

WAA BOARD MEETING | Minutes

September 14, 2025

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Meeting called by | PRESIDENT | ROD PLEASANTS, PRESIDENT |
| Type of meeting | QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING | ABBIE DARER, VICE PRESIDENT |
| | | BOB WHELAN, TREASURER |
| | | VANESSA HENDERSON, SECRETARY |
| | | ASHLEY BECKTON |
| | | BARBARA VON SCHREIBER |
| | | DARRYL WRIGHT |
| | | ELIZABETH KANEY |
| | | JUDY JACKSON |
| | | KAREN SIMMONS |
| | | KATHY WENNING |
| | | KRISTYANA CZEINER |
| | | MARCELA MANUBENS |
| | | MARK DEVLIN |
| | | SAM FUNK |
| | | WOODROW CAMPBELL |

AGENDA TOPICS

- I. **Call to Order and Opening Remarks, Rod Pleasants**
 - a. Rod introduced Nate to run the meeting
- II. **Approval of minutes from May 2025 Quarterly Meeting**
 - a. Board Approved May 9, 2025 quarterly meeting minutes
 - b. Motion made to post Board minutes to WAA website after meetings in DRAFT format - Approved

III. Reports from Board Chair Members

- a. Nominating Committee, Judy Jackson & Kathy Wenning: (6) NEW acting Board members approved by the Board:

- i. Karen Simmons – Exhibitions
- ii. Bruce Hammer – Marketing
- iii. Mark Devlin – Education
- iv. Ashley Bekton – Development
- v. Marcela Manubens – Membership
- vi. Elizabeth Kaney – Volunteers

- b. **Elizabeth MacDonald Scholarship, Abbey Darer Rosenwald**

- i. Marketing flyer attached
- ii. Seniors only, submit 3-pieces of work to be considered; \$10,000 to be allocated across candidates that demonstrate highest skill

- c. **Building Committee, Darryl Wright**

- i. Zoning meeting to take place tomorrow evening to obtain approval for installation of the exterior kiln; if we obtain approval from the zoning department, foundation work will begin on Wednesday
- ii. Request for Board approval of \$8,000 to take down (2) trees: sugar maple and hemlock

- d. **Finance report, Bob Whelan**

- i. WAA has roughly \$2M in investments
- ii. Budget – cash is greater by \$1K, revenue is off by \$3,000, from a macro level, financially we are operating very close to proposed budget
- iii. Finance is in the process of moving funds from a money market account in a manner that is allowing the organization to benefit from dollar cost averaging

- e. **Bylaws report, Woody Campbell**

- i. The process is underway to revise sections of the Bylaws; the goal is to have a proposal ready to present to the Board at the Annual Membership meeting in January 2026

f. Special Events report, Krystyana Czeiner

- i. Sunday, 9/28 at Rod's barn: appreciation event for Instructors and Trustees
- ii. Holiday Event is on the table
- iii. Karen Simmons is fielding recommendations on fundraising opportunities that WAA may benefit from; she will direct parties to Krystyana

g. Exhibition report, Karen Simmons

- i. Report attached
- ii. Young Talent Show: recommended by the Board academic requirement is dropped, Board and membership agreed; under 30-years of age requirement holds

h. Norman Sunshine Center report, Kathy Wenning

- i. Dames Exhibition: 9/20 – 10/20; a temporary ramp has been installed for the event
- ii. The building will require a substantial amount of work to bring it up to ADA accessibility and code compliant: the stairwell will need to be replaced; bathroom location and elevator installation will be required; will do very best to maintain integrity of the infrastructure
- iii. The Committee received ballpark quotes over the past 6-months as to how much it will cost to make various upgrades; it is in the process of obtaining information on construction work that needs to be completed and prioritizing a proposal to present to the Board

IV. Open Board Positions & Open Standing Committees, Nate Cardonsky

- a. Thank you to the Nominating Committee for all of its hard work finding talented candidates to join the Board
- b. Committees: a strong focus needs to be placed on building out these areas of our organization with Membership and Volunteer committees being highest priority

V. Open Business, Nate Cardonsky

- a. New CRM has been introduced into WAA allowing better data storage and member communication

- b. Member/Artist Directory has largely been revised with some additional data scrubbing and updating to complete the process
- c. Class registration is on an upward trajectory; (8) NEW instructors have come to WAA;
- d. WAA has brought on 42 NEW members in last 6-months

VI. New Business, Nate Cardonsky

- a. Kids Program: initiative is underway and will kick-off next week in the Norman Sunshine Center
- b. Norman Sunshine Center: as class demand continues to expand WAA is leaning on the center to utilize the space and Nate is working to organize classes and will communicate those activities back to the Board and Membership
- c. Wellness: Nate has interest in introducing activities that have a wellness focus, utilizing the Sunshine Center; Members suggest WAA instructors can lend their talents to local institutions who work directly with patients who suffer with things like stroke and dementia

VII. Floor Open, Membership Questions

- a. Comments made by members of the archiving committee highlighting the work that is underway to record documents, photos and memorabilia from WAA that dates back many decades; the committee is looking for new participants to join in the effort