



Minutes of La Fab Board of Directors' Meeting of November 21, 2016

Present: Louise Gauthier, Reid Mclachlan, Shannon Langlois, Janice Collette, Danielle Pronovost, Jovette Champagne; Heather Evans, Katharine Fletcher

Absent: Kevin Burke, Heath Baxa

Special attendee: Francine Dalphond, report on fundraising

1. Motion to adopt the agenda

Moved: Jovette Champagne

Seconded: Shannon Langlois

2. Motion to adopt the minutes of the last meeting, August, 2016

Moved: Heather Lamorie

Seconded: Janice Collette

3. Report from committees:

Communications

- Janice Collette presented the branding work of one of the students, Joannie Laroche, and asked us our opinions.
- Discussion: All. Result? Janice will ask Joannie to slightly alter typeface, graphic, and we will vote on final choice prior to the Special Assembly with Members on November 24.

Finance: discussion regarding sponsorship and recognition and if required, scheduling of another meeting - Louise Gauthier

- For accuracy purposes, instead of reporting on what was said at the meeting, it is decided to include the synopsis Louise e-mailed later on 21 November outlining the financial situation, i.e. the table that follows.

Centre des arts, La Fab, Arts Centre	Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4	Column5
La situation financière (rénovation)					
				remboursement	dette
Ligne de crédit (Desjardins)					\$17,000.00
paiement à faire pour la rénovation					
	immédiatement		\$25,791.91	\$ 18,054.34	\$ 7,737.57
	bientôt (avant fin Déc)		\$10,189.32	\$ 7,132.52	\$ 3,056.80
	Architecte		\$ 9,668.66		\$ 9,668.66
Prêt sans intérêt CLD (à rembourser nov 2017)			\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00
Total des dettes:					\$57,463.03
En banque (Nov 21)					\$43,389.88
Reste:					\$14,073.15
ceci ne tient pas compte des dépenses et revenus à venir pour Novembre et Décembre					

- Discussion: Board members noted that La Fab’s ongoing financial situation is serious, and that we urgently need to discuss membership fees, sponsorship and donations, as well as fundraising and increasing membership in order to become sustainable.

Discussion with presentation by Francine Dalphond re her fundraising achievements, questions, plans

- Francine: the challenge is to coordinate contacting appropriate organizations/businesses/individuals for donations).
- Francine asks for a letter to be written describing such things as: what La Fab is; what funds obtained would be used for (projects, etc); what sponsor would get (logo printed on website, displayed on exterior signage, etc). Jovette will do this with input from Board.
- Louise noted the Quebec Government will provide tax receipt for a tax reduction after a donation of \$200 or more.
- Francine: Commerce Chelsea members such as L’Orée du Bois, Les Fougères, Old Chelsea Pub are interested in hosting a cocktail party/event – likely in new year & we have time to plan. Hendricks Farm and others may be approached.
- Francine also mentions she may have someone who can do translation one day a week.
- Katharine mentions the 1% funding of the arts in public buildings – Reid notes this is a Public Works program.
- Katharine wonders whether the new inns to be completed (at Le Nordik in Chelsea and at O’Brien House – in Gatineau Park) can be encouraged to purchase/hang La Fab artists’ works in the rooms/throughout property.

Conclusion: Francine suggests we wait until after Christmas to really commence our funding/outreach to donor campaign. Then Francine leaves the Board meeting.

Member/ Volunteer: Getting ready for the meeting to be held on Thursday November 24th, definition of options : Louise/all

- Louise commenced with a review of the latest CLD meeting on the **Shared Resources Project (SRP)** for MRC des Collines de l'Outaouais arts groups
- In short, during that CLD meeting, there was no interest expressed in Louise's presentation or our Board's agreed upon proposal for La Fab to be the centre for these shared resources (our « third option ») for the survival of La Fab, which we were to present to members on November 24). Instead, the Community Centre at Wakefield will be the SRP's headquarters.
- As a Board, we are discouraged by this news. However, we agree that La Fab must have a presence at the table, and so we will decide what Shared Resources La Fab will want. We need to attach an amount of money to this request for resources, in the understanding the CLD will give a matching grant to support La Fab's request.
- **Categories of interest to La Fab:** grant writing, bookkeeping, translation
- **Discussion of how to adapt the three options for La Fab's continuation for presentation to members at the November 24 meeting:**
 - a) Option one of status quo is unsustainable unless we get a lot more volunteer help, specifically for the Boutique;
 - b) Option two would see the boutique and gallery replaced by studios, where tenant-artists would manage La Fab entirely on their own.
 - c) Option three was to see La Fab as headquarters for the CLD's SHR project and this is not going to happen. Discussion surrounding what we can do next: we will present this issue to the Members at the 24 November meeting.
- General discussion: as to what to do re option 3: Gabriel mentioned that he has a 400-hour project associated with his University of Montreal program, where he would not be paid by La Fab, but for a minimum of 12 weeks he would undertake a Case Study of La Fab with possible suggestions of how to proceed, in recognition that currently we have an unsustainable business model. Board members are interested: we recognize that we have been in operation for 5 years and now must reposition ourselves.
- Fundraising discussion: Heather mentions Rib Fest and Rotary Club events where thousands of dollars can be raised.
- Everyone will undertake to consider contacts for fundraising.

4. Close of meeting:

Moved: Heather

Seconded: Jovette

Next Meeting: Special Member Meeting: 24 November at 7:00 p.m.