



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Art

Jacques Seligmann & Co. records, General Correspondence: American Federation of Arts, 1953-1971

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THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF ARTS

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

May 16, 1958 - 2:30 p.m.

Carnegie Endowment International Center
345 East 46th Street, New York

MINUTES

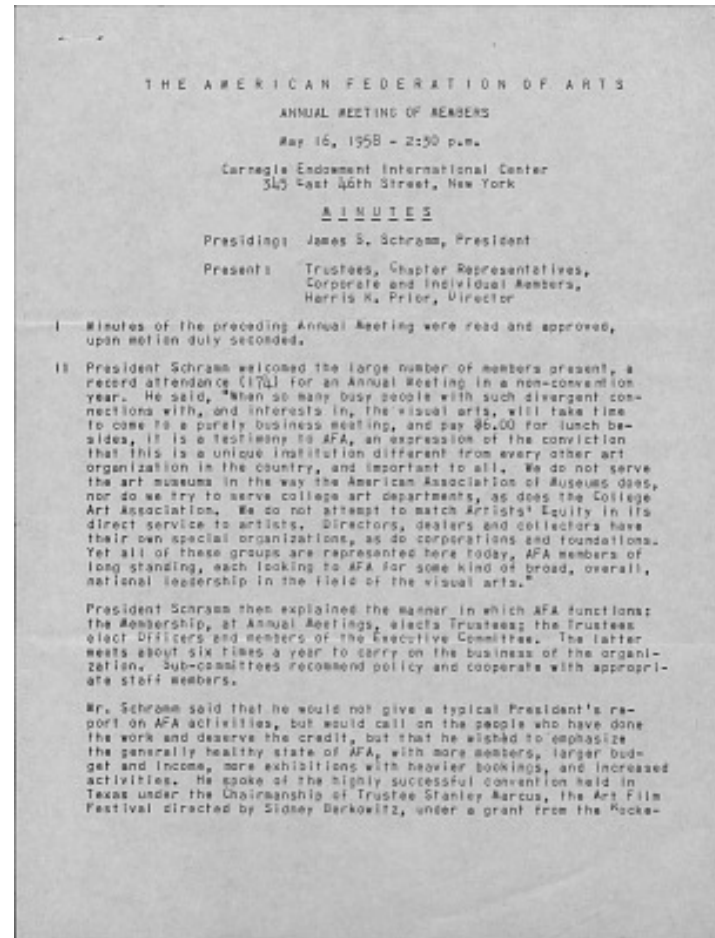
Presiding: James S. Schramm, President
Present: Trustees, Chapter Representatives, Corporate and Individual Members, Harris K. Prior, Director

I Minutes of the preceding Annual Meeting were read and approved, upon motion duly seconded.

II President Schramm welcomed the large number of members present, a record attendance (174) for an Annual Meeting in a non-convention year. He said "When so many busy people with such divergent connections with, and interests in, the visual arts, will take time to come to a purely business meeting, and pay \$6.00 for lunch besides, it is a testimony to AFA, an expression of the conviction that this is a unique institution different from every other art organization in the country, and important to all. We do not serve the art museums in the way the American Association of Museums does, nor do we try to serve college art departments, as does the College Art Association. We do not attempt to match Artists' Equity in its direct service to artists. Directors, dealers and collectors have their own special organizations, as do corporations and foundations. Yet all of these groups are represented here today, AFA members of long standing, each looking to AFA for some kind of broad, overall, national leadership in the field of visual arts."

President Schramm then explained the manner in which AFA functions: the Membership, at Annual Meetings, elects Trustees; the Trustees elect Officers and members of the Executive Committee. The latter meets about six times a year to carry on the business of the organization. Sub-committees recommend policy and cooperate with appropriate staff members.

Mr. Schramm said that he would not give a typical President's report on AFA activities, but would call on the people who have done the work and deserve the credit, but that he wished to emphasize the generally healthy state of AFA, with more members, larger budget and income, more exhibitions with heavier bookings, and increased activities. He spoke of the highly successful convention held in Texas under the Chairmanship of Trustee Stanley Marcus, the Art Film Festival directed by Sidney Berkowitz, under a grant from the Rockefeller



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