

ART LEAGUE OF CHEATHAM COUNTY

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JANUARY 25, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Adam Sandor, President
Marian Fordyce, Vice President
Debbie Keenan, Treasurer
Aleshia Garrett, Membership Chair
Shawn Rider, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm at the conference room in the Cheatham County Government Building. New board member and positions were announced. A big Thank You went out to those who resigned or served in previous years and changed positions. See new Board names and positions above. Zoom connection was also made available to anyone online who wanted to attend. Thank you to Aleshia for setting that up.

Treasurer Report

Debbie Keenan passed out a detailed treasurer report. Highlights of the report show a balance in the general fund checking account of \$5,536.03 and in the reserve accounts for special projects is a balance of \$7909.62. She also handed out a beautiful pamphlet outlining the accomplishments of the Art League since 2019 and an entry form for the upcoming Juried Art Exhibition on March 22-29, 2024.

Secretary Shawn Rider briefed attendees of a grant she has applied for from her employer, United Community Bank. It could be as much as \$2500.00. More details to follow. Selection is made in late February.

Debbie announced the date of the Summer Gala. It will be our biggest fundraiser and will be held on June 7 at the Braxton Condominiums. Plans to follow, but some initial thoughts are to have it be a bit more casual than past Galas and to hold much of the event around the pool. Funds raised this year will be earmarked for the League itself, specifically for scholarships and other needs for school aged students.

Website Update

Aleshia Garrett discussed the wonderful new website at alocc.org that she has created. Members can create their own account with a profile picture, pictures of their artwork, links to their personal pages, make dues payments, and find out all kinds of information on upcoming events, etc. Anyone can get on the website and find out information on the Art League, see a gallery of some of our member's work and of course, sign up to join the League.

5th Annual Juried Art Show Update

There was lots of discussion around the art show March 22-29. Dates, deadlines and rules are on the website. There was much excitement about the potential for fantastic entries and the amazing prizes to be awarded. This event will be judged in Blind Judging fashion, with no artist names connected to the piece. The judge's names are not going to be announced publicly, but one is from the Nashville Arts and Business Council, and one is from Willow Oak Arts and Learning Center. Both are educators and artists themselves. There may be a third judge as well, but one was not announced at the time of the meeting. There was a question regarding the long time rule that pieces entered had to be less than 5 years old. Debbie answered that we want things kept fresh and want to ensure that entered pieces had not won awards at our show or other shows previously.

General Discussion

-Becky Vincent announced that she would be switching out the artwork included in the rotating gallery soon. This is a fantastic outlet to showcase our art that may not otherwise be seen, getting the artists' names out there. Also, we hope to inspire other artists to get involved in the League.

-In addition to the Art Show and the Summer Gala, the League will again be involved in Music on Main in October.

-A member brought up a great idea to hold art workshops where we can gather, teach, mentor, hold round tables, etc. This would bring much visibility to the League and to each individual who participates. All agreed that we need to discuss this further.

-Kelly Ellis reminded us that the focus for the Chamber is Unity in the Community and how we can work together to promote each other.

-Debbie wanted to voice her apologies for not being as active as she would have liked over the past year. She lost her mother and was consumed with her care. Members told her they all understood and appreciated her so much! So glad to have her back and so sorry for the loss of her mother.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.