General Meeting Minutes 8/19/2024

The meeting was called to order by President, Robert Salemme at 1:00 pm. Robert announced that a fellow artist and Southport gallery owner, Joseph Bardani had passed away, unexpectedly over the weekend.

Status of FSG to date – No problems reported to date other than an issue with staffing until the end of the year. Bob stated that he did not want to close the gallery on Mondays. It may be necessary to call upon members for extra shifts to fill in the calendar.

First Friday Reception Teams staffing – Bob stated that there was a lack of leaders for First Fridays through the end of the year, asking members to please step up to fill the dates without Team Leaders.

Committee assignment no shows – If you have not shown up for your assigned committee event you will be assigned an extra shift in the gallery to compensate for your missed event.

Elevator status – the door mechanism, which the funds were provided through grant money by Brunswick Art Council has been replaced. The original door mechanism was obsolete and would not have been repairable in the event of a breakdown.

Bob brought up the issue of art forms for open shows for the 2025 season (Spring, Summer, Maritime) as to which art forms to accept or no longer accept. He asks that a team of three members from 2D and 3D volunteer for an Ad hoc committee for discussion and come back to the board meeting in September (9/12) with recommendations of the mediums AAS will accept. Discussion will include fused glass, photography, and other forms of art.

Vice President – Rich O’Donnell

Not present but left word that he is researching a Battery Back-up system for the elevator with Schindler and Charter Elevator to see who could provide us with the best price. Currently looking at $7K from Schindler, which is double from their first quote last year.

Membership Chair – Kim Kirk

Total members 133

2D 62

3D 33

2D/3D 7

Waiting List 3

Sabbatical 10

General 18

Treasurer – Mary Beth Johnson

Non-Profit checking account $22,922.41

Building Fund/Money Market 28,623.46

CD Flex Account (9 Month) 43,883.53

Cash in Drawer 200.00

Total Checking & Savings $95,629.40

Carol Kidd – Past President

Carol and Bob have been working on BAC Grassroots Grant for the 2024-2025 year. Membership was asked for suggestions to include in the grant. Kirah Van Sickle has agreed to present our Lecture Series for the 2025 year. Carol also asked if any member has suggestions for 2D & 3D judges for 2025 including workshops which would be within our budget.

Carol reminded the membership that the BAC Fall show has a deadline of 9/7, to please enter and 100% of the sale price of the item will go to the artist.

2D – Tim Walus

Tim brought up the Summer Show with Sid Godwin as the judge. He expressed that several members came to him with their dissatisfaction in the winning choices. He asked that future shows be exhibited differently, as in, the back wall would exhibit only abstract paintings, a section of pastels, a landscape wall, an ocean wall, instead of a hodge podge of paintings on every wall. Suggested we could try this as an experiment for our next show. Tim explained that he felt this layout would assist the judge in picking the winners easier. Bob expressed that this would complicate the hanging committee causing an additional step to separate the work into different categories. Tim will meet with Betty Garbarino to discuss this suggestion.

Bob stated that Jon Cox had done an excellent job on pressure washing the back stairs and deck. Tim also mentioned that he has another option vs. Thompsons water sealer to seal the deck vs the handrails on the back porch.

3D – Jackie Greiner & Penny Ormerod

Nothing to discuss.

Membership Input – Bob asked members if they were interested in how to set up your own social media – denied by members.

Other Business – Bob Salemme

Bob expressed gratitude to Allison Fanelli and the Social Media committee for all the work they are currently doing. There is lots of exposure on Facebook, Nextdoor and Instagram. Allison will present on using social media for the membership. She is doing spotlights on members and will continue to do them throughout the year. She is asking additional members to contact her for individual spotlights. She is asking for a photo of member, personal interest and photos of

your work to put on Facebook and Instagram. The Communications/Social Media Committee is also discussing reinstating FSG/AAS Newsletter. Please contact Allison Fanelli at (267) 644-6569 or achilt1964@yahoo.com.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:44 pm, Tim Walus and Carol Kidd seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Beth Johnson