

**Auburn Old Town Gallery**  
**218 Washington Street, Auburn, CA 95603**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**May 16, 2022**

**Call to order:** AOTG Vice President Patty Pieropan Dong called this in-person meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**Welcome and Thank You's:** New fiber and metal artist Barbara Paitich was introduced and welcomed into the gallery.

Carol Bellamy thanked all members involved in the completion of the carpet installation and presented Jenn Norpchen, who facilitated and oversaw the entire carpet installation, with a gratitude booklet from all members.

**Approval of Minutes:** The March 21, 2022 AOTG Membership Minutes were approved as amended. In the Publicity Report there needed to be clarification that this year the Placer County Artists Tour is open to Placer County resident artists or artists who work in Placer County. The Minutes were approved as amended, the motion made by Stacey Lamothe and seconded by Amy Conley.

**Treasurer Report, Stacy Pedri:**

April ended with a profit of \$1221.01, with a year to date total of -\$2369.32 The negative balance is due to income tax preparation and filing. As the year progresses the financials will soon catch up and be back in the positive. There is \$10,967.78 in the savings account and \$17,331.53 in the checking account.

May artist commission checks will be mailed late due to Sandi Sherwood and Stacy Pedri both being out of town. The checks will be mailed about June 10th. It was requested that since the checks will be mailed late the grace period for late rent fees be extended. This was accepted, so June 17<sup>th</sup> will be the due date for June rents only.

The Treasurer's Report was approved, the motion made by Ann Ranlett and seconded by Sandy Delehanty.

**Vice President's Report, Patty Pieropan Dong:** Patty had nothing to report at this time.

**Publicity, Darlene Riel:** Stacey Pedri reported from the Publicity Report Darlene sent to the May AOTG Board Meeting since Darlene is in Greece. Darlene has the Anniversary Spotlights ready for May and June. The Social Media team has information about the Old Town Co-Op event on May 19th. Google Business has been updated to reflect the gallery's new hours and the gallery door sign will have all hours removed. Ann Ranlett will send out the Mailchimp email blast for June. Sofya Kobayashi has requested images for the animal themed feature wall in June be sent to her by Friday, May 20.

Laura Bracken presented the new online shop format. In the course of the past 2 years it is evident that most sales are not going through the online store. Most often customers view the art on the online store and then come into the gallery to purchase. The new format will show artwork as an online gallery and potential customers can call the gallery to be advised if the piece is still currently available. Then payment and pick up arrangements can be made. If the customer would like something shipped it will be between the artist and customer to handle this transaction outside of the gallery. The online store is considered a very valuable marketing tool. Artists are still encouraged to submit artwork and the submission form will remain the same.

**Events, Stacey Lamothe:** Stacey thanked everyone who signed up to help on the May 19<sup>th</sup> Old Town Co-Op. There will be good support for this event.

**Display, Susan Stoll:** Susan was not able to attend this meeting. Stacey reported that a new artist Therese May (a weaver) will begin training. Therese will display in a half space.

**Facilities, Jenn Norpchen:**

Jenn reported that the next Facilities project is updating the current lighting to LED 90 watt light bulbs. Jenn will be getting 2 light bulb samples with color tones in red and green. This is not the color output. These light bulbs will have farther light reach and these samples will help to decide whether to go with a warm or cool light. The same light fixtures will be used but with the new updated holder and bulbs. The price range is a bit higher (in the \$13-\$17 range) but the lifespan and brightness will improve. Louise McGowan-Berzark asked if the gallery would consider selling the current lights we won't be using. This will be considered as the replacement process progresses.

**Membership, Suzanne Hambleton (team representative)**

The revised team is working hard to digitize all forms and paperwork. The Membership Team appreciates all input from members and is taking it all into consideration. Linda Miller emailed the membership the following suggestions for jurying and these were reviewed.

- 1) We are looking for high quality professional looking work with a consistent style.
- 2) We maintain a waiting list. Do not vote "no" on work that duplicates our existing collection. The display committee will not take artists in from the waiting list until their art no longer competes with current members.
- 3) You don't need to "love" the work. We want our gallery to appeal to a wide range of tastes and styles.

Ballots were distributed after discussion of potential artists. Artists reviewed were Carol Clark, Gia McNutt, Kathleen Bartl, Barbara Steffen and Roland Chamberland. If members were voting by proxy it was asked that "Proxy" be written at the top of the ballot so the correct attendance could be recorded. There was a 10 minute break for final review, then ballots were collected.

**New Business:**

**Modifications of Sales Area:** Jenn asked for a volunteer to cut the end of the counter just above the ribbon holder to make that area ADA compliant. Gia McNutt said her boyfriend would do it for us. Thank you, Gia!

There will be a new ribbon holder to replace the hanging one. It was asked to please not "donate" any ribbon as we will be keeping our colors to the original gold and burgundy. Doug suggested we look into getting "pull" type ribbons with 2 strings that when pulled automatically go into a nice bow, easy to use and quick.

**Old Business:**

We currently have 7 people representing the gallery accepted into the KVIE Auction. This would allow a time slot of half an hour which would showcase 6 artists but the hope is to get 12 artists and have a full hour showcasing the gallery artists. 5 more artists are needed to apply and be accepted to reach this goal. It is great advertising for the artists and the gallery. Doug Parks will represent the gallery and be our spokesperson during the live auction on TV. Since there are 7 artists Doug offered to move himself to the next time slot but it would be great if he and 5 other artists could be included in a full

segment. Final date to submit an application is May 31<sup>st</sup>, so please consider submitting a piece of artwork to this auction.

**Adjourn:** This meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm, the motion made by Gini Crepps, and seconded by Stacey Lamothe.

Minutes submitted by Stacy Pedri and Diane Tharp.