

# SRAL Board Meeting

November 7, 2023, 1:00 PM, SRAL Studio

**Attendees:** Jeani Gustafson, Co-President; Deanna Brooks, Secretary elect; Liz Wolfe, Membership; Arlene Szypulski; Susan Ettl, Treasurer; Deb Nealy, 2<sup>nd</sup> V-President; Hugh Beykirch, member; Rich Metcalf, e-blast editor elect; Laurie Chambers, member substituting for Karen Keim, Secretary; Anonymous Generous Donor.

1. **Photos of Board Members:** Be sure Rich takes a photo of each board member present today.
  - a. Rich will take over E-blast beginning in December 2023.

2. **Anonymous Generous Donor – New Business:**

Proposal: A generous donor proposed to give SRAL \$10k to establish the Sussman/Briggs Abstract Art Competition (beginning in 2025) because Ellen Sussman recently passed away and she had been very supportive of the arts, the Briggs, and SRAL (beginning 2025), This new exhibit will basically doing the same thing as is done with the Eva Briggs donation (which will conclude with the February 2025 show. One significant change is replacing the required 36" X 36" size with a variety of square sizes (from 12" X 12" to 48" X 48"), allowing any medium, including collage and assemblage, as long as it's done on a 1.5" wide and can be hung on a wall. Copies or giclee art are excluded. This new exhibit will require at least ten participating artists, who will be encouraged to submit two pieces. The entry fee will be \$40. The awards for this exhibit will be a first prize at \$500, a second prize at \$300, a third prize at \$200, three honorable mentions each at \$100, and a people's choice award at \$100. Note that the people's choice award will be paid out of the entry fees and not from the donation of \$1000 in prizes for each ten years. This exhibit and reception to be held at CPAC. It will commence in January 2025, which coincides with the year of Ellen's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

- a. This morning, Susan Ettl, Visual Arts Director, and Chris Ashcraft, Executive Director, of CPAC approved that this new exhibit would be held at that facility.
  - b. Susan Ettl – Provided SRAL expenses for Eva Briggs Abstract Art Competition financials. See attached. In 2025, the expense would double because of the Eva Briggs show in January and the Sussman/Briggs show in February.
  - c. Rich recommended reaching out to the Briggs artists to invite their participation in the optional smaller format Sussman/Briggs show.
  - d. The board voted in favor and approved the proposal.
3. **Anza gallery:** Jeani reports that GVR is proposing that the lobby of each center be similar with an emphasis on branding and that art is not to be hung in lobbies but can be hung in hallways. GVR suggests turning the Anza room into a gallery with lighting, hanging hardware, and to be shared with artist clubs.
    - a. Objections – 1) Anza room is not a where people will come to see art. 2) Art in public places is part of a cultural enrichment for the whole community and should not be

hidden in one place. 3) Art is for sale to people walking by. 4) How will pottery and glass be displayed? 5) How will quality criteria be enforced equally by all the affected clubs? 6) It was noted that in Tubac, art is everywhere, and not relegated to a corner. Consequently, it brings vibrance by being in many public places.

- b. Arlene & Jeani will meet with other art club leaders to get their input. Consider writing letters to the GVR Board & newspaper editor and circulate a petition.
  - c. Jeani will take these questions to Natalie: What inspired this idea? What data informed it? What is the need for branding marketing when GVR is a captive audience with membership tied to deeds? Why does branding need to exclude art? How much consideration has the board already given this? When does the board plan to make the decision? What additional information is the GVR Board seeking? Has this board solicited/pollled GVR membership and art clubs? What ROI is projected on the branding project?
- 4. Studio Renovation possibility:**
- a. Jeani discussed current door/lock access with Natalie at GVR. An electronic key is being installed, and appropriate SRAL members will be able to access the studio.
  - b. The GVR Facilities Team visited the studio on 11/7/23 and discussed possible improvements.
    - i. Jeani will circle back with Natalie re: next steps.
- 5. Membership Progress:** Liz reports that to date 22 of 212 members have renewed. At the monthly meeting, we will announce renewal and the online option.
- 6. October minutes:** Corrections were identified. Laurie will submit those to Karen. The minutes can then be sent for approval via email.
- 7. The November 2 Mix & Mingle:** It was successful.
- a. Next one is January 4, 2024.
  - b. No mix 'n mingle in December because of the Color of Energy reception on 12/7.
  - c. Remind members they can come to the Mix & Mingle even if they don't bring anything for the theme.
- 8. General Meeting:** Deb reporting demo artists for the General Meetings – Kate on Thursday, Fran Sutherland in Dec., \_\_\_\_ in January, Angelique in February.
- 9. Treasurer's Report:** Susan presented the Treasurer's Report. The Board Approved it.
- 10. Members Show:** Arlene reports that the Show was hung on 11/6/23. The exhibit had 40 participants, who each paid a \$10 entry fee. These funds will be used to pay for the reception. No monetary prizes will be awarded; instead, award ribbons will be presented to winners. Members will vote by Nov. 30. Winners will be announced at the reception and will be published in the E-blast and on the website. The Show Reception is on 12/7/23.
- 11. Finding New Volunteers for:**
- a. First VPs - If no one volunteers to be First VP, we need a person to replace Nan to schedule shows, receptions, and the Anza room for general meeting .
  - b. Show chair for March members show.
- 12. December 2<sup>nd</sup> Open House:** Jeanie reports the Photography club and Computer studio are doing an open house in the Anza room and invited SRAL to participate in that. The Board voted not to participate.

13. **New brochure:** Jeanie reports a new brochure is needed. Susan will check with Leslie Berry to see if she will do graphic design.
14. **New storage closet:** Jeani reports a new storage closet will be constructed. This will be for some of the things in the studio that are blocking the studio floor and wall space.
15. **Website progress:** Susan reports that most of the website is done. Remaining things are mini workshops, but we don't have that info. Susan and Leslie will be trained on remaining things needed. Working well with the webmasters, they have been very responsive. If something on the site doesn't work, let Susan know.
16. **Progress on Art 101 classes:** Arlene reports that the first class is Saturday, 11/11. Nine members are signed up for Darilyn's class. This class will be announced at the general meeting. Darilyn's will up to 15 students. There is a \$10 charge for materials. Susan will teach a class on color later in November. Eleven are currently signed up. Info will be included in the E-blast on a month to month basis. In December, Nan will teach on the 9<sup>th</sup> and Angelique will teach on the 16<sup>th</sup>. January's classes are TBD. In February, Barbara Sweeney will teach pastels on 2/24, and the Print Guild will be teaching on 2/10. March's classes are TBD.
17. **Bylaws change:** The text has been revised and Jeani will submit to GVR.
18. **January Club Showcase:** All clubs host a table. This has changed to February and will be at Canoa Hills. Last year Valerie St. Marie organized that. We will ask her if she can do that again this year.
19. **March Open House – at the studio:** Ellen Meentz and Laurie Chambers will chair this event. No action needed yet.
20. **Susan – Ordering Ribbons:** The order needs to be decided in the next week or two for a purchase.
21. **Next Year's Budget:** Needs to be created in December; Susan will create it.
22. **Hugh Beykirch request:** Hugh will be an author at an upcoming author book fair. Can the fair be advertised in the E-blast? Yes, because Hugh is an SRAL member and one of the authors.

**Meeting adjourned:** 3:16 pm.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, December 12, 1:00 pm