

Minutes
ARTS Anonymous Board of Trustees meeting
May 13, 2023

Meeting: Called to order: 7:03 pm ET.

Present: Allegra B., Cindyann W., Jay M., Matt B., Pat Q., Vickie D.

Read: The Serenity Prayer, Tradition 9, and Concept 9.

Check-In: Members checked in for 30 seconds.

Consent Agenda Items

Motion: To accept the April 8, 2023 Board meeting minutes. Allegra 1st, Pat Q. 2nd. Unanimously passed.

Motion: To authorize Allegra B., the Board Chair and CEO of A.R.T.S. Anonymous, as the Master Administrator for A.R.T.S. Anonymous' Intuit account. Allegra 1st, Matt 2nd. Unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report

Management Report 2021 (Revised May, 2023)

Total Income: \$ 31,560.10
Total Expenses: \$ 31,184.17
Net Income: \$ 375.93

Management Report 2022 (Revised May, 2023)

Total Income: \$ 24,841.79
Total Expenses: \$ 23,181.65
Net Income: \$ 1,660.14

Bank Statements:

Beginning of the month April 1, 2023

Checking balance: \$6,770.36
Savings balance: \$1,001.86
Total balance: \$7,772.22

End of the month April 28, 2023

Checking balance: \$7,567.66
Savings balance: \$1,001.87
Total balance: \$8,569.53

April 2023 Profit and Loss

Income: \$1,585.42
Expenses: \$ 788.12
Income/Expense Difference: \$ 797.30

January 2023 through March 2023 Profit and Loss (4/28/230)

Income: \$4,723.69
Expenses: \$5,496.93
Income/Expense Difference: \$ -773.24

Motion: To accept the treasury report. Pat Q.1st, Vickie D. 2nd. Unanimously passed.

Conference Planning Committee Report

Chair of Planning Committee (Matt B) reported:

The Pre-Conference met for a second time this year for the April Pre-Conference, there were a few significant motions passed. (See below for full details)

There was an amendment of the dates (So there was one last Friday in the U.S) and that an increase to the number of hours on the second day. (From 5 to 6), with an hour break in the middle of each day for fun stuff. Daily start times tabled for the June Pre-Conference.

In response to the issue regarding handling of amendments in the Community Problem Solving Method a Conference Sub-committee was formed consisting of Jay, Paul & Vickie who will bring a proposal to the June Pre-Conference.

The Conference Planning Committee met on the first Saturday in May to discuss possible agenda items to present to the June Agenda setting meeting, notably one was to form a 'skeleton' draft for the Conference consisting of essential agenda items e. g. Orientation and Committee Reports. Members present were interested in helping draft such a draft agenda so the Conference Planning Sub Committee known as the Skeleton Crew was formed. This Sub-Committee met and drafted a draft skeleton agenda. This will be presented to the June Agenda Setting meeting and ultimately placed on the agenda the June Pre-Conference.

I will be drafting a flyer in the next few days to promote the submitting of motions and topics as the deadline is six weeks away. This flyer will be sent to the fellowship next week some time. Our annual Recruitment flyer for the Administration and the Registration Teams will be sent out by the end of the month.

Conference Planning Committee Motions:

Motion: *To move the one day of the Conference currently scheduled on Friday, October 20th to Saturday, October 21st. Allegra 1st, Vickie 2nd. Passed.*

Motion: *To hold the Conference to conduct business for six hours on one Saturday, and the other two days for 5 hours each. The time allotted for all Conference days includes two 15-min breaks, and a 1-hour break for fun stuff. Matt 1st, Abby 2nd. Passed.*

Motion: *Table the start times. Allegra 1st, Jay 2nd. Passed.*

Motion: *To hold the Birthday Celebration on Saturday, November 4th, for 3-hours, and we schedule the Convention for the spring of 2024. Allegra 1st, Abby 2nd. Passed.*

Community Solving Method – possible amendments depending on concerns, such as amount of discussion, and how amendments are handled, etc.

Motion: *To table the discussion on the amendment idea to a presented motion on the conference floor. Cindyann 1st, Matt 2nd. 7-Yes. 2-No. Minority heard. Passed.*

Motion: *To approve the Conference Planning Committee Report. Matt. 1st, Allegra B. 2nd. 5-yes, 1-abstention. Passed.*

Operations report (See Below)

Motion: *To contract with Craig to make adjustments to the PayPal options. Jay 1st, Allegra 2nd. Unanimously passed.*

Old Business

ARTS text and website Landing/About ARTS pages

Action: Allegra to find out more if a Landing or Home Page requires specific code, and consider contracting Craig.

Action: Consider using the Newsletter to solicit suggestions from graphic artists who are members of arts.

Action: Jay M. to solicit members of the website committee who are interested in submitting ideas for a new home page.

Motion: For the ad hoc committee to send to the Trustees the text for both landing pages, for Trustees to respond with revision suggestions to ready for a consent agenda item. Pat Q. 1st, Cindyann W. 2nd. 5-yes, 1- abstention. Passed.

Motion: To announce in the October the Newsletter an invitation to join a “Welcome to A.R.T.S. Anonymous Team”: on how we greet and welcome the newcomer, and support their attendance to A.R.T.S. Anonymous. Matt will be the contact person with alias email. Matt B. 1st, Jay M. 2nd. Unanimously passed.

New Business

Motion that the Board approve this revised version of the original 1993 version of *Facing Avoidance* and forward it to the Conference for Approval. Allegra B. 1st Matt B. 2nd. Unanimously passed.

Motion: Forward the revised version of pamphlet *On being the Perfect Artist* for conference approval. Vickie 1st, Jay 2nd. Unanimously passed.

Motion: Replace the pamphlet *From Envy to Appreciation* currently being offered on the website, with the 2002 Conference approved version for website distribution and publication in kindle. Allegra 1st, Jay 2nd. 4-yes, 1-no, 1-abstention. Passed. (Minority opinion heard.)

Motion: Take the *Creative ProcesZ* pamphlet’s current presence off the website and take it back to the Literature Committee for revision. Bring the revised version to the Conference for approval. Allegra 1st, Vickie 2nd. 5-Yes, 1-No. Passed. (Minority opinion heard.)

Closed the meeting: 9:31 pm EST, Serenity Prayer .

Respectfully submitted,
Cindyann W.

Operations Report to the ARTS Board of Trustees – May 13, 2023

Spreadsheet showing anticipated one-time and subscription costs for the rest of 2023 created and sent to the Board on 5/6

At the office we spent about three hours converting our QuickBooks service from Desktop Pro to a "Simple Start" rate program. The annual rate for Desktop Pro was about to go from \$380 to \$549. The online version we purchased seems to cover our needs, although it operates somewhat differently. It will

cost \$15 a month for one year, and then go to \$30 a month. We will be refunded about \$95 for the remainder of the subscription we just cancelled. It also allows two other users to access QB, as long as no one else is already on.

Chinu has asked if she can possibly “desk share” our office space at \$75 a month for her to run her sideline graphics business. She would use her own computer and supplies. Physically, we have the space to do it.

About 60 “Tier 1” New York law firm pro bono departments have been contacted asking for help. To date five have responded, one with an application form for ongoing services (which I need help with), three suggesting two other organizations which I investigated. One we don’t qualify for, the other is problematic. One firm seems willing to review the Author Release document.

Our PayPal interface needs updating. People only have the option to select “Single Donation” in the drop-down menu. (The option to make it a monthly recurring transaction is a separate check box). I suggest adding “Meeting Donation,” “Zoomathon Donation” and “Literature Purchase” to that drop down menu. This will mean contracting Craig.

Reviewed royalties for the first quarter and found one missed purchase that we have since paid a \$6 royalty for.

The bank has changed its terms. If we keep at least \$1K in the savings account, and \$2K in the checking, and keep our transactions to less than \$5K in deposits per month, and fewer than 15 checks per month, we will continue to avoid fees.

Looked through reports on the KDP (kindle) account and was reminded that we don’t get the royalties from those sales until 60 days after. What we received in April was for the February sales (just over \$15). As there are a number of different currencies involved, it’s difficult to determine what our royalties are for each month – there is an estimator tool, but it’s just that.

As more people use PayPal to purchase literature, Chinu is having to cross reference these against the book orders to make sure we get them categorized correctly, so a drop-down addition would make that easier to determine.

With a paid subscription to Mailchimp, we were able to take their logo off our emails

Issues with two email alias mailboxes: workshops@artsanonymous.org and memberstories@artsanonymous.org were resolved and are now working. After much time with MS 365 tech support, I was able to determine that we haven’t missed any relevant emails coming into these mailboxes

1999 Conference minutes are now in a more complete form on the website, thanks to Abby, who saw that we had a truncated version.

Both Abby and my husband noticed that how we prepared our financial management reports was erroneous. They included credits and debits that did not need to be on there (such as loans that were paid back in 2021). Other examples include when transferring money from the checking to the savings accounts was reported as an “expense”. Or when we closed the Literature Development fund and transferred that money into the checking as “income”. Chinu and I went through the financial

management reports for 2021, 2022, and the first quarter of 2023, made corrections and adjustments, and they are reposted on the website. These amended reports were sent to the Board on 5/5.

Zoomathon survey “recreated” with Donna on A.R.T.S’ google drive using google docs and sent out to the Zoomathon email list (the free version of Survey Monkey she initially used only allows you to see 10 results)

The Workshops Committee has finalized workshop guidelines and they are ready for Board review and approve

Discovered via the Russian region that a bunch of our literature, including some of Abby’s was uploaded on the website in PDF form in 2015, and was still searchable by google (it’s not enough to just take a link off the website if the document is in the public folders.) I went into the public html folders and took them off. Will need a concerted effort to go through all the public folders and take things off that are outdated or otherwise shouldn’t be there.

Cindyann has agreed to contact the Committee Coordinators (as listed with their committee descriptions on the website), and ask for updated committee information, or whether any of these should come off.

The Literature Committee now has its own page, perhaps other Committees would like that as well.

\$115 for 6 months post office box rental paid in April

Routine items: postings of Zoomathon flyer, Board minutes, Pre-Conference meeting minutes, meeting list updates, bookkeeping, book orders, etc.