

BCA Board of Directors Annual Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2021  
3:00-5:00 pm  
Via Zoom

Advisory Board of Directors Voting Members in attendance: Lori Rowe, Lisa Lillibridge, Jacqueline Posley, Billi Gosh, Mildred Beltre Martinez, Dana vanderHeyden, Bryan Parmelee, Patrick Shank, Jeffery Harkness, Barbara Perry, Rachel Kahn-Fogel, Milton Rosa-Ortiz, Taylor Gamache

Staff present: Doreen Kraft, Sara Katz, Heather Ferrell, Joyce Cellars, John Flanagan, Zach Williamson, Melissa Steady, Meara McGinniss

Public present: Fran Stoddard(BCA Foundation board member)

Meeting called to order at 3:09

1. Consent Agenda—Jacqueline Posley moved, Lisa Lillibridge seconded. All in favor.
  - a. Approve Agenda(with corrected date)
  - b. Approve Minutes of September
2. Public Forum - No public was present
3. Lori Rowe gave some history on the by-laws, the last updates being finalized in 2018. The executive committee is presenting additional language to section 4.2: Number of Directors. There shall be no fewer than eleven (11) nor more than twenty-one (21) voting regular and Honorary Directors. There shall be no more than five (5) Honorary Directors serving on the board simultaneously. The mayor is an ex officio-non-voting member of the board. Emeritus Directors are non-voting. Neither the Mayor nor Emeritus Directors affect a quorum.(Proposed new language is bolded). Lori asked for a motion to **for the board's approval of the language and consent to send it to the Mayor's office and City Attorney for review.** Billi Gosh moved and Lisa seconded. All were in favor. Jacqueline Posley commented that although she did not want to hold up approval of the additional language, that she believes that five Honorary Directors is too high a total percentage of voting members.
4. Committee Reports:

- a. Development Committee(Billi Gosh)-The committee met on November 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss categories of giving. BCA received a gift of \$18K from Higher Ground, the profits of the Backside 405 concert series. Billi, Lori, and Laura will be contacting board members shortly individually by phone about our board giving goals. The committee has been discussing the outcome of the art auction and brainstorming the future of the event. The committee has identified a focus for the fiscal year and will consider audience expansion through a fundraising lens. Joyce added that despite not having final numbers ready to report because of Clerk and Treasurer Office staffing, as of October 31 we are on track to meet our goals. The end of year appeal has hit mailboxes and gifts are starting to come in-this is our biggest giving season.
- b. Education Committee(Dana vanderHeyden)-The committee met on November 17. Many of the See Think Do gallery education programs have returned to in-person gallery learning visits. Adult education program enrollment is up in general-this fall there is mix of in-person and virtual classes. The clay studio has several new members and new open hours. Youth and family programs, run by Lauren Genta who started last March, are going great including new teen programming. All of the BCA studios are fully open. Dana pointed out that board attendance at the committee was low and she would like to encourage any member of the board to attend-the updates on the education programs are so wonderful!
- c. Nominating Committee(Lori Rowe)-The committee has worked hard in the past to attract new board members, but has decided to greater outreach to further diversify the applicant pool. Lisa Lillibridge has worked with the communications team to create social media posts and emails to announce that the board is looking for new members. Doreen Kraft explained that the City of Burlington will be compensating board and commission members for meetings going forward, not including committee work. More information on the details of this to follow. John Flanagan already works closely with Phet at CEDO to identify ways to communicate with underserved populations in the city and this will inform this outreach.
- d. Equity and Belonging Committee(Jacqueline Posley)-Jacqueline announced that she will be stepping down as chair of the Equity and Belonging Committee. She has concerns about the efficacy of this committee. Her concerns will be addressed at a future committee meeting and an update will then be given to the full board.

5. Directors Report (Doreen Kraft)- Doreen asked if the board had any questions about the report that she had sent out prior to the meeting, which included updates on the 405 Project and Highlight. She also spoke about a new partnership with local developers to find funding to go forward with a study by ArtSpace to study the housing needs of artists in Burlington, especially in the South End. Sara pointed out that greater staffing will be needed to continue with the study. Doreen said that the Highlight press conference on Monday was a success(<https://www.facebook.com/BTVCITYARTS/videos/655920045431657>). The Public Art committee will be ramping up to create and solidify policies and guidelines in conjunction with 1% for Public Art ordinance and will present them to the board at a future date.
6. Board and Friends Celebration(Lori Rowe)- **This year's celebration will** take place in person at the BCA Center on Church Street. It will be a cocktail hour with no sit down dinner, in the first floor galleries and the back patio. It will take place on December 7<sup>th</sup>, from 5-6:30.
7. Highlight Update(Zach Williamson)-Highlight will be a hybrid happening this year-there will be in-person events and virtual performances. The Bright Idea Project continues-we had over 60 entries, about half of which are being supported.
8. Exhibitions Committee Update(Lisa Lillibridge)-The summer exhibitions at BCA had over 25,000 visitors. There was a full slate of accompanying programming including a concert by the Smittens, workshops with TwoTrees, and several Family Art Saturdays. A new virtual studio tour with artist Renee Greenlee is available. BCA welcomed new staff member Matvey Panov as Gallery Coordinator. Much of gallery education programming has returned to in-person. The Art, Sales, and Leasing program is going well with over \$23K in art sales at one location in Stowe. Private tours of the exhibitions are always available with curator Heather Ferrell.
9. Billi Gosh moved to adjourn, seconded by Mildred Beltre. All were in favor. 4:49pm

BCA's mission is to nurture a dynamic environment through the arts that makes quality experiences accessible regardless of economic, social or physical constraints. We do this by:

- Supporting and promoting Vermont artists and advancing the creation of new work
- Offering a wide spectrum of arts education and engagement opportunities
- Presenting exhibitions and events that place Burlington in a global context, promote critical dialogue and encourage local participation
- Serving as the City of Burlington's cultural planner by making the arts integral to the area's economic and civic development, urban design, and livability.