

Art Guild of Orange Park Board Meeting

October 28, 2024, 9:30 AM– 11:30 AM, Grumpy's Restaurant, Orange Park

Beth called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

Present were Debbie Cusick, Nancy Page, Kathy Plante, Rhona Scoville, Edie Dozsa, Beth Haizlip, Linda Hawkins, and Andrea Sibilla.

Review of Art Gone Wild Gala

Addressing Phyl's questions:

Venue: Inside or outside? Unanimous choice of indoors. Lighting and weather were difficult.

Formal or informal attire? People seem to like dressing for a theme: Italian, glamor, safari.

Props/signage - People liked taking pictures with the props. Maybe use fewer, get volunteers to help with moving and set-up. Signage on tents was good but needed to be bigger and higher up.

Sponsors - The VIP room at Azaleanna was successful but not at the Safari. Suggestions of asking sponsors if they plan to attend, drinks and a server available so VIPs don't have to get in the drinks line, gifts for VIPs. Check Clay Calendar for conflicting events, let a restaurant do the drinks.

Chair Reports

Drinks - Let a restaurant handle drinks. Lines were long. Cashier problems. Suggested having drinks closer to the entrance.

Parking - Off-site parking had challenges.

Food - Excellent and authentic. Need more vegetarian options.

Tents - were a success.

Registration - Passports were not as effective as hoped. People didn't really look at them and didn't understand why they were getting them stamped. The tickets should be on paper that is easy to write on and doesn't smear. Suggested that the tickets be numbered to keep better track of them.

Art Demos and caricatures - Both were popular. Some people are afraid to try painting.

Art Sales - Seven pieces sold. People who showed up with their paintings without pre-registering them caused a lot of work and frustration.

Small Art - Over \$1100 in sales. Bottles and jewelry didn't sell as well as hoped. Sell leftovers at the Zoo's Art in the Garden?

Silent auction - Very successful. Next year, advertise vacation trips/details ahead of time. People liked the Glamping tent but no one bid on the Glamping Silent Auction.

Dessert - delicious! But way too much left over.

Parting gifts - very popular.

Talks - everyone loved them. Having our scholarship winner was a great idea.

Music - A+

PR - Print more posters to put around town. People won't print them from the website.

Photography - Way too much money for what we got. No one knows how to access the photos. When asked, the photographer didn't know how we'd get the photos. Photographer left early. Next year, use a member to take photos.

Next year's gala: Hilltop? Other restaurants or hotels? St. Catherine's? Sacred Heart in Fleming Island? Best Bet (former dog track)?

Also discussed: Interviewing applicants for the Consultant position. Need to set a date for interviews.

November 4 General meeting: Board members bring hospitality items. Raffle/silent auction items. Plein Air program.

There is a concern about the Dec. meeting being right after Thanksgiving. Should we try to do the following Monday? No one has rsvp'd to Beth. Nancy is going to do a 50/50 raffle; however if anyone brings something for the silent auction we can have a few. Only 2 people signed up for tables. Beth needs to check with Kay to see if she can help. Need tablecloths for tables to serve food.

Meeting adjourned at 11:37AM.

Next board meeting will be held on Monday, November 25, 2025 at Grumpy's Restaurant

Up-coming events: February 7 or 8 - Wine-tasting with garden club(s).

May 11 & 12 - Zoo Art in the Garden

May 16 & 17 - Art studio tours