

- ❖ The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.
- ❖ Present: Chuck Boxwell, Julie Hill, Ron Allen, Rhea Lowell, Debbie Parke, Karen Murry, Molly Elkind, Roxanne Turner, Sam Elkind, Sandy Winkelman, Nicole Merkens, Tama Dumlao, Harn Soper; two guests were present: Elizabete Freijs and Susan Latham
- ❖ Minutes for the July 9, 2025 Board Meeting were approved.
- ❖ **Old Business:**
 1. ECIA Fees Update: Karen Murry has been working with Allison Bale of the ECIA Homeowner's Association to negotiate what our rental fees will be to use their facilities in 2026. An agreement was reached that rental fees for the EACA will be waived in 2026. They will need a \$200 deposit to cover possible damage and proof of insurance for our use of their facilities. This agreement was confirmed in an email dated August 8, 2025. Karen estimates that this will save the EACA over \$9,000 based on their current rental fee schedule. ***Karen requests that we extend a thank you to HOAMCO and the ECIA when we encounter staff and notes that cookies are always appreciated.***
 2. Future Workshops: Pat Rasmussen's planned needle-felting workshop for 12 community members is full and has a waiting list. The workshop was planned to be August 16th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Vista Grande Library but is being postponed to October 11th. The cost will only be \$15 for materials. The purpose of this workshop is an outreach opportunity to connect and build relationships with community members. ***If anyone is interested in giving a future workshop, please contact Julie.***
 3. Artist to Artist: The EACA Board is still interested in moving this initiative forward but will need to find someone that is willing to manage it. Elizabete may be able to assume that role sometime in the future and Tama is interested in helping with this if scheduling allows. ***In the meantime, the Board is actively looking for a Member at Large who may also be able to contribute. We should consider whether this initiative should be the focus for our last quarterly general meeting for the year.***
 4. 3rd Quarterly Meeting: This year the BBQ dinner/meeting is August 21st at 6:00 PM, but the sign-up has been low so far. Two additional email reminders will be sent out to see if attendance will increase. Eight people have volunteered to help.
 5. Tiered Membership Levels: At the request of the Board, Molly put together some possible ideas for discussion of tiered membership levels where members would pay more to get more benefits. Molly identified in our case almost all our benefits are free. Things that do cost time or money for our members are: sign-up fees for the Spring and Winter Shows and the Studio Tour, required volunteer efforts for the Studio Tour, or the requirement to obtain sponsors for the Studio Tour. Waiving these costs or efforts have complicated downsides. Discussion and Molly's proposal did identify some additional possibilities: offering early sign-up for the Spring and Winter Shows, hosting websites or providing greater media visibility for a higher tiered membership group, or offering a tiered membership for "Friends of the EACA" that would provide early bird shopping opportunities during the Studio Tour. ***We should continue to discuss and bring forward additional ideas.***

❖ **Requested Board Reports:**

1. Treasurer's Report: Ron submitted a report comparing monies in and out in the first seven months of 2024 vs 2025. The 2025 totals for different categories generally compare to last year's. We currently have about \$55,000 in the bank, including the CD we have purchased. ***Karen noted we need to apply \$165 to the Spring Show donations category and make sure these are donated to community organizations. After the Studio Tour we need to look at our general operating expenses and consider how things should be split between general costs vs show costs and consider if we need to change our dues or tour fees.***
2. Membership for 2025: There is one new member this month bringing the total to 168 members.
3. Studio Tour Planning: The save-the-date cards have been mailed, and the catalog printing is finished. ***The follow-up meeting for the Studio Tour Committee Chairs will be held sometime between October 7th and 14th.***
4. Newsletter: Sam welcomes any copy for the October issue - September 15th is the deadline for new content. The Studio Tour survey results will not be completed in time for the October issue, so they will be sent out in a separate e-blast.
5. Website: All the artist pages have been uploaded to the website, and the sponsorship information is complete. The App is current and complete, except for a glitch for the one artist that signed up in the same name under two categories. They are working to accommodate her 2nd listing. The August Newsletter was opened by 128 people; 28 people downloaded the pdf; 38 people went to their individual artist pages; the link about the July 4th booth was also popular.

❖ The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 AM.

❖ The next EACA Board Meeting will be held on September 10, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhea Lowell, EACA Secretary