



G A B R I O L A
A R T S C O U N C I L
ALL ARTISTS, ALL ARTS

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Minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting
Robert's Place, 560 North Road
September 24, 2012 • 7:00 p.m.

Attending:

Kathy Ramsey, President
Jim Wilson-Storey, V-P
Moirra Nichol, Treasurer
Jeff Molloy, Director
Karen Aaker, Director
Carol Martin, Director
David Vincent, Director

Michelle Benjamin, Coordinator

Tawny MacLachlan Capon
Lesley Comassar
Lindsay Godfrey
Lesley Harris
Dirk Huysman
Anita Jackel-Deggan
Mindy Joseph
Kathryn Molloy
Maggie Mooney

Cherryl Reed
Mary Ann Richards
Sarah Robinson
Sas Selfjord
Gerry Stephanson
Marg Sutton
Melina Wilde
Suzanne Wilkinson

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Introductions were made.

Kayte Summers offered a presentation about art therapy and drama therapy, in relation to our Art Therapy program.

Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Kathryn Molloy

Approval of Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting

Moved by Dirk Huysman, Seconded by Jim Wilson-Storey.

President's Annual Report

Kathy Ramsey presented her report, as attached.

Treasurer's Report

Moirra Nichol presented the Financial Statements.

Questions re: whether we require an audit. Concerns were allayed re: organizational readiness for audit.

Dirk Huysman moved Acceptance of the Financial Statements. Kathryn Molloy seconded. Passed.

Moirra presented the 2012-13 Budget. Questions were raised about funds regarding the money in the budget for the WI Hall.

Gerry Stephanson moved the acceptance of the 2012-13 Budget. Dirk Huysman seconded. Passed.

New Business

Membership

Jim Wilson-Storey presented a proposal for a tiered membership structure that will be reviewed in detail and discussed further at the Board. Many suggestions were offered:

Melinda Wilde suggested that each member could conscript ten new members. Sarah Robinson suggested that we need an incentive to mark the difference between being a member and a non-member, e.g. being first in line or some form of preferential treatment. Kathryn Molloy suggested some form of acknowledgement of membership for organizations, e.g. "Proud Member of the Gabriola Arts Council" bumper stickers. Mr. Deggan suggested that we have a membership director. Kathryn Molloy offered that members are often key in terms of a fundraising drive, creating a potentially valuable "exclusive club." Dave Vincent asked about family memberships. Lindsay asked how we can contact new people to join and help out. Gerry suggested that we should be careful because we want Committed Members, not just members.

There was a discussion re: youth membership

Directors & Past President

Jim Wilson-Storey presented a resolution re: introducing a new Past President position.

Engaged discussion on whether or not this should be voting or non-voting position. Friendly amendments were made. The final, revised resolution is:

Effective from the date of this resolution, for the purpose of providing support to the incoming President and Directors of the Board, the By-Laws of the Gabriola Arts Council be amended to include the position of Past President, as follows:

- 1. Clause 25.(1) The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and one or more other persons shall be the Directors of the Society.**
- 2. The maximum number of directors will remain at nine, as per Clause 25.(2).*
- 3. A new clause will be added to Part 7 – Duties of Officers, as follows:*

40.(3) The outgoing President shall serve as Past-President for one year following the termination of his/her term as President, and shall assist the President and the Vice-President, and provide general advice and counsel to the directors and officers. This is a non-voting position.

Moved by Jim Wilson-Storey. Seconded by Dirk Huysman. Carried.

Election of Directors

Dirk Huysman moves acceptance of the slate as presented. All in favour. Carried.

Newly elected GAC Board 2012 – 2013

President: Kathy Ramsey
Vice-President: Jim Wilson-Storey
Treasurer: Moira Nichols
Secretary: Jean Llewellyn
Director: Carol Martin
Director: David Vincent
Director: Jeff Molloy
Director: Karen Aaker

Adjournment

Dirk Huysman made a Motion to adjourn at 8:35 pm.



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President's Report
Gabriola Arts Council
Annual General Meeting
September, 2012
Kathy Ramsey

Each year as GAC President, I have the privilege and pleasure to take this opportunity to “lift the curtain” and share with you all the backstage work that the GAC Board, our members and volunteers have done to enrich the cultural life of our community.

The good news since we last met is that GAC is stronger than ever – we made significant inroads in connecting with new groups within our community this past year. The Kitty J. Heller Integrative Art Therapists worked with parenting groups, youth at risk and folks in our community who live with chronic pain. We'll be establishing the Sarah Lawrence Scholarship for youth entering a study program in the arts, and, a personal highpoint, we began building a bridge with the descendants of the island's first artists with the inclusion of Snuneymuxw Day in the Isle of the Arts Festival this spring.

This time last year we were all reeling from the tragic events of August 2011 and I was so proud to have so many of you step up to the plate and help with the Schwartz Family Benefit Concert. GAC raised \$10,000 through ticket and auction sales that went directly to the family.



Studio Tour 2012 will be different from 2011 in loads of exciting new ways. Busking stations will be scattered around the island (watch for them in red scarves and toques!). And our traditional kick-off has been switched to a wrap-up dance (complete with poodle skirts!) so more of the tour artists can “twist and shout” rather than stress over their long, pre-tour “to do” list. Big kudos to Karen Aaker for chairing the Tour committee, Tour Manager

Joelle Anthony, to Lindsay Stocking Godfrey for the Bandstand Sock Hop (Sat., Oct. 20th – tickets \$20) and to Gerry Stephanson for organizing the Busking Stations.

And the really big news for Studio 2012 is the One-Minute Wonder videos produced by Jules Molloy and his partner Chloe Straw. These visual promotional gems will help artists throughout the year promote their work and their studios in an exciting new format. The GAC Board was very happy to see how quickly the Studio Tour artists jumped at the opportunity to participate in this program. We've also commissioned Jules to create a longer piece showing that, through visual cues, yes, there are gas stations, cash machines and liquor stores on the island! It will also explain how to use the brochure and give some teaser shots of the exteriors of some of the various studios while showcasing the island's gorgeous beaches and natural beauty.



Check out a preview of what these videos will look like! Artworks' video can be found at <http://youtu.be/07OteFZguOM?hd=1>

Planning for both the Isle of the Arts Festival 2013 and for Theatre Festival 2013 are well underway. IOAF 2012's Renata Gregory did an astounding job of organizing workshops, talks, and events for an amazing cross-section of the arts on Gabriola. We'll be building on her foundation for 2013. Board members Jim Wilson-Storey and Jeff Molloy along with their merry band of volunteers gave us another memory-making Theatre Festival complete with the popular Street Art and Open Stage. GAC was fortunate enough to receive funding for a student employee this summer. Emily Carson-Apstien (aka "Super E") was everywhere! From office tasks to lending some muscle to the Theatre Festival set-up, Emily was one very hardworking teenager – she'll be back to help out with the Studio Tour in October.

Our Art Therapy Program will be offering a five-session course to the parents of the non-profit Gabriola Parent Participation Pre-school Society (a group that began in 1976) in late November. Another 5-session group for seniors will also start up in November plus a ten-week session for those living with and survivors of cancer which will hopefully run out of the new Gabriola Medical Clinic if the basement gets completed in time.

The Haven's Rachel Davey and I have been working on the joint GAC/Haven Artist in Residence Program. Two artists are currently "in session" and will be each hosting a talk next weekend and each running a workshop – free of charge and under the Cananda-wide Culture Days banner. Board member Jeff Molloy was on the selection committee for this year and we're delighted to have such accomplished artists in our midst! Writer Shirley Serviss is a writer in residence – on the hospital wards in Edmonton. Her work touches on our Art Therapy Program and she was able to meet with one of our Art Therapists this week to talk about her experiences. Visual Artist Sande Waters will be leading an informal town-hall style discussion on sexuality and gender symbols in art at the Haven on Saturday night – some free brain candy for our island artists! Jim and Jeff have also been working to establish guidelines for our public art program as well.



The GAC Board has extended a three-month grant writing program to build on the hard work that our office administrator Michelle Benjamin and Board member Carol Martin started earlier this year. Michelle and our treasurer Moira Nichol spent several frustrating, hair-pulling hours re-organizing our financial statements to align more closely with a centralized Canadian data bank for funders (CADAC).

Michelle and GAC board member David Vincent are working on re-tooling the GAC website, and Moira's newsletter just keeps getting better and better each issue!

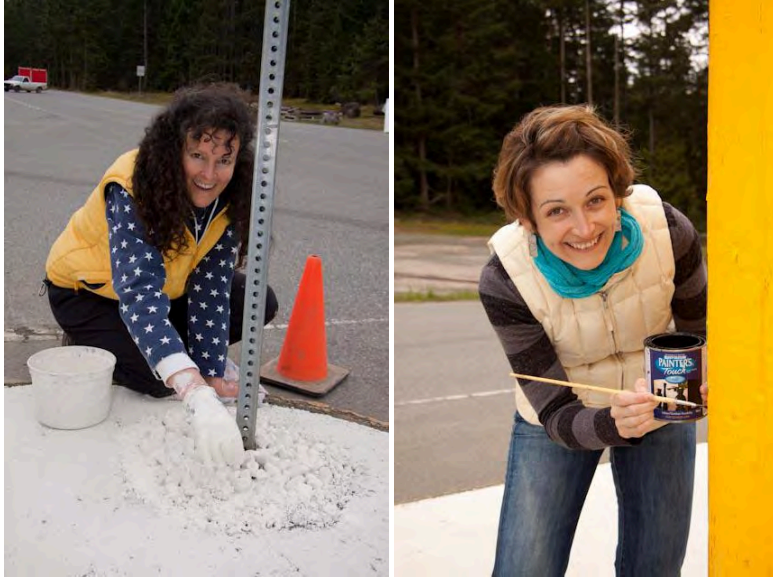
The Gabriola Women's Institute board is still working toward transferring the WI Hall and its property to GAC. Several members of the GAC board have held joint meetings with the Gabriola Chamber of Commerce board to search out common goals and projects. The GAC Board also got together for a full day with PHC's Kathryn Molloy who's vast experience with board structure helped us explore ways to more effectively deliver GAC programming.

But these are not the only stories we remember from this past year. "Polegate 2012" took a great deal of attention away from the great work done by our board and our volunteers. I learned a lot during this process and was heartened by the overwhelming support GAC received in this effort to bring more art into our public spaces.

I can assure you that the GAC Board has emerged from this experience stronger and wiser. I believe Gabriola can, and will, **eagerly** embrace a growing catalogue of public art commissioned by this council.

I am so proud of our pole-painting artists, Derrill Shuttleworth, Clint McCartney, Melinda Wilde and Tina Lynch, for their commitment to this project and for seeing it through all its twists and turns. And I would personally like to thank all of those who stood up for this project for your assistance and support.





I believe this is just the beginning of a chapter that sees Gabriola truly reflect its reputation as the Isle of the Arts. With a process now in place for islanders to register their opinions with our elected representatives, the Isle of the Arts Festival 2013 is eying up four new poles to add to our public art portfolio in the year ahead.

What else is on the GAC wish list for 2013?

With much of our programming up and running smoothly, the GAC Board is looking forward to creating new ways to integrate art into the daily life of our island community. But (and it's a big **"but"**) the Board is not able to create a great deal of new programming without some helping hands. This is why the Board is focusing on increasing our roster of volunteers and members in 2012/2013.

GAC is rich in templates for creating successful programming. With 16 years of experience with the Studio Tour, four years of Theatre Festival, and the Isle of the Arts Festival, which is based on years of experience running workshops and events, the Board is itching to put this experience to work in other areas here on Gabriola.

Please help us in our drive to bring more of our islanders under the Gabriola Arts Council umbrella. Take some time to really familiarize yourself with our programs and events and encourage your friends and neighbours to get involved. Donate an hour or two to a project outside your normal GAC participation or give the gift of membership to someone you know that loves our island's arts community. There are so many exciting things on GAC's backburner, we'd love your help in bringing them forward!

Thank you all so much for all your enthusiasm and energy this year! And I would especially like to thank all of the GAC Board Members. It has been so rewarding to work with such a fantastic group of folks who, through humour, insight and guidance, have made my life so very rich. And to our Office Administrators, Kathy McIntyre, who went on to other things this January and to Michelle Benjamin who stepped into some pretty big shoes, laced 'em up and got us all runnin' to keep up with her – well, you gals ROCK!

Kathy Ramsey

