

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THE ARTS GUILD OF OLD FORGE, INC.
Monday, September 8, 2008

President Patty Foley called the Annual Membership Meeting of The Arts Guild of Old Forge to order at 6:04 pm on Monday, September 8, 2008. She thanked everyone for attending.

Patty Foley referred the members to the minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting of 2007 found in their packets. Tracy Marlow requested the meeting be postponed due to the fact that no written notice was sent to the membership as stated in the By Laws. A notice was published in the Adirondack Weekly. That is not what the By Laws state. Debi Ritz moved and Michele deCamp seconded a motion to continue with the Annual Meeting. The motion was carried. Bill Ransom suggested that the minutes of the previous year's Annual Meeting be available to the membership before the current Annual Meeting for review. Minutes certainly can be made available in print at the Arts Center and on the website in the future.

The minutes of the 2007 Annual Membership Meeting were approved by a motion made by Debi Ritz and seconded by Michele deCamp.

Patty Foley introduced members of the staff that were present at the meeting and acknowledged Mirnie Kashiwa, Shirley Lindsay and Liz Martin as Emeriti.

Patty presented the following slate of officers: President-Patty Foley, Immediate Past President-Gary Lee, Vice President-Michele deCamp, Treasurer-Deborah Ritz and Secretary-Joan Spring. No other nominations were offered. The slate of officers were elected as presented.

Patty Foley thanked board member Helene McAleese for her years of service and presented her with an ANEAW poster.

Patty reviewed the Annual Report touching upon the following topics: Gallery/Exhibitions, Benefit Events, Performances and Children's Programming. She invited the audience to read at length from the report.

Debbie Jones and Mirnie Kashiwa invited the crowd to tour the new building. Upon returning to their seats, Patty reported on the new building project. She commented on the grants from federal sources, the pending grants from private institutions, the status of pledges, the Robert Hazard Memorial donations and the auditor's report. Mirnie Kashiwa updated the membership on CAASA (Central Adirondack Arts and Science Advocacy). Anticipating many questions on the new building financial situation and the building status, the board distributed index cards to the members in attendance hoping to allow for as much information to be dispersed and clarified in a timely fashion. Patty addressed the questions that were submitted with assistance from Debbie Jones and Debi Ritz. The loan, interest on the loan, the whole financial picture, bridging the gap between the construction work that is needed to be done before obtaining a certificate of occupancy to finishing the project was discussed. Deb Carhart kindly suggested that the communication between the Art Center and the entire community needs to be improved and reminded the Board that the community is a stakeholder, even if they do not belong to the Art Center or donate to the project. Because the Art Center has accepted some federal funds, the taxpayers (community) are constituents. The Board needs to thank them and let them know their support is valued. Further discussion continued on how to improve the way we inform the community and to expand on the information that is shared. The discussion returned to the financial picture once again. An explanation of the 6 million that we have "spent" and a "sources and uses" profile were suggested. Linda Cohen stated that the Arts Guild is a 501C3 non-profit and that all of our financial statements and information is to be available to everyone. The last word was that we need to volunteer information and get it out to the community. We appear

not to be transparent and that is where the rumors begin to grow.

Patty thanked everyone for coming and giving the Board some valuable feedback.

Ed Stafford moved to adjourn the Annual Membership Meeting. Bryan Fairbrother seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Spring, Secretary