TARPON SPRINGS ART ASSOCIATION
TSAA General Membership Meeting
September 14, 2026
Community Center, Tarpon Springs
(50/50 after meeting)

The meeting was called to order by Martha Hickey, President, at 1:36 PM. She welcomed participants to the meeting and noted this meeting was the first since May, marking the beginning of TSAA's 2026-2027 program year. In addition to members, participants included 4 guests and 1rejoining member.

The President introduced TSAA Board members: Chris Taylor, Vice President; Richard Warnke, Treasurer; Patsy Renz, Membership; and Lynn Hudson Kopala, Secretary.

SECRETARY REPORT: The Secretary mentioned that copies of notes from the May General Membership Meeting were available on the table. (Posting of notes to the TSAA membership internet site has been suspended temporarily due to technical problems.)

TREASURER'S REPORT: Richard Warnke reported that the treasury balance is $4113.98.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Patsy Renz announced that membership in good standing was 63 before the meeting. Two members joined during the meeting. Post-meeting membership now stands at 65.

VENUE UPDATES

Martha Hickey gave an update from Bess King – Library. The changeover will be in February 2027.

Chris Taylor: Chamber of Commerce – reported that the summer-long show will be changed next week. She could use 1 or 2 more pieces by the end of September-first of October.

Jana Winters: Hampton Inn – reported that the Hampton Inn venue was filled throughout 2026 and 2027. She had out a sign-up sheet on the table for 2028.

Judy Groves: Valley Bank – announced that the Valley Bank needs artists to sign up for October and onward.

Mary Manos: Belle and Beau – stated that 3 pieces were sold, and therefore this venue needs 3 new pieces now.

TSAA AND AREA ART ACTIVITIES

Young Artists Program – Sherry Orr manages this program, which is run by TSAA and supported by the Friends of the Library. She explained that this activity, led now for over 4 years by TSAA members, supports TSAA's status as an organization under IRS code 501 (c) 3 for not for profits. Young Artists is held at the Tarpon Springs Library on the 2nd Tuesday each month of its program period, from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. Led by TSAA members, the Young Artists learn about a specific well-known artist and their work. The students use their reactions to what they have learned in their artwork. Their cumulative finished work is saved. At the end of the program period, in May, their work is framed and then displayed at a special reception that celebrates the Young Artists and their achievements. Featured in this fall's first two programs will be Jackson Pollock and Henri Matisse. Sherry said that she would like to get more TSAA members involved.

Brooker Creek Preserve. Martha Hickey introduced Lynn Whitelaw, TSAA member and an active member of the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve. Lynn Whitelaw brought news about current and future art events at Brooker Creek. Selections from the Friends' permanent collection are currently shown in the Gallery until November. He mentioned that several works in the permanent collection were made by TSAA members.

Photography Contest. In November, the Friends will hold its "Give Us Your Best Shot" Photography contest. All work submitted must have been made within the boundaries of the Brooker Creek Nature Preserve. The reception for the event will be held November 7, from 1 PM – 3 PM.

Plein Air Painting. February 12-13, 2027, they will sponsor a Plein Air Painting event. The exhibit of work produced will hang until April 2027.

Martha Hickey mentioned that the fliers are attached to her previously emailed President's Message.

(She also showed a flier for a pet painting contest held by Dick Blick art stores.)

TSAA Member Local Art Excursions. The President announced that the TSAA Board hopes to hold recurring explorations of local art sites. The first will be Saturday, October 24 at 11 AM – "Touring Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art."

TSAA FACEBOOK Page – Chris Taylor manages TSAA's FB page. She reported that she is featuring a "Friday Share Day." Members are encouraged to post work on Fridays. She is updating the TSAA FB to attract new members and will be posting news about the TSAA community. A participant asked how to post on Facebook. Chris Taylor volunteered to provide a demonstration.

SHOW AND TELL – This meeting featured members' "Show and Tell," a popular event when TSAA members bring work to be shown and critiqued if wished. Jana Withers presided. Members contributed a variety of work including etching, pastel, oil, fabric, acrylic, and photography, representing a wide range of media, materials and styles. Some artists asked for feedback & were given constructive suggestions.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH – Beginning with the October meeting, Artist of the Month will resume. October theme: the color Yellow. All media welcome, work must be completely original to the artist. The winning work, chosen by popular vote, may be displayed at the Community Center lobby, if the artist wishes.

OPEN PAINT – Martha Hickey reminded the members that a Friday Open Studio is available to all interested. Drop in at the Craig Park Rec Center (Spring Bayou) from 9 am to noon. $5 fee. This is not a TSAA event, but several TSAA members have participated.

OCTOBER MEETING - The President announced that the October meeting will feature a demonstration of pastel technique after the business meeting and break. She also reminded members to bring to the October meeting any art materials, etc., that they would like to give away.

There being no additional business, the President adjourned the meeting at 2:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Hudson Kopala, 8/26/2026 (draft 2)