

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - THE VANCOUVER LIFE DRAWING SOCIETY

7 May 2024 / 6:00-8:00 PM / At the studio, 1011 Main St.

ATTENDEES:

Chair: Kevin Hartwig

Attending: Killian O'reilly, Lindsay Towns, Bryce Baril

Guests:

STANDING ITEMS:

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00pm
2. Adoption of agenda: Adopted
3. **Financial report:** Despite low attendance, we are doing better financially this year compared to the same time last year. Dave is preparing a financial operations manual for the next Treasurer.
4. **Secretary's Report:** Posters were created for the AGM; due to a scheduling error, the AGM will be pushed back to June 15th. Members, keep an eye out for an invitation via email!

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Gallery report:**
 - a. We are currently hosting *The Digital Art Invasion*, a show dedicated to Basic's animators, digital illustrators, FX artists, game devs, and anyone who uses software to create art! The gallery will be open every Saturday through the month of May and June from 2-4pm. **An opening reception will be held on Saturday, May 25th at 6pm.**
2. **(5 min) Progress report: Robostrar Replacement**

- a. Sarah is currently away, so we will plan an online meeting date/time for the Robostrar Committee to compare Bookwhen and Mindbody.
3. **(10 min, Sarah)** Progress report: **New Website**
- a. The new website has been launched as of mid-April! If you encounter a bug or broken link, please inform us at board@lifedrawing.org
4. **(10 min)** Proposal for discussion, amendment, vote: **AGM Planning**
- a. The AGM date has been moved to **June 15th** so the board can prepare materials to send out with member invitations. Keep an eye on your email!
 - b. Lindsay will be handling refreshments. No alcohol will be served for simplicity's sake.
 - c. To do:
 - i. President's Report (Kevin)
 - ii. AGM invite for membership email, including attachments (Lindsay)
 - iii. Updated posters/ digital posts for in-studio and social media (Lindsay)
 - iv. Robostrar notice banner (Nick)
5. **(5 min, Bryce)** Progress report: **Easel Replacement**
- a. On hold after no success finding a supplier/carpenter. To be resumed soon.
6. **(5 min, Bryce)** Progress report: **Model Privacy**
- a. Sean has been notified and will be purchasing and installing a privacy film to the window when he returns to BC.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **(15 min, Lindsay)** Proposal for discussion, amendment, vote: **Low Attendance**
- a. Nick presented some Robostrar data to the board indicating low attendance for Q1, traditionally a good time of year for attendance.
 - b. The board observed that low attendance may be due to the rising popularity of “social” drawing events around town.
 - c. All present agreed that we should lean into our strengths, such as: regular sessions, great lighting, ample seating, easels, and facilities conducive to painting.

- d. We also identified some potential routes for advertising, such as:
 - i. Posting flyers at local art schools, art supply stores, coffee shops, UBC, and along Commercial Drive.
 - ii. Negotiating bulk orders with local animation studios once we have our new registration system in place
 - iii. Proposing a sponsorship with an art supplies store, such as Opus or Rath
 - iv. A large poster on our own studio window indicating what we are more clearly to passer-by
- e. This discussion also sparked ideas for future events and collaborations such as drink n' draw type socials, professional mixers, or short term rental of the space to fellow relevant non-profits.

2. **(15 min, Lindsay)** Proposal for discussion, amendment, vote: **Eastside Culture Crawl**

- a. Bryce proposed asking artists to pay their own fee, and BI will provide the facilities for the duration of the event. All present voted in favor. Killian will be drafting a message to members to garner interest.
- b. The entry fee is 205 + GST, and the submission deadline is June 15th.

3. **(10 min)** Proposal for discussion, amendment, vote: **Potential New Session Manager**

- a. Andrew Wu has expressed interest in becoming a session manager. He has experience teaching classes with young kids and is first aid certified.
- b. It was generally accepted that we don't have enough traffic currently to warrant another session, but if we did, it should be a gesture session. Lindsay will add him as backup session manager and has asked him to consider running as a board member.

4. **(15 min, Bryce)** Proposal for discussion, amendment, vote: **Long Pose Series**

- a. Ron is planning a special long pose series that will run weekends from May 18th - June 8th. Artists will sit semicircle around the model, who will be in front of a drapery backdrop. A drapery will be about \$90 and funded by Basic for future use.
- b. The board approved of the sessions and the drapery; Nick has been asked to add the series to Robostrar with limited seating. Attendees are asked to attend a minimum of 5 sessions.

5. (10 min, Bryce) Proposal for discussion, amendment, vote: Purchase of a Spotlight

- a. Initially intended for the long pose series above, Bryce pointed out that a spotlight would open up more opportunities to draw the model off-stage as needed and would be a fine alternative to the current lighting setup, whose lights are getting difficult to replace.
- b. A spotlight and rig/clamps to integrate with the current lighting system will be about \$700.
- c. All in attendance voted in favor after Bryce made his point.

6. (5 min, Lindsay) Proposal for discussion, amendment, vote: Laundry Budget

- a. Kat has requested a monthly budget for washing Basic's laundry, primarily sheets used on the stand. In the interim Lindsay has asked her to do the laundry at her building's facilities or a laundromat and ask Jaime directly for reimbursement.
- b. The board determined that reimbursement is the most efficient way to handle this expense.

NOTES:

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Kevin: Check in with Sean regarding purchasing/installing thin boards to divide some of the cubbies as previously discussed.
2. Kevin: Write President's Report for the AGM
3. Bryce: Continue the hunt for good easels.
4. Dave: Confirm with Ron to see if he is still interested in the Treasurer position.
5. Lindsay: Update/ create and post signage for AGM and Digital Show by May 11th.
6. Killian: Contact proposed Culture Crawl artists for their interest and commitment.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 pm