit of this year over last year is currently \$2702.87. Entries for the Spring Exhibition have yielded \$775 at the present time.
- 8) Scobie reported that her application to the Denton Benefit League for a \$1000 grant for VAST to purchase new easels was rejected because of not having holes punched in the forms. She stated that the Benefit League puts out a call for grants in the Denton Record-Chronicle in August of each year, with a deadline of October 1, and that she will apply again next year. Williams added that another use of such grants could be to purchase a power-point system for monthly presenters.
- 9) First Vice-President Diane Dorn submitted an extensive report on the status of the workshop with Joye Moon. The potential date is for July 18-25, 2005. After considerable discussion, Dorn clarified that what she was to offer Moon was:
  - A) Workshop fee of \$350 per day
  - B) Meal allowance of \$120 for six days
  - C) Airfare allowance of \$275

D) Provision of a place to stay in Denton for six days, or an allowance of \$300 for other lodging.

E) No rental car, but provision of transportation to and from the Dallas-Fort Worth airport and locally during the week of the workshop.

F) There would be no demonstration on the Sunday night prior to the beginning of the workshop due to considerable cost.

With the above provisions, final expenses for the Moon workshop will total \$1775. Scobie stated that VAST will make a profit of \$825 if we have 13 people attending, minus the cost of advertising. In further discussion it was suggested to Dorn that she include in the contract with Moon that if there are not enough participants for the workshop six weeks before it is scheduled that VAST has the right to cancel. Dorn passed around several Moon workshop brochures with descriptions of her work and information about times and locations of additional workshops with her.

Further discussion led by Williams suggested the possibility of inviting Moon to be the juror for the Members summer exhibit, since the take-in for the show is July 21-22, and she will still be in Denton at that time. July 23 will be the actual jury day. An initial suggestion was that she could be offered the usual juror fee of \$200-\$250. Williams then proposed that the fee be increased to \$300, and called for a vote. The Board approved the increase. It was noted that VAST is paying \$500 to Jesus Moroles, the juror for the Spring Exhibition, 2005. The Board then discussed an alternative plan for Moon. She could be offered the option to come for a shorter workshop to be held from July 18-22, jury the Summer show on July 23, and then leave on July 24. Williams instructed Dorn to let Moon know that she would be seeing actual work to jury.

10) Second Vice-President Beth Haywood reported on the VAST 1st Annual Art Adventure Tour of Studios held November 6. Discussion of changes and improvements for next year included Haywood suggesting that the party should be held before the Tour because the artists were tired at the end of the day, and that there not a be a reception and sale of artists' work at Greenspace. Beverly Sipos suggested that the tickets may have been too expensive. Suggestions were made that there be no charge for the Tour, noting that Lewisville and Sherman do not charge the public for similar tours. However, it was noted that the artists who participate in these tours are charged \$100 for advertising and expenses. The Board tentatively decided to continue to charge \$10 for tickets for the Tour next year, but discussion continued. Additional discussion indicated that (A) most Board members did not want to charge the artists a fee to participate in the Tour, (B) a suggestion that the Tour could possibly be held over two days instead of one, and (C) the times of the Tour should be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on a Saturday, with no reception.

Haywood reported on various other suggestions and complaints she had received concerning the first Tour, including that there was too much distance between artists' studios, and that there was no map in the brochures. Final recommendations by Haywood for next year were:

A) Hold the Tour again next year.

B) No reception to be held for artists.

C) Invite the same artists again, and contact additional artists to participate.

After considerable additional discussion, Dorn proposed to change the ticket price for the Tour to \$5, which was seconded by Shurtleff. Williams called for a vote and the Board approved the new fee.

Volunteer Coordinator C.J. Solberg recommended that signs be put up for the Tour sites rather than balloons.

11) Haywood reported that Wildwood Inn had requested that artists' work be removed for December because of Christmas decorations. Solberg stated that she had sold one of her small wooden sculptures at the coffee shop Uncommon Ground, where some VAST members have their work displayed. Barnes and Noble has continued to show artists' works longer than they originally planned.

12) Williams reported that the VAST high school art competition will be held at the General Meeting February 3, 2005. Letters announcing this event were mailed to the local and area high schools yesterday. The high school winners of the competition will be able to place their art at The Cupboard or possibly Texas Bank. Scobie will follow up the details of placement of the student winners' work.

13) Membership Chair Vidya Kagal reported that VAST now has 160 members, with 30 new members since the publication of the 2004-2005 Yearbook. In addition, there are now five \$50 supporting members, and one business membership of \$125 by Acme Brick. Williams instructed Kagal to send out e-mail reminders for membership renewals and committee volunteers.

14) Newsletter Editor Devon Wattier requested some help from someone who lives in Denton to keep track of the local shows and exhibits, since she lives in Fort Worth. She suggested naming some additional representatives for this purpose to be contacts at TWU and UNT.

15) Mary Emerson reported on the status of the Gail Webb workshop to be held February 28-March 3, 2005. At the present time two people have paid, and three more have been contacted. She now has a list of 11 more members who expressed an interest by signing a form she passed around at the November 4 General Meeting. She recently sent an e-mail on the workshop to the Vision list with information on the workshop. Currently there appears to be only two more openings, but Emerson stated that the first members to pay the \$50 deposit will be accepted. She indicated that she will pass around the Gail Webb poster and forms for the workshop again tonight at the General Meeting.

For future workshops, Emerson wants contacts to advertise in other artists groups and needs e-mail addresses for that purpose.

16) Williams introduced the topic of the June Impson scholarship program and asked for input on more ways to get the word out, since there have been no applications from students at this point. The Joye Moon workshop should be possible for students to attend since it is being held in July, while the Gail Webb workshop will be held during school hours in February. Suggestions included that the scholarships be open to others but that students who apply get first preference. Final criteria for selection of scholarship recipients was not decided.

17) Williams opened a discussion of advertising fees for next year's calendar. Chair of calendar sales Kathy Mendes had suggested that the fee be raised from \$100 to \$150 for the larger ads. Scobie said that she could easily sell the ads for \$100, but probably not for \$150, and suggested a compromise of \$125 for the larger ads, and \$50 for the small ads. Judy Uebelacker moved that the fees be \$125 and \$50, seconded by Fran Shurtleff. The Board voted approval of the motion.

18) Williams opened a discussion of the calendar art competition for next year. The suggested fee is \$10 for two slide entries from each member.

Williams announced that the next calendar signing will be held at Jupiter House on Saturday, December 11, from 2-4 p.m. Calendar artists will sign their work for those who bring their previously purchased calendars or buy calendars at the signing.

19) Scobie reported on the Spring Exhibition and a possible schedule for Jesus Moroles. TWU has offered to sponsor a lecture for Mr. Moroles for Friday night, April 1, 2005, after the VAST Gala. UNT has also been contacted for a possible schedule with Mr. Moroles. However, Scobie stated that there are currently no firm plans, and that Moroles has not agreed to any engagements other than serving as the VAST Spring Exhibition juror.

Scobie reported that plans for the VAST Gala fund raising reception to be held Friday evening, April 1, 2005, are in progress. Wells Fargo has tentatively agreed to furnish refreshments but will need a letter verifying costs for donated food. There will be a charge for attending, which has not yet been decided. Also, Jesus Moroles will be contacted for the possibility of giving a lecture for promotion of the event.

20) The meeting was adjourned, 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Millie Johnson, Secretary