



SRAL Board meeting March 12, 2024

Attendees: Jeani Gustafson, Co-President; Arlene Szypulski, Co-President; Deb Nealy, 2nd V-President; Deanna Brooks, Secretary; Liz Wolf, membership, Ellen Meents, Open House Chair

1. Minutes from the February meeting were approved with Susan's edits and on #14 we clarified that GVR required the scanners, not our request.
2. Ellen – Open House March 16th. Ellen has invited SIG groups to demonstrate at the open house. 9 members will be working on projects.
3. There is a new desk in the library purchased by Ellen - thank you. Also there is a new storage cabinet next to the sink.
4. Liz – Membership: There are 207 total members. 47 are new. 52 didn't renew. We discussed volunteer interests checked on renewal forms. Deanna will work with Liz to create a format to tally interests.
5. Susan Werner reported that the library scanning system is not ready yet but is getting closer.
6. Mix and Mingle – Next will be April 4th – bring something in progress.
7. Some members have borrowed easels or extension cords – often for open studios. The equipment belongs to GVR so members need to be told equipment cannot be borrowed.
8. Deb – General Meeting: Demos are set for April: Tonya Sell, and May: Barbara Mulleneaux We discussed cancelling a summer general meeting – July? Maybe a Mix and Mingle instead. August -November Demos in process.
9. Susan Treasurers report:
 - After the January board meeting, Fidelity called me and told me that SRAL could not transfer fees electronically between them and Chase bank, the reason being that we are a subsidiary of GVR. Instead, I will be meeting with Chase bank this week to look into a high yield or money market account.
 - In the January Merrill statement, \$1000 was added to SRAL's account with an explanation of Security Sales/Credit. I think this is the amount SRAL made on the 20 year bond, but I need to check with Merrill. The last treasurer bond did not mature until February 15, 2024 and is also still listed separately in the January statement in addition to the extra \$1000. I should get the February statement by tomorrow and I will then contact Merrill to ask about the extra \$1000 and also to close the account.
 - On February 21, 2024, I received an email from Michaelin asking if she was supposed to get paid for judging the Briggs Exhibit. I told her the Briggs judging chairperson never asked me for a check to pay Michaelin, but that I would mail her a check the next day. I am listing this oversight to illuminate how important the exhibit job descriptions are.

- In February, SRAL paid a service fee of 80 cents. The reason is that 21 checks were cashed and there was one deposit. SRAL, therefore, had 22 transactions and any actions over 20 will be charged 40 cents. This is much more reasonable than the explanation Chase sent in November. The only other time I foresee SRAL having a service fee is in March due to all awards checks issued and they subsequently being cashed.
- Regarding any other budget concerns asked in the agenda: Basically, since we have only had two months into our fiscal year, and I do not have the expenses from the Members' Exhibit and I have to pay one more expense for the Briggs, it is too early to make an assessment. Please keep in mind that the 2024 budget has a surplus of \$464 and at the end of February, the checking account had \$22,261, I don't see any reason to be concerned about SRAL's finances. The website expenses were included in the budget, so that is not a concern. Since the food at the reception last Thursday was much less than the food at either the Briggs or the December receptions, I expect that bill to be less than the \$350 allocated. Also, if the extra \$1000 I saw in the Merrill statement is SRAL's money, the extra \$500 we could apply to the Briggs, would offset the Briggs expenses.

10. Encouraging volunteers: Should we require members to volunteer? Susan says SRAL has existed for 25 years without requiring people to volunteer and she does not think we start doing it now. We could lose members. It also counters the motto "We treasure our volunteers," that is on our home page. She also said requiring members to volunteer would necessitate a change to the bylaws and approval by the membership. Jeani's request for show volunteers at the general meeting worked and several new members volunteered.
11. Arlene – Briggs Show : the contract is signed for Jan-Feb 2025. Pieces in January need to be square – any size except 36x36.
12. Arlene and Jeani – Members Show : no one was happy with the new hanging wires, especially the plastic wires, but the show was successful. We should add a note to future entries that the paintings need wires, not saw tooth that won't work with the clips.
13. A November Briggs retrospective at Canoa Hills will be added and the West Ctr is available Sept to mid-November for a Permanent Show. Hana Hanleigh has agreed to chair it.
14. Fall Members show –will be just December. It needs a theme. Will not be judged. Artists will vote.
15. Susan – Website: Nan's picture was fixed. If people notice any issue, they should let me know ASAP, so I can rectify any discrepancies quickly.

Several things will be updated on the website, including the events, and the winning pictures for the Members' Exhibit from Rich. Both receptions and Mix and Mingle are on the calendar. Susan does not get the calendar for the next month from Paula until that month has almost begun. Susan adds as much as she can to the second month and waits for updates from Paula. There are two calendars on the website: one is the studio calendar, and the other is on the Events page and displays all exhibits except the permanent ones.

82 people have filled out membership applications on the website - this included new members and renewals.

16. Susan needs information for the April demo artist hopefully by Friday and any Art 101 classes scheduled for April by March 15, as discussed at the December or January Board meeting.

17. Susan – A notice about The Veterans Mural was in the March Eblast and will be in the Mid-March Eblast. So far, we have not received any volunteers. If we do not get any after the Mid-March Eblast, then the volunteers from La Posada will be doing the murals.
18. Susan – Mini Workshops: Both the March mini workshops were very successful. I believe the students learned new information and techniques, plus had a good time doing so. The intermediate pastel mini workshop will not occur this spring since I asked three people to teach it and none were available. Instead, we will have one in the fall. I am working on scheduling an intermediate watercolor mini workshop for April. The date has not been selected as of today, but should be finalized for the Mid-March Eblast.
19. Arlene – 101 Classes: Should we consider a move to an intermediate level in 2024-25 “Art 201”? Instructors will be asked to evaluate needs and ask for suggestions.
20. Jeani – A group of Watercolor artists would like to upgrade framing and mat cutting. They are considering options and costs. One option is working with the photography club.
21. Lockers for the Hallway. Tall narrow orange gym style lockers are being offered by GVR. There would be limited space for our needs so we will turn down the offer.

Next Meeting April 9th, 1:00.

Respectfully submitted, Deanna Brooks