



Established in 1972

lambethartassociation@gmail.com

LAMBETH ART ASSOCIATION

Minutes from General Members Meeting

September 25th, 2023, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

1. President Walt Klisht welcomed members who were present. For the benefit of new members present, Walt provided a brief history and description of the organization, membership structure and an outline of the dates of member meetings to be held throughout the coming fiscal year at Riverside United Church. Further details were provided previously to members in the President's letter issued August 31, 2023.
2. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on May 29th, 2023, was discussed. Walt proposed that reading the minutes of that meeting be dispensed with since a copy of the minutes had been distributed to all members. He asked for a motion to approve and accept these minutes. The minutes were approved and accepted by Eleanor Ovtsherenko and seconded.
3. Brian Glasspoole presented the Treasurer's Report. Brian spoke to the Financial Summary of Operating Results for the year ended August 31, 2023. The organization saw a net reduction of its overall cash position during the year amounting to \$1,276. This was largely attributable to a decision taken during the year to replace LAA's aging art stands for the annual Art Show and reflected the unplanned purchase of two of ten required art stands.
4. The Treasurer also highlighted that considering the decision taken at the May General Meeting to purchase eight additional art stands, the Executive Committee had opted to increase membership fees for the 2023-24 season from \$25 to \$50 to help cover the cost of the new stands that needed to be available for the next Art Show to take place at Lambeth United Church May 2-4, 2024. The new stands would be purchased with a combination of a one-time increase in membership fees and a partial drawdown of cash reserves. At the end of the coming fiscal year, the Executive will review the operating budget and assess whether there will be changes to the membership fees for the subsequent year.
5. The President discussed the need to dispose of the existing art stands so that the current storage facility could handle all twenty new stands (ten owned by LAA and ten owned by Brush & Palette). He mentioned that going forward, the cost of the storage facility, roughly \$100 per



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month, would be shared jointly by the two organizations, resulting in a permanent cost saving to LAA going forward.

6. Mary Lou Ross presented the Membership Convenor's Report. In addition to the honorary members, the enrollment had been increased to 130 members and that applicants on the waiting list are being contacted to fill the vacant positions. It is anticipated that all positions will be filled as the new year gets underway. Mary Lou requested that all members submit any necessary updates to email addresses to ensure the membership roster is current and accurate.
7. The Program Convenors, Chris Allaway and Tina Rae, introduced themselves. They indicated that they had lined up guest speakers for the three Fall meetings (Sept, Oct and Nov) and that they were actively seeking leads and ideas for speakers for the new year.
8. Eleanor Ovtsherenko, the Social Media Convenor, provided an update on administration of the association's social media accounts and the LAA website. She mentioned that she would appreciate assistance with maintaining these platforms and asked whether there any members interested to assist her.
9. Brian MacKenzie provided an overview of a meeting of the London Community Artists that he attended as a guest on Sept. 15th. Brian shared some successful features of this club which was initially launched in 2018. These include a monthly "Pick your Favourite Picture" celebrating the club members' art. They have also introduced Zoom to monthly meetings using a large screen so that members unable to attend in person can participate in monthly meetings. The organization's president, Bill Stevens, proposed a combined Annual Art Show with participation from all London-based Art Associations. These are all ideas that Brian would like LAA to explore further.
10. Walt adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:50 pm and indicated that registration would continue briefly during a break before the program presenter was introduced.
11. Chris Allaway introduced the Program Presenter, Olukayode Ojo and advised the members that he would be joining the organization.



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