

# SANDPIPER ART GALLERY & GIFTS MEETING MINUTES

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Date: February 19, 2026

Time: 10:00 am

Meeting called to order by: Sue Arneson

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## IN ATTENDANCE

Sue Arneson, Candyce Brevik, Wendy Curtis, Belle Edulan, Vicky Poole, Charlie Fudge, Cheri Browne, Karri Gill, Judy Wright, Carolyn Schoening, and Andrea Johnson (by phone)

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 2025/January 2026 board meeting minutes were read and approved.

## TREASURE REPORT

Profit and Loss statement for 2025 was presented along with a projected budget for 2026. All operating expenses have risen with the exception of rent, which has been stable for a number of years. Suggestion is made for putting together a five-year plan for the gallery. Next month, Zen Perry will be speaking to the board regarding grants. A suggestion has been made to form a committee of people to try to increase the income for the gallery, this was tabled until after Zen's presentation.

## Gallery Director – Carolyn Schoening

- The organization of the back room looks excellent.
- Kat Collins will be sending out the monthly Bulletin. The bulletin will be sent out by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. Dee Dee will be advising and teaching the use of Mail Chimp.
- 2026 Gallery Shows Brochure has been printed. Thanks Dee Dee.
- Appetizers that are brought into the gallery for show receptions can be brought in on disposable plates.
- Requests were made for servers and members working on reception nights to dress up.
- Goal is to make the receptions more of a community event.
- The first reception of the year had a great turnout. Attendance was 125+
- Photographer(s) are requested to attend the receptions to help with social media presence. If interested, reach out to Carolyn.
- Carolyn requests that if you need to reach her, please do so by calling or email.

### **Gift shop Director –Belle Edulan**

- Suggestion is made to take Brochures out to local businesses, hotels, library. Susan Evans has helped in the past with taking brochures around. Belle will reach out to her.
- Fundraiser Proposal is in the works. CREATE, SUSTAIN AND GIVE for reception nights.
- A subcommittee has been formed to explore this idea. Meeting is to be held on Monday February 23 at noon.
- Belle will send out an email for specific art for Holiday days – next will be St Patrick's day.

### **Festival Director – Vicky Poole**

- Dates are set for the festivals for 2026.
- FLFA will be on July 18 and 19, the Courthouse Festival August 8
- Applications for both festivals must be submitted online only.
- 50 post cards have been printed to hand out to possible festival applicants. They can use the card to go to the website to apply or to contact Vicky, she will help them register.
- At this time FLFA is 1/3 full. The Courthouse is 1/8 full. Great start to the year.
- Judiee Goodman has been organizing signup for festival workers.
- Any questions can be addressed directly to Vicky.

### **Membership – Sue Arneson for Marge Christensen**

- New member training began in February 2026.
- We have six new members and four more interested in joining.
- Marge is working on collecting responses for the volunteer activities required this year.

### **Website/Social Media –Sue Arneson for Dee Dee Barbour**

- Positions are still open for Website management and Social Media.
- Vicky Poole is in charge of Print Materials.

### **Scholarships – Sue Arneson for Donna Kotyk**

- Scholarship application has been updated on the SAGG website.
- Reminders have been sent out to the schools and art teachers.
- Dee Dee has the newspaper announcement done.

### **Workshop Coordinator – Judy Wright**

- Workshops are being set up for 2026. Currently there are five on the schedule.
- If you are interested in teaching a class reach out to Judy.
- The goal is to have three months of workshops on the website.

### **R & D Committee – Sue Arneson**

- Monthly "Let's Talk Art" presentation talks will start again in April of 2026.
- Dee Dee will order *Art Talk Tonight* sandwich boards for art talk nights.
- "Let's Make Art" Week has been scheduled for June 8 through June 13, 2026.
- 5 murals are in progress. Gift bags for artists/painters. A scavenger hunt is being developed. Chalk art for kids, Small art in the crevices and cracks, food trucks, music.
- If you are interested in helping let Natalie know.
- Discussion was held regarding Art4Polson. Conclusion that Art4Polson should still be featured in the gallery and not treated as a separate project but as a collaborated project.

## President – Sue Arneson

- Policies regarding Artwork Authenticity Policy and AI Use Policy were read and approved as written.
- Fabric/Quilt policy was reviewed and approved as written.
- Art Talks Policy was reviewed and approved as written.
- Discussion was held regarding nude paintings in the gallery. Montana state guidelines were reviewed. A policy will be written and presented at the next board meeting.
- Zen Perry will present a Grant presentation at next month's meeting.
- Discussion will be held regarding future gallery expansion and activities.

**New Business:** Charlie introduced the idea of having a float in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. It is the 250 anniversary of this country and should be celebrated. Andrea has a truck and trailer that could be used for the float. Members will be asked if they are interested in participating in this suggestion. Further discussion will be held next month.

Next meeting will be held on March 19, 2026, at 10:00  
Meeting was adjourned at 12:12.