



**Minutes of Lexington Arts and
Crafts Society, Inc. Annual Meeting
May 23rd, 2023
7:15pm
130 Waltham Street, Lexington,MA**

The 2023 Annual Meeting of the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society was called to order at 7:15pm by Wayne Davis, Chair of the Board. The meeting was conducted in person at LexArt, and via videoconference.

The following members, including members of the board (with *) attended the meeting:

Matthew Siegal (President and Executive Director)*, Wayne Davis (Chairman)*, Rachel Rosenblum*, Linda Langdon, Terumi Irizawa, Katina Leodas, Nicole Mordecai*, Nancy Cornelius*, Laurie Lloyd, Jessie Chen*, Louise Hara*, Eric Mattison, Cassandra Goldwater*, Sharon, Wilma Ward, Alison Lauriat*, Jerik Tornheim, Bobbi Tornheim, Ruth Vanmeirlo, Monique, Liz Check, Carol Baran, Cynthia Samuelson, Judith Monson, Laurie Krigman, Paula Soloman, Janet Wisniewski, Vivian Li, Mary Mcdonald, Patricia Dranoff, Diane Wright, Noelle Khattab, Hannah Wolfe (Clerk), and Chase Jones.

1. Approval of the 2022 Annual Meeting minutes. Cassandra Goldwater moved the minutes from the 2023 meeting be adopted, as amended. Seconded by Judy Monson. Thereafter, it was:

VOTED: That the membership hereby approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held May 23rd, 2022. The motion was adopted unanimously.

2. Volunteer of the Year. Wayne Davis announced that this year's honoree is Roberta Norin. Roberta has generously donated her time and technological skills into helping create and maintain the current Lexington Arts and Crafts Society (LexArt) website.
3. Treasurer's Report. Wayne Davis summarized the Treasurer's Report in the absence of Treasurer Mike Lawson and answered questions about the report from those in

attendance at the meeting. Some highlights of the summary is that LexArt's consolidated account balance is one million eighty three dollars, LexArt has an endowment of around \$400,000 dollars as of last June, and a third party engineer generated a list of needed capital items that should be replaced in the next 5 years. The repairs will take at least ten years to complete and the cost of the repairs exceeds a million dollars.

Overall, Wayne noted that although on one level the finances look good, the finances depend largely on LexArt's development efforts and everyone needs to pay more attention to development going forward. He mentioned that the bulk of LexArt's development is coming from very few donors and we need to broaden our donor base and bring in more people who believe in LexArt's mission as a community arts center.

During the discussion with meeting attendees on development in particular, it was noted by Matthew Siegal that in an ideal scenario grants would make up around 15-20 percent of total contributions. Wayne also announced that the Legacy Society is being revived, and it will be more formally relaunched in late summer or early fall. Louise Hara moved, with a second by Alison Lauriat, that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Thereafter it was:

VOTED: That the membership hereby accept the Treasurer's Report of the Annual Meeting held May 23rd, 2023.

The motion was adopted unanimously.

4. Year in Review & Executive Directors Report. Matthew started his report by discussing the craft leadership forum by the Society of Arts and Crafts that LexArt was invited to. He noted that all the organizations at the forum faced the same challenges as LexArt and were all also in transition. He noted that LexArt will face its challenges with the new operating model and a search for sustainability for the organization by expanding its donor and membership base and studio user base, while accepting the limitations of the facility. Matthew thanked all the members past and present for keeping the studios running, but stated that going forward professional studio managers will run the studios, so members do not need to act as administrators. He also thanked those in attendance at the Annual Meeting who participated in the meetings discussing the new membership model.

With respect to the finances, Matthew noted that LexArt is revenue heavy up front and expense heavy in the back. He indicated that LexArt will move to real time accounting instead of cash accounting going forward, and the budget reports will be easier to read.

Matthew also reported many successes from the past year including, but not limited to, the Holiday Marketplace Refresh, completing the drainage study on the northern side of the building and scheduling repairs, the gallery shows that provided exhibition space to other organizations who needed it, off-site shows, the newly expanded education program, being awarded a cultural district designation, offering and awarding numerous

scholarships both new and ongoing, donating a thousand dollars to the “Something Must Be Done” monument, ceramics members raising \$50,000 for “Soup Bowls for Hunger,” the annual charity projects from woodworking members, and charitable raffle participation for other organizations. Matthew noted that supporting other arts and cultural organizations is extremely important for LexArt.

Lastly, Matthew reported that an estimated \$40,000 will be spent for new and additional studio manager hours with the new operating model, (and next year’s budget will be presented at the next Board meeting). Also, with the new model, members can sign up for 12 months on an annual basis for a discounted rate, or they can sign up quarterly.

5. Election of Directors. Wayne Davis, Nicole Mordecai, Crystal Ribich, and Rachel Rosenblum comprised the slate of nominations to Directors. Cassandra Goldwater moved, and Alison Lauriat seconded, that the slate of Directors be accepted. Thereafter it was:

VOTED: That the members hereby elect Wayne Davis, Nicole Mordecai, Crystal Ribich, and Rachel Rosenblum to the Board of Directors.

The motion was adopted by both the votes in the room and proxy totals: Wayne Davis (110), Nicole Mordecai (126), Crystal Ribich (119), and Rachel Rosenblum (120).

After the slate was elected, Wayne Davis extended a thank you to former Board Members Jennifer Bergantino and Louise Hara for all their hard work over the past several years.

8:34 pm Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Wolfe, Clerk