

Nordic 5 Arts

Minutes from the Meeting of 5-9-09, 10AM-12:30PM

We met at the home of Maj-Britt Moberand. Present were Helene Sobol, Marc Ellen Hamel, Russell Herrman, Debra Jewell, Norma Fox, Maj-Britt Moberand., Lotte Dyhrberg, Maj-Britt Hilstrom, Diane Rusnak, Ellen Faris, Pam Fingado, Loren Rehbock, Pat Bengtson, Kati Casida, Olivia Eielson, Colette Crutcher, and Barbara Stevens Strauss. Betty Pillsbury arrived a few minutes before the end.

Helene opened the meeting and welcomed everybody, including Marc Ellen Hamel, a new member, and Kirsti Bellows, a guest of Diane Rusnak who may be interested in becoming a member. The artists introduced themselves.

EXHIBITIONS

Nordic Moods at the **Norwegian Seamen's Church** - Curated by Helene Sobol and Colette Crutcher, the show included 9 artists. It was officially opened by Consul General of Norway Sten Arne Rosnes and Colette reported that the Opening Reception was very well attended. As a result of PR by the Seamen's Church, Helene reported that she received an email from the Scandinavian Cultural Center at the Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, WA, where they expressed an interest in a future exhibition by our group.

Nordic Contemporary Arts at the **Fingado Art Gallery**, included 12 artists and Pam reported that it was well visited and liked, but there were few sales which she attributed to the economy.

Upcoming show: *Going North*, Contra Costa College, Aug. 14 – Oct. 30

Curator Pat Bengtson and Co-curator Maj-Britt Hilstrom worked with juror Claudia Chapline who selected 24 artists. The exhibition catalog designed by Helene was passed around for proofing. One copy will be given to each artist and Helene will take additional orders from the artists who wish to take advantage of the bulk order discount. We will have some on hand for sale at the opening reception. Individual orders will also be available at www.blurb.com.

The following members offered to volunteer with the show:

Wall prep, Aug 11: Loren

Receiving, Aug 12, 11AM-2PM: Pat and Maj-Britt. If you can't make it, please arrange for someone else to deliver your work.

Installation, Aug 13: Loren, Colette, Marc Ellen.

Reception, Aug 27, 5-8: Each exhibiting artist is requested to bring a bottle of white wine and a snack, and come a little early to help set up. John Casida will serve the wine. Two brief talks on Scandinavian writers will be given in the back room by Elizabeth Stokkebye and Colette Crutcher as part of the reception.

Pat will get info about parking. This and directions will be emailed to membership.

Announcement card: Helene will create the announcement with the same work by Maj-Britt Moberand as on the book cover. 1000 will be printed. She will also prepare an email announcement.

COMMITTEES

Nominating Committee: Pam said that she, Jason and Elizabeth reached out to the members, but that they had no success finding a new Coordinator. She stated that she herself may be available to take over as Coordinator next year.

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Secretary: Colette is the new Secretary and started taking minutes at the meeting.

Newsbrief: Lotte will write features for the newsletter. Other input welcomed. It was decided to continue sending the newsletter out in paper form to those who prefer that. Let Helene know if you would rather receive it online. The Newsbriefs are posted on the Nordic 5 Arts web site.

Membership Committee: Norma and Pat will continue; Diane will replace Helene.

Exhibitions Committee: Helene said that Jason Englund, who was not present, had indicated an interest in this committee. Ellen Faris will join him and suggestions are welcomed from the membership. (After the meeting, Helene confirmed with Jason that he is willing to serve and Pat will also join them on this committee.)

Diane Rusnak offered to work on a potential show at the Scandinavian Cultural Center in Tacoma, WA. Marc Ellen goes frequently to Seattle and will contact the Nordic Heritage Museum there.

Website: \$50 for new postings and \$25 to update your page with new images and info. Email new postings and updates to Helene, hfs@helenesobol.com. Check made out to Nordic 5 Arts.

Treasurer: Maj-Britt Moberand reported that we have \$1,083.79 in the account. We will order *Going North* catalogs to have for sale at the opening reception and to use for PR purposes, including applications to future exhibition venues.

New committees to be filled in the future: Program Committee to plan activities for future meetings and PR Committee. Please contact Helene if you are interested in these committees.

After the pot luck brunch, when the members had a chance to visit with each other, each artist shared their latest work and projects.

The meeting ended with a visit to Maj-Britt Moberand's weaving studio.

Respectfully submitted,
Colette Crutcher