



Allison Eklund, President
Sallie Malmstrom, Secretary
Mark Ellis, Treasurer
Mary Jo Ellis, Membership
Susan Estill, Paint-Outs
Rich Myers, Web Site

OPM Meeting Minutes

Saturday, July 22, 2017

12:00 p.m. | Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts

Introductions and Sign-in

- Attending: Allison Eklund (President), Mary Jo Ellis (Membership), Mark Ellis (Treasurer), Paul T. Boecher (member), Greg Lecker (member), Karlyn Eckman (guest), Elaine Beaty (member), Judith Anderson (member), Leisa Luis-Grill (guest), Tom Dimock (member), Joan Reynolds (member), Judy Palermo (member).

Secretary's Report (Sallie Malmstrom) – Postponed.

- Approval of Minutes

President's Report (Allison Eklund)

- **Loring Park Art Festival** July 29-30: Allison will be appearing on The Jason Show next Tuesday July 25 with a representative from Loring Park Art Festival to promote the event; informal paint-outs the two Sundays prior; free participation & no-commission sales for OPM members who also volunteer in the tent. This is a members-only event, and members **MUST SIGN UP** to participate by volunteering for one or more time slots to staff our tent.
- **“Waters Between Us”**—A weekend paint-out in Winona including tour of paintings at the MN Marine Art Museum is rescheduled to Labor Day Weekend. Allison will host a paint-out followed by dinner 3-7pm on Friday September 1 at The Boat House on waterfront in downtown Winona. On Saturday we'll paint at the riverfront overlook and grounds around MMAM. We have a **docent-led tour starting 1pm**. The American Society of Marine Artists masterworks exhibit will be on display; Mary Pettis has a work in the show.
- **Roseville Parks Plein Air**: Allison has been contacted by the City of Roseville and its business association to apply for a Roseville Area Community Fund Grant (\$2,500) to mount an exhibit of plein air paintings or Roseville Parks in City Hall to highlight preservation and restoration initiatives in Roseville city parks. The idea is that Participants may paint Roseville Parks between now and the **reception date in December** (TBD). Reception will be in banquet room of Roseville Oval (indoor skating center adjacent to City Hall). Budget will include juror and prizes, reception facility rental, food and potentially wine or cash bar. After reception, artists will walk their painting(s) over to City Hall to

hang for ~2-month exhibit. Participation fee per painting with no membership requirement is proposed.

Treasurer's Report (Mark Ellis)

- OPM currently has \$12,495 in its business checking account. (The savings account was closed because it isn't needed.)
- OPM has received \$5,927.66 so far in "income," but \$1,521 of that is pass-through income spent on Winter Plein Air retreat in January. Mark, Mary Jo, and Allison will talk about re-characterizing income that is received only for the purpose of paying out in equal amount.
- OPM has spent \$1,500 on 2017 workshops (Richard Abraham and Mary Pettis), \$605 on sponsored awards (State Fair Fine Arts "best landscape painting," and "best sense of place" awards for Red Wing Plein Air, Duluth Plein Air, and Grand Marais Plein Air), \$100 on reception at Deb Zeller's gallery, \$674.33 on meals during workshops, \$36 in sales tax collected and remitted for last year's Loring Park Art Festival painting sales,

Membership Report (Mary Jo Ellis) — OPM currently has 141 members (100 renewed, 41 new).

New Business:

1. Approval needed for Allison's proposal to submit a \$2,500 grant application to fund the plein air exhibit and awards exhibit in Roseville.
2. Approval is needed for Allison to approach the Science Museum of Minnesota about bringing James Gurney and his Dinotopia exhibit to SMM and coordinating one or more workshops/presentations with Gurney that would be co-hosted and coordinated by OPM.
3. Allison announced that she will not serve as President indefinitely and will not run for re-election in 2018. OPM needs a President who will run meetings, a Vice President to serve when the President cannot, and an Executive Director to do the planning, coordinating, and day-to-day tasks that Allison is currently doing. It is too time-consuming, however, for her to continue as solely a volunteer. Also the organization needs fresh leadership at regular intervals and greater participation in organizing from the membership-at-large. A change in the Bylaws should be explored to increase board of directors members and eliminate the requirement that a vice president succeeds as president.

Allison suggests that she take on the position of Executive Director, effectively hired by the Board to do what she is already doing, but with the intent of developing a sustainable compensation model.

Motions Passed:

1. *Allison may submit RACF grant application for summer/fall plein air juried exhibit of Roseville City Parks with reception in December, date TBD.*
2. *Allison may approach the Science Museum of Minnesota to explore the possibility of bringing James Gurney's Dinotopia exhibit to SMM and hosting a series of Gurney's plein air painting workshops and presentations at SMM to coincide with the exhibit.*

3. Allison, having announced she will not serve indefinitely as President, will investigate and report to members for further discussion her suggestions for:

- Amending OPM's Bylaws to repeal requirement that vice president succeed as president and to broaden board of directors' roles to include those serving as members at large assigned to special tasks.
- Changing Allison's role to Executive Director to explore business development ideas and an appropriate, sustainable compensation model.

NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY, AUGUST 27 at 3:00 p.m. at MIA

Join Allison to see "Horse Power" exhibition at MIA before the meeting 1:30pm to 3:00pm.

