

**Wm. Bonifas Fine Arts Center**  
**Annual Membership Meeting**  
October 27, 2016

Present: Pasqua Warstler and Susan Roll, Directors, Theresa Klein, President, Lynn Soderberg, Secretary, Tom England and Tom Knoll, Board members. Other attendees: 12.

President Theresa Klein welcomed those in attendance at 7:09 PM. She began by thanking both Pasqua and Susan for all the work they have done over the past year. Also, thanks to our wonderful staff at the Bonifas and the Board members for their continued dedication. She then gave the yearly financial report, stating that our assets have decreased by \$150, 000. This is because the Besse legacy money is decreasing and \$48,000 will have to be taken from our cash reserves to pay for the fly system project.

Business Director Susan Roll reported on some of the highlights of the past year. These included: community outreach programs like the Bonifas boxes for kids, Art Prize 2016, the summer Music Mondays in the park, and the Mardi Gras party. Craig Woerpel is doing a great job with publicity and our web page and Carla Meyer is our new events coordinator. She also stated our relationship with Players de Noc to be stronger than ever.

Artistic Director Pasqua Warstler reported on what 2017 will bring to the Bonifas. We have new programs in the works for toddlers to senior citizens, supporting our mission to bring the arts to all our community members. Jan. will see NMU students again bringing their art work here and a photography competition is set for April. A new exhibit featuring wooden boat building in the UP is also planned for next fall with the Heritage Center at NMU. We are working to expand regionally through the UP Arts & Culture Map, and with our exposure at ArtPrize in Grand Rapids hope to increase tourism and economic development in the UP. The Giving Tuesday Campaign will begin after Thanksgiving and we hope to increase our business sponsorships with the Feet on the Beat program.

Presentation of the 2016 Tower Awards were made by Pasqua and Sue. These awards of \$1,000 each are supported by Sam and Elinor Benedict Recipients for this year are: Bill Taylor, Marguerite Barak, Al Hansen, Mary Penet, Robert Schmeling, and Jeanette LeCaptain.

Sue presented a gift to retiring Board member Theresa Klein in thanks for her six years of service to the Bonifas. New Board members elected for their first full terms were then introduced - Lynn Soderberg, Renee Theut, and Cathy Sjoquist. Participants were able to watch a short video on ArtPrize featuring UP artists before the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn Soderberg, Board Secretary