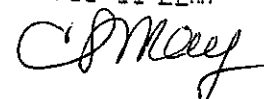


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**MINUTES****Marion Craine Room Gallery Exhibition (MCRGE) Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 20, 2013****Call to Order:**

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order in the Snow Library Trustees Room by Eileen Godin at 10:05 AM on Wednesday, November 20, 2013.

Meeting Attendance:

Committee members present: Megan Fates, Eileen Godin, Marcy Haffner, Amy Heller, Kathy Meyers, Betsy Wagner, and Andree Yager.

Library Staff members present: Snow Library Director Tavi Prugno, Principal-Clerk, Tom Michels

Others present: Barbara Natale, Board of Trustee's representative

Committee Members absent: Florence Adams, Margaret Furness

Public Comment:

It was noted by the committee that activities scheduled in December in the Craine Gallery are cancelled. The room will be used for other library business during floor renovations.

Approval of the Minutes:

After a brief discussion a motion to approve the October 16, 2013 minutes of the Marion Craine Room Gallery Exhibition Committee meeting was carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Financial Report:

Director Tavi Prugno reported that the balance in the MCRGE Fund is currently \$2,305.62, and that there has been no activity since August.

Library Director Report:

Director Prugno addressed a question that came up regarding the painting of the Craine Room. He related that there was no specific budget for it and that if that was desired logistics such a timing, color and funding would have to be discussed at a future meeting. It was noted by Committee Person Heller that it would be desirable to have the painting done before the next December "Deck the Halls" exhibit. Some felt the ceiling did not necessarily need painting and by not doing it perhaps the project would be simpler and more affordable.

The Director reviewed the construction schedule for the floor renovation which would run from November 30th to December 16th, with leeway being allowed for an extension of finish date to December 23rd, if needed.

Next, the Director, at the request of Florence Adams, passed out the 2014/2015 Craine Gallery exhibition schedule. It was noted that nothing was scheduled for January and some fast work was necessary to fill this void. Amy Heller said that next December the "Deck the Halls" exhibit would be returning and it should be put on the schedule.

Director Prugno handed out revised "Guidelines for The Marion Craine Room Gallery Exhibition Committee". Guideline #9 now reads, "The Exhibition Committee may schedule special cultural events in the Marion Craine Room Gallery, as approved by the Director of Snow Library, and may use funds from the revolving Craine Room account for this purpose.

Open Meeting:

- There was a brief discussion concerning the need for the proper clips on the signs to be hung outside under the Snow Library sign. Following this there was a discussion as to the hanging devices and systems used in the gallery. The thought was to make the systems more uniform. Various hanging systems were discussed.

- There was a suggestion made that after the construction the committee might consider having a reception for potential exhibitors as well as for past exhibitors. This could also be seen as an outreach to the community. Unfortunately, because of the uncertainty of the construction schedule this idea had to be tabled. However, it was thought that this might be something the committee would like to do next December during "Deck the Halls"

- The Committee discussed the need for better publicity for future events. While it was recognized that the artists were somewhat responsible for their own publicity, the Craine Committee felt that the shows should be better advertised in a more consistent manner, using local radio and news publications and doing so in cooperation with the Orleans Community Partnership ("OCP"). The need to gather information about news outlets and to start creating broadcast lists such as an email blasts, was discussed. Andrea Reed at the OCP has offered her cooperation and the MCRGE Committee should work closely with her. The desire is to establish a professional and consistent presence. To this end Director Prugno volunteered to set up an Gmail account for the Craine Gallery and would have it ready by next meeting. It was also noted that several local galleries would also cooperate in getting the word out.

- A number of names were briefly discussed that could possibly be ready for January 2014. Among the names were Jack Dickerson and Stephen Roth. Several members agreed to visit several mentioned artists to review their work and to determine whether they had enough work ready to hang at this short notice. Others under consideration include Mary

Dearing, Annie Zendor and Adele Rahte. This will be completed by and discussed at the December meeting. This led to an extensive discussion on what qualified or disqualified an artist from being hung in the gallery. All agreed that the works had to be original and had to meet quality standards.

One contention was that our venue was for "emerging" artists but this could not be fully defined, particularly as to degree. It was felt that an artist that was already hanging in a gallery should not be considered as they were already well represented. However, it was pointed out that a great deal of artists had their own galleries and this should not disqualify an artist. This will be further discussed next meeting. It was recognized that some flexibility would be necessary for January.

-It was suggested that a separate meeting is necessary to better define who can and cannot show at the Craine Gallery. Some felt that certain established artists would be a coup for the Gallery while others felt the Gallery's purpose was to give exposure to "emerging" artists. Members of the committee were asked to do some thinking about this and bring up their ideas at the December meeting.

-Amy Heller brought up an artist that due to age and other special circumstances that might not be able to show much longer and was hoping to ask one of next Summer's artists to move to the following year, on a strictly voluntary basis. After some debate it was decided not to go ahead with this. However, samples of her work were passed around and it was felt that the artist should definitely apply for the following year if circumstance allow.

-Next meeting will be December 18, 2013. **The meeting was adjourned at 11:35am.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Michels", with a stylized, flowing script.

Tom Michels, Principal Clerk, Snow Library

Approved by the Marion Craine Room Gallery Committee on December 18, 2013
