

AOTG Board Meeting MINUTES

Monday, December 8, 2025

Call to Order : 6:05 Pm

Roll Call – Janis, Louise, Kirsty, Linda, Lorna, Gia, Livia, Stacey, Diane

Approval of Minutes

Linda motioned to approve the November minutes, Louise seconded. All in favor AYE
None opposed

Treasurer's Report – Kirsty

Did not have the financial for this meeting, but will send them out as soon as she obtains them from Glenn
Very happy with Glenn, he is very level and eager to help us. Kirsty agreed he is very stable and straightforward

Secretary's report – Janis

No report

Vice President's Report – Louise

No report

Committee Reports

- **Membership** –Gia
Early February jurying scheduled. Questioned a comment she heard at the Membership meeting that perhaps we should have more jurying dates. Curious if we thought we should hold a jurying in January, and the board agreed that with the wait list we currently have we should be fine until February. We do have a good wait list right now. Conversation around the stained-glass artist who the membership plans to work in. Louise suggests we make sure the membership has a heads up prior to the February jurying.
- **Display** – Stacey
Everything in order, moves are happening as scheduled
- **Special Events** – Diane/Liv
Last event of year, Country Christmas, 13th and 20th. We have some artists scheduled for demos and have music scheduled
- **Publicity** – Lorna
A lot of shoppers in the store on December 3rd because of the Light Parade Event. Saw some sales, can't say they were related to the event
- **Facilities** – Linda

Noticed that some of the lighting is out over certain displays and in the closet. Linda feels she will need to contact an electrician. She will ask Jenn who we have used in the past – also will check with our Landlord as it was felt it might be best to use the same electrician that she does. Is again struggling with the mess of the closet and keeping it fire safe.

Old Business

- **Nominations/Slate of Officers**

Slate of Officers is in place for 2026

- **ADA - CASp inspection**

Several items were noted in the report, some easily manageable, some would require alterations or, at best, a workaround.

Bar stools – these need to be made unavailable to customers as they do not meet compliance requirements. (they are too high). Liv confirmed it's not just the stools but the height and width of the bar. Suggestion is to create a label for 'staff only' use. Customers that need to sit can be directed to the bench outside the window, or if needed we could bring a folded chair out for them.

Report asked about using the side door as the entrance/exit as the ramp in our gallery on main door has elevation concerns. Changing this is something that is not easily fixable for us, so it was felt the side entrance door could be used for customers unable to manage the front door entrance. We felt there could be a bell and sign at that door that someone could ring to gain access. Could also place a sign on front door to alert customers to another entrance if needed. We would need to consider having a portable ramp that could be placed at the side door when we need to utilize it.

It was also suggested we put 'STAFF ONLY' on both the door to restrooms and to the closet. Louise promptly provided signs and is taking care of that.

Louise suggested we form a committee to review the report in more depth. Asks that we all read the report and discuss in the January meeting.

Question was asked about whose responsibility the more difficult to manage items fall under. Liv confirmed that we are equally responsible as the landlord

- **Insurance**

Kirsty received a quote of \$2200 for Director & Officer Insurance from Hartford. Approximately \$184 per month. Louise suggests we discuss this again in January. Kirsty will send the quote out to us with the financials

- **Rent/Commission Increase**

The Board had a long conversation about this and discussed many ideas of how to move forward. Following the Membership meeting in November, where it was presented that the Board had concern that, over a long period of time, we have seen our account balances dip month to month due to our income from commission and rent not quite covering our monthly bills. Though we run extremely lean and keep our expenses low, our sales have dropped, and we have had more difficulty keeping our number of artists consistent through the year, both of which have contributed to the deficit.

This was presented to Membership with several ideas of what we thought we could do to stop the trend. Membership was encouraged to share any ideas and thoughts they have during the formal 30-day discussion period following the 11/16/25 meeting. Very few questions were received. We did, however, receive multiple emails encouraging an increase of either rent or commission.

The board feels that we should keep the options simple, straightforward and minimal. After lengthy discussion we felt there should be two options.

1. To increase commission from 20% to 23%.
2. To increase rent by \$10 per month

The idea of offering an option to 'do nothing and reevaluate at a later date' was discussed and dropped because it was felt that this would be the obvious choice and therefore not contribute to a solution.

Janis will work up a survey, run it by a few members and then finalize the ballot to be sent out on December 17th.

New Business

- **City of Auburn, Entertainment Zone, Alcoholic Beverages**

Louise spoke to us about a new initiative from above organization, which allows customers to come into a place of business with an alcoholic drink – AOTG falls into the 'allowed zone'

By ABC Licensing and is asked to comply. They suggest having a location inside the business where a customer can place their drink while shopping. This is not something any of the Board is comfortable with – leaving a drink unattended.

We will not stop someone from coming in with their beverage and will see how this goes over time. Time period for this is Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and on a Monday if it is a holiday. business would have a space designated for the customer to place their drink

Lorna motion that we adjourn the meeting. Gia seconded. All in favor AYE. None opposed.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Janis Quinn, Secretary