

AOTG Member/Owner Meeting MINUTES

Monday, May 18, 2026

- DRAFT -

Call to Order

VP Janet Becker called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call – Janis/Diane

Please be sure to sign in as having attended the meeting. Sign in sheet is on jewelry counter by door

Approval of Minutes

Janet asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes from the March 2026 meeting. Janet motioned we approve the minutes. Livia seconded the motion.
All in favor AYE

Treasurer's Report – Louise provided report for Kirsty

Account Balances:

Money Market: \$10,989.57

Checking: \$14,553.11

Petty Cash \$200

Total: \$ 25,742.68

We ended April 2026 with a positive balance of \$ 200.93 and a negative year to date balance of \$ -2808.23. It is noted that with the increase in commission our account is reflecting an increase of \$500-\$600 per month

Secretary's report – Janis/Diane

No Report

Vice President's Report – Louise/Janet

No report

Committee Reports

- **Membership** –Marsha reported for she and Gia

A warm welcome was given to new member Sue Griffin. Marsha commented that Sue had been on the wait list for a very long time and thanked her for her patience. The jurying that had been scheduled for this month was cancelled as we had just one candidate. Everyone is encouraged to send artists our way for the August jurying. Louise asked that the membership team share with us what the strategy may be regarding if we need 2D or 3D members

- **Display** – Stacey.

Thank you to everyone for coordinating their space moves. Things are going well

- **Special Events** – Liv – Still collecting the \$15 annual donation from all members which goes to provide refreshments and live music during our events. Livia emailed everyone today with an updated events calendar and encourages all artists to please participate. The \$15 donation can be paid by cash/Zelle or whatever way you work out with Livia. If you are not sure if you have paid please contact Livia and she will let you know.

Our next event, which we participate in as a gallery, is the Art Walk in Old town Auburn on Sunday, June 7th with the artists reception from noon to 4pm. Diane Tharp volunteered to be the lead for this event – Thank You Diane!

The event features 18 businesses, 3 galleries, 25 artists, live music, parking shuttles and more. We will also have music and light refreshments at the gallery (this is where our \$15 allows us to do). The sidewalk out front is reserved for our featured artists, Patty, Louise and Diane. (who have each paid individually to participate). Please let Livia know if you plan to demo or just come by to meet and greet our visitors. All are welcome. Come promote your art and our beautiful gallery.

- **Publicity** – Louise presented for Michelle. New website is up and running, hope everyone has looked at it. Noted new feature which is an immediate popup to collect email addresses. Please share any feedback with Michelle, who sends her thanks to Ann Ranlett for her work on this.
- **Social media.** Social media is alive and active. Many posts are being generated by Carol. Our 'hits' have gone through the roof as we see a large increase in activity. If you are going to be highlighted you will receive an email from Carol who will request images of your work. Members are encouraged to collect email addresses from customers making a purchase by either entering the information online or completing the white sheet.

- **Business Cards** will be ordered with AOTG new logo
- **Brochures** are also in the mix for a reorder
 - **Facilities** – Linda

Took a moment to acknowledge Janet and Doug for all their hard work in getting the new system up and running and Ann's work in getting the new website up and running.

Noted there are new paint cans in close - each can have their own box that the paint needs to be set in when you bring it out to paint. This will help with accidental paint spills which we experienced recently. Thank you for your efforts with this.

New thermostat has been installed. Instructions for setting thermostat is posted on the wall. We will discuss how we feel the temperature should be set and program from there. This thermostat allows us to change settings for each day of the week. The Board agreed to authorize the purchase of the thermostat because of misuse of the previous one. Once the settings are locked in, we ask that please do not manually adjust the temperature, and please never set the fan to the ON position. We recently had an \$1100 PG&E bill because someone had put the fan on and didn't remember to turn it off. This thermostat will be programmed by specific days of the week to coincide with our operating hours.

- **Water leak in mini-suite A** has been resolved. Thanks to new member Sue Griffin for noticing the water bubble building in ceiling and to she and Darlene going into fast action to ensure there was no damage to any of the art.

Old Business

- **Artisan/Certek Update** – Janet – Participation of artists in the training was prenominal. 27 on one call, 21 on a second session – appreciate the enthusiasm and willingness of the artists to participate and learn the new system. Janet pointed out the new book of the procedures, placed to right of register. We have 7-9 experienced users that use this version in other galleries and whose names were provided an email earlier in the day. If you feel uncomfortable and wish to shadow one of the super users, please contact them and come in and spend some time with them.

New Business

- **Annual Sale Dates/Promo Window** – Louise

Every year we coincide a sale here at AOTG to match our opening date of September. We typically would run the sale for a period of one week, and then in the past few years shortened it to occur over a weekend. The Board agrees that this year we want to go back to

a week period and run the sale from 9/21-9/27 with a celebration on 9/26.2026. During this week AOTG will offer our customers a 20% discount on all sales. Doug will do his magic with the system to adjust it accordingly – but - please be sure you have your inventory in place before Doug does this or, if adding inventory after this happens, to follow the procedures he will provide. We will be sending out information to artists prior to the sale and encourage you to not broadly advertise this to customers until at least 9/7 so that customers will not wait to make their purchases.

- **Labels on bags – Louise**

The Board wishes that we make sure we place labels on bags as customers make purchases. Linda has confirmed we have inventory of the labels. While working shifts please take time to place the label on the paper bags, not the plastic bags

- **Happy Call Change Proposed – Louise**

Request from a member to change our standard of placing happy calls to customers from \$50 to \$25 sales. If you have time, please take a moment to let the artists know of the sale.

- **Board President Vote – Janet**

Announced that Louise has offered to step into the President role. Linda motioned that we accept Louise to step into the President role. Tim Turney seconded.

All in favor AYE – thank you Louise!

- **Old Town Business Association Meeting – Meg**

City Updates:

By early July the Planning Commission will have voted to allow building owners to paint building the color of their choice.

Modifications to the ordinances that manage food truck vendors is being discussed

Wine/Beer ordinances are working well and will be expanded

Social Media: If you have an idea of a reel, you can pitch it to the proper people and if your idea is successful, you can do it. You do have to mention Explore Auburn in in your reel.

Weekly music is still being planned through the summer months

Nominations for next year’s board or being accepted

Volunteers are always needed

Many improvements are happening in Old town

Discussed the Canyons running event that occurred recently, business owners commented their stores did well. The idea of starting the run at the fairgrounds has been proposed

Janet motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, Cathy seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM

Following the meeting Michael led a demonstration on the closing process of the new system

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Quinn, Co-Secretary