**ACW Planning Committee Meeting**

Location: Squirrel Haus, 3450 Snelling Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55406 Phone: 612-669-8712

Date: Monday, 2/5/2018

Time: 12-1:30 pm

**MINUTES**

Present: Craig Harris, chair; Jill Waterhouse, secretary (for this meeting), Anne Kleinhenz, Barry Scanlon, Margie Rotondo, Rebecca Ratzlaff and Barbara Bridges (via Internet)

Meeting began late (12:12 pm) to accommodate some late comers, who have yet to arrive.

**Agenda:**

Committee Introductions were made to help us get better acquainted. Chair, Craig Harris asked for a 2 minutes Topics Overview from each participant, so we all know what each other is doing in this project and are clear on our vision.

**Topics Overview:**

**Barbara Bridges**: Her topic is “Recovery.” And her piece will be free standing, to be viewed from 360 degrees. She needs approx. 10 feet. Her piece will be interactive – things will open, cards can be removed to be mailed etc. She prefers a short ceiling from which objects can be hung. She is thinking the area in the main room, where the couches/chairs are currently located.

**Anne Kleinhenz:** Her topic is “Heart Listening” – soul activism as a 1st step to social activism. She would like two wall areas to install two 3D pieces – as she prefers her pieces NOT be hung together. She will be using 8-10 foot ladders with an option to hang items from the ceiling. She would also like to be able to write text onto the wall – confirm that this is allowed with Mike.

(Candy Kuehn and Sandy Gillespie arrived at 12:15 pm)

**Rebecca Ratzlaff:** Her topic is “Look for the Union Label” and her piece deals with labor and unequal wages, outsourcing etc. Her piece is a large quilt, approximately 14 feet x 9 feet. She needs at least a 10 foot ceiling to hang the piece. It has its own rod, so will not need any additional hanging device. She prefers it be hung against a wall, as the back side is not very attractive. FYI – it is brick red in color.

**Candy Kuehn:** Her topic is “The Hypothesis of Multi-Dimensional Physics” and deals with maps of dark energy and brain neurons. Her piece could use Rebecca’s quilt back as a background, if Rebecca is open to that idea. Her piece represents the galaxy: if you live in time as a ball, then these pieces could be danced in. Overall size 14 ft. tall x 12 ft. wide ovoids. They are giant sized gobos. She would like to utilize a Christmas tree colored light wheel to change the lighting on the pieces. She added later that hers includes a GIF movie piece that is both silly and elegant.

**Barry Scanlon**: His topic is “Survival in the Age of Climate Change” and deals with GMSs, Polymet, water quality and global warming. He would like to submit up to 7 or more paintings approximately 20 x 20 inches or 36 x 36 inches. He might have one sculpture – will need a small pedestal/stand for that.

**Margie Rotondo:** She is still debating – she has 4 gun violence pieces, but is also interested in the topics of homelessness and the environment. If she shows the gun violence pieces, she will need pedestals for all.

**Sandy Gillespie:** She feels she is behind. She is not an idea or issue driven artist. The closest of what I think is so lacking, is to find some kind of core not destroyed by what is around us. Her pieces are small – she is currently making paper and books. She said she was worried about whether she fits in our group because she is not issue driven and her scale is intimate. Discussion ensued on this and the committee agreed that work in contrast to the large, idea/issue driven work would be welcomed, and the intimacy of her work would be refreshing.

**Jill Waterhouse:** Topic – this work is an examination/exploration of the changes and challenges – for men & women - embedded in the exploding new paradigm of gender equity and sexual equality as well as in redefining the roles and relationships between men and women. I will need space for two life sized sculptures - one female, one male (The female sculpture is complete, shown in the Women and Money exhibit. I have tentatively changed the title to “We Are So Much More Than This.”) The male piece will be somewhat taller/larger than the female piece. These pieces will have their own pedestals. I also plan to have 1-2 books created for the show that document the development of these pieces on a physical, emotional and intellectual level. I will need some kind of pedestal for these books. (Work approx. 18” H x 10” W x 2” D when closed, larger if displayed open.) I would like to have a wall for text and images behind my piece that reflect the discoveries made in the process of the piece and that document the ongoing discussion and challenges in this changing and dynamic realm. I am still working on my expert voice, as I am not sure which field to select from, but I am exploring the option of multiple expert voices – victim, therapist, sociologist, anthropologist etc. Barbara interjected a concern about paying three voices, Jill indicated she is working with possibility of some volunteering and/or getting her own funding for the additional voices. (Sorry guys, I took no notes while talking, so used my proposal notes!)

**Craig Harris:** He plans to rework his piece “Sensibility” which he performed last September at Open Eye. It is a 1 hour, 10 minute performance. His piece explores human senses and how we make sense of that. His work speaks from two voices, the prophet Elijah combined with his personal narrative from his trips to Palestine. His work examines the effects of continuous PTSD - generations undergoing ongoing stress and the effect of that on societies and people. He hopes for both a performance and an ongoing installation, so that there is not dead space when the performance is inactive. His space could also be a performance space for others. He would also like to build in a discussion component to talk about these issues. Craig added later that he also has straight music he/we could use. Jill suggested we could use it for the opening potentially.

**Maris Gilbert** arrived at 12:35, she had a prior meeting. Maris has a studio at Squirrel Haus in the upper level and is willing to act as a liaison for the group. Her paintings are about water, both here and in Florida. She hopes to combine ideas of water here – the Mississippi down to Florida - how we connect and make people aware around the issue of water. She hopes to have paintings and interactive opportunities, and film possibly – of the mangroves. Her expert voice is Rylee Main, director of the Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance. Here, her main focus is on the Minnesota river and Mississippi river - the eco system of Lake Pepin. She will have approximately 10 paintings, some 5 feet x 4 feet, some could be hung salon style. (NOTE: I had notes that she would need 10-15 feet of space, but “the math” does not work here, by my estimation?)

**Layl McDill** – was not present, but is planning to be in the show. Anne and Jill shared what they know of her work. Layl works in polymer based clay. Most of her pieces are wall works, but some of her recent work has been sculptural and would require pedestals. We need to get clarification from her on what she plans to do – # and size of works, type of work, topic/theme etc.

**Kira Corser** - She has been working with the issue of water – and has large flowing silk pieces. She and **Danielle Ricci**, who is a dancer, might be a perfect partnership. Kira will need a large space – we have discussed the option of her work being back in the loading dock area. (**NOTE:** We need more information on Danielle’s work, unless her survey was accidentally not included here in our listing of artists.)

Anne Kleinhenz indicated to the committee that Kira was not sent a member survey, as Anne didn’t realize she was going to participate. So, Anne will get that off to her as soon as possible.

**Barbara mentioned again that she needs resumes and surveys.** She said that she cannot “chase down” artists’ paperwork, so please get everything in as soon as possible.

(12:50 pm)

**Idea/Concept/Title for the Show:**

Craig summarized this agenda item, asking what do we want for the show? How do we want the title to reflect what we are envisioning. Jill asked for clarification on this, as she thought the title was, What’s Your Issue?” Barbara indicated that her title was a placeholder; we could use it or choose something else as a group. Craig indicated that we would not brainstorm on titles today, but as we go through the process of defining what we are doing, we can work further on the title.

**Fall Event Concept:**

Craig talked about creating a magical experience - multi-dimensional and multi-focus. We want to take them on a journey with the work and the world behind the work: What is this topic and how does it play into the work? Then, how do we work together to make that happen? For example, at least 3 artists are working with water (not including Barbara’s water piece in progress) – how can we capitalize on that and those expert voices – and bring them together to show the depth of the work, as well as the issues and entry points for the audience to engage with these issues.

**Exhibit Design: (These notes were taken walking around, so I did only a few notes)**

We did a walk-through of the space - front/middle/back and loading dock areas - to begin to get a feel for what we have to work with and whose work might go where. NOTE: Maris is part of Squirrel Haus, so Jill asked if she might be willing to utilize her space. Once Maris understood we are using the open space upstairs for a break out area for workshops, she said that might be possible.

**Some relevant notes - Front Space:** Jill felt she could utilize the wall with windows in the front space – she could place her canvas or paper over the windows for the backdrop text and have the sculptures in front, so we would not waste solid wall space for the backdrop. Anne’s pieces will not work in that room, the ceiling is too low, same for a number of other artists.

(Some other notes here were incorporated into the discussion on each artist’s work.)

**Loading Dock Area:** We discussed the need for a lift to set up hanging devices for curtains, art etc. in the loading dock area. Maris said Mike usually rents a lift for this purpose. We need to find out who pays for the lift and what it costs? We would have to rent it twice for set up and take down.

Maris talked about the possibility of fire dancing outside the loading dock – it has been done in the past. Jill thought she might be able to contact the fire dancers on her street to perform.

**(Back to the meeting agenda at the table)**

Craig indicated that we may need a subset of this committee to work through these issues of space utilization and how artists’ artwork will function together. Craig asked, “What kind of journey through the space do we want to create?

Discussion ensued, beginning with what we know: The current plan is to have Tuesday – Friday to set-up the show, with the show opening on Friday night. **NOTE: We would need to hang the curtain hanging devices earlier so those would be ready to go by the time we want to do the show set up.** Jill mentioned she may have a resource in Tom Truax and/or Rebecca Pavlenko, both of whom have worked at the Guthrie and understand rigging and curtains etc.

A second subcommittee would be tasked with the **Presentation/Programming**: What would be the flow and order of presentations? Sandy indicated she might like to have a meditation – if so, when and where.

Barbara reminded the group that she will lead the **Education Committee** that will include Barb Kobe, Layl McDill and Candy Kuehn (all of whom signed up before). Jill said she would be interested in being part of that committee also. We will refine membership of that group soon.

**PR/Marketing** – Jill said she would be part of this, as she has deep experience with PR, but does not want to lead the group. Barbara reminded us that she plans to hire someone, if enough money is raised to do so.

**NOTE: All of the previous notes covered a wide ranging discussion. There was talk of two subcommittees, but it was obvious we were talking about more than that. A final tally was made, with member artists volunteering to serve:**

1. **Exhibition Design and Flow** – Craig, Rebecca, Barry, Maris and Jill
2. **Program/Education** – Barbara, Barb Kobe, Craig, Candy, Layl, Jill
3. **Marketing and PR** – Anne K, Jill W Barbara B. and paid staff (more here may be needed). Jill made note that for PR and Marketing to function well, all artists need to get info to that committee as soon as possible when asked or the PR won’t get out in time. We are already behind.
4. **Hospitality/Opening Reception** – Margie – **more people need to sign up on this committee.**

**Barbara made note here that all applications and expert voices are due on April 1, 2018 - OR YOU ARE NOT IN THE SHOW.**

**Show Timeline:** Craig offered to do a draft of a timeline – to be informed by each of the committees. **Tech Document:** Craig also said we need to assemble a “tech document” – what technology will be needed for the show, workshops etc. – including how to hang and light all of the work. **Craig will start this document.** We all need to forward him our needs and/or what needs we can supply/meet from our personal inventories. **For example:** Candy noted that she has a lot of dyed yardage that could be used as curtains, backdrops or to cover tables etc. to serve as pedestals.

(Mike arrived to answer any questions, Jill had to take an important call, so Craig took notes on lights.)

Lights – bring in. Metro Sound – a source for theater lights. For the exhibition more lights coming – to be installed in conference spaces**. (Craig – let me know if I read your brief notes correctly. Jill)**

We asked Mike about pedestals – there are none. We asked if we got some donated or made would he want to store them. He said no. So, we need to borrow, make, rent or creatively use other surfaces for pedestals.

**NEXT MEETING**: Tentatively set for **Monday February 26th at 12:30 at Craig and Candy’s home, 718 – 6th Street SE, Mpls, MN 55414.** Craig will send out another Doodle to get everyone scheduled.

**Artist List for this Committee**

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| Craig Harris Email: craig@interferencearts.com,  Candy Kuehn Email: candy@kolmon.com,  Barry Scanlan Email: bscanlan39@hotmail.com,  Jill Waterhouse Email: h2o.jill@gmail.com,  Sandy Gillespie Email:sandygillespiestudio@gmail.com,  Anne Kleinhenz Email: akleinhenz@mac.com,  Barbara Bridges Email: drb@bridgescreate.com,  Margie Rotondo Email: mrotondo@q.com,  Rebecca Ratzlaff Email: ilovemymom@mac.com,  Kira Corser Email: kiracorser@gmail.com,  Danielle Ricci Email: danielle.borealisdance@gmail.com,  William Kobe Email: billcoyote@comcast.net,  Maris Gilbert Email: [maris@marisgilbert.com](mailto:maris@marisgilbert.com)  Meeting ended at approximately 1:30 pm.  Minutes submitted by:  Jill Waterhouse,  Secretary (for this meeting) |

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