

**William Bonifas Fine Arts Center  
Annual Meeting – October 25, 2018**

**Present:** Board President Marnie Anderson, Vice President Beth Noreus, Treasurer Tom Knoll, Secretary Lynn Soderberg, Trustees Tom England, Al Hansen, and Jenny Heller, Executive Director Susan Roll, Gallery Director Pasqua Warstler, 2 visitors and 6 members.

**Absent:** Laura Robinson

The meeting was called to order by President Marnie Anderson at 7 pm. She reported that our financial status is fine, but has been static over the last five years.

Total program expenses are around \$300,000 per year. Participation in classes has been rising, plus our fundraising is up 16% this year. Memberships are currently at 392.

Sue Roll, Executive Director, then reviewed the 2017-18 year in a power point presentation.

- A. Education – 55 classes were presented with a total of 120 sessions. Programs for youth included the 4<sup>th</sup> grade afield days, Toddler art, Missoula Children’s Theatre and the 4H Spin Club. Popular adult offerings included culinary and floral arranging classes. Many gallery tours were also part of our educational mission.
- B. Exhibits – This year was a busy year in the gallery with Youth in Art, the annual membership show and Northern Exposure XXIV, the largest juried show in the UP with over 76 artists competing for prizes. In addition, we presented the wooden boat building exhibit, a joint fiber exhibit from artists J. Koskenaki and C. Irving, and from Detroit, Visions of American Life: Paintings from the Manoogian Collection 1850-1940. Several other exhibits took place as well.
- C. Events – Many events are held each year to “raise funds or raise friends”, according to Sue. These included Music Mondays in the park, concerts, the Waterfront Art Festival, Friday Night Live shows, SuperHero Date Night, and our winter Flannel Fest, followed by the Benefit for the Bonifas.
- D. Arts Leadership - Strengthening arts in the UP is part of our mission and we are doing this by participating in both the Regional Prosperity Initiative Council and the UP Arts & Culture Alliance. Pasqua has also been a big part of coordinating the 47 UP artists involved in ArtPrize 10 by organizing an exhibit on Mackinac Island and the UP venue in Grand Rapids.

- E. Staff and Board - The Bonifas staff currently numbers 9 people, with 5.5 full time-equivalents. Our newest employee is Staci Berg, Events Coordinator. The Board currently numbers 7 members, and we are actively seeking new interested people.

### **Tower Awards**

Next on the agenda was the presentation of the 6 annual Tower Awards, supported by Sam and Elinor Benedict. These included recently deceased arts advocates Gloria Hansley Cook and Dorothy Vogt. Also included in the recipients were Wendy Pepin, promoter of live music across the UP, Jim Finlan, in charge of painting several business murals, Rose Peltier, weaver and volunteer, and Craig Woerpel, in charge of our Facebook page and resident photographer.

### **Looking to the Future**

Sue reported that the WBFAC continues to look at where our community needs and our mission overlap. We will continue working with youth and adults and support community events while strengthening our relationships with local arts groups and Players de Noc. It is our goal to provide cultural experiences for all ages.

### **Acknowledgement of retiring Board Member**

Sue called up Board member Tom England to honor him for his past six years of service to the WBFAC. Fortunately, Tom will still be chairing the Capital Investment committee and be volunteering his time.

After a brief question/comment segment from the floor, Beth Noreus made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Knoll. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lynn Soderberg, Secretary