

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - THE VANCOUVER LIFE DRAWING SOCIETY

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

ATTENDEES:

Chair: Lindsay Towns

Attending: Kevin Hartwig, Bryce Baril, David Johnson (via Video call)

Guests:

STANDING ITEMS:

1. Meeting called to order: 6:00pm
2. Adoption of agenda: Adopted
3. **Financial report (Bryce):** Bryce prepared a graph to chart to visually display attendance patterns. Almost broke even for this month. Recently, ticket packs seem especially popular.
4. **Secretary's Report:** Social Media Coordinator Cheree has been creating weekly Instagram calendar posts to increase visibility, and has started a monthly newsletter. Sarah and Lindsay oversee her work and provide topics.
 - a. **ELP #3**
 - i. Ron has led the third in the ELP series.
 - ii. Board agrees that refining ELP formats (especially payment methods and price per session) before the next one is proposed will be necessary.
 - iii. May need to move away from Square in order to get analytics.
 - b. **Second Studio Cleaner Volunteer**
 - i. Sent email advertising for cleaner position. Several people responded and Will was chosen as he asked first and also was vouched for by Cyprian.

Will and Kat will coordinate the cleaning duties between themselves so the studio is cleaned 1x per week.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Paying Models GST Update (Lindsay)

- a. Lindsay confirmed with Jaime that eligible models would invoice Basic once annually, at the end of the year when other tax documents are sent out.
- b. Next steps: Meeting with Emmalena and Che to determine how best to determine eligibility.

2. Culture Crawl Update (Lindsay)

- a. Lindsay needs to meet with the ESCC 2024 artists and order the sandwich board; she will look into deadlines for demos/ workshops.

3. Robostrar Replacement Update (David)

- a. David has met with Square to determine if it is a good fit. However, their model may not work for us after all, especially regarding session manager changes on the fly. Their support team has been notably lacking as well.

4. Easel Replacement Project Update (Bryce)

- a. No progress this month

5. Special Event Board Update (Kevin)

- a. Killian and Veronika have proposed doing a duo session together; Kevin will meet with them to determine a good time; possibly during an existing session. Needs posters made.

6. License change with COV (Lindsay)

- a. Lindsay went to City Hall to inquire about license changes. She submitted a floor plan and operations letter detailing the number of expected students/etc. Latest update: At their request, Lindsay submitted an updated operational letter after being told that if we stay primarily retail, we may not need additional Instructional certification.

7. Marketing initiatives (David, Christian)

- a. David contacted 33 Acres Brewing and they agreed to offer promotional beverages for openings. Price TBD.

8. Potential New Space (Christian) (Tabled)

a.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Revised Code of Conduct

- a. Due to an attendee's violation of the no photography policy and subsequent banning, Ron has revised the current code of conduct to clearly state the studio's policies.
- b. Once policy is adopted it will be printed and posted in the studio, and posted on the website.
- c. Board agrees that rules surrounding models could be consolidated, and we should focus on hard and fast rules. Lindsay suggests taking this set of rules and consolidating it for a quick read in-studio, as well as altering the formal code of conduct currently posted on the website, to reference when issues arise.
- d. David pointed out that in a recent session, the model wanted to make conversation with the artists during posing and that non-problematic behavior like this doesn't need a hard rule ie; "no talking".

2. Possible new Special Session: Critiques

- a. Member Paige Axelrod proposed starting a formal critique session, and suggested contacts in the arts community whose skill would warrant a paid, professional critique.
- b. Board suggests having a public group critique session, and that something paid/formal may not be necessary. Lindsay wonders how we can get a pulse on our membership for interest.

3. Federation of Canadian Artists collaboration (Tabled)

- a. Paige also brought up the suggestion of collaborating with the Federation of Canadian Artists in order to increase Basic's visibility in the Vancouver arts sphere.
- b. We need to read up on what the Federation offers and what we can offer them in exchange. Board agrees that there are other higher priority items for this month; tabled for now.

4. Animation Studio private booking request

- a. A local animation studio contacted us requesting rates for renting the studio for a private session for their staff, as they lack a dedicated life drawing space.
- b. Majority vote against renting the space exclusively for private use.
 - i. David recommends asking studio to give their workers a stipend for training purposes and asking each artist to sign up individually OR creating a complete package (ie, paid in full regardless of attendance) so that it can be private.
 - ii. Many volunteers are of the opinion that they do not want to volunteer for the benefit of a corporate body. Membership always takes priority.
 - iii. In the past, studios bought ticket packs and distributed them to workers, which has the added benefit of working artists mingling with hobbyists and beginners.

5. Session Manager/ Model Contact

- a. Mandy and Ann suggested having session manager phone numbers available to models on Robobooker in case they are running late or have other issues.
Currently the only contact they have is the Registrar.
 - i. Bryce noted that having the model call the studio phone would be the ideal solution.

- b. They also asked to have a parking fob on-site to allow the model a parking space if they drive, especially for busy days when the street is parked up; the session manager would access the fob and allow entry to the model.
 - i. All in favor of having a fob at the studio. Parking spots will be prioritized for the session manager and model.

6. Google Maps Listing Updates

- a. Nick is concerned that putting hours of sessions on GMaps will encourage walk-ins.
 - i. Board agrees that session managers can attempt to encourage walk-ins to register on the spot so long as seats are available.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00pm