

Community Players of Salisbury University

BOARD MEETING

October 5, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: K. Nagel, presiding, Kate A., S. Barnes, S. Benchoff, B. Calloway, A. Currey, R. Finley, K. Hayes, K. Johnson, C. Linton, D. Mullins, R. Mumford, K. Nagel, T. Robinson, S. Thompson.

Members Present: M. Bogdan, T. Broadbent, D. Nagel, B. Bosies, S. Robinson, C. Dasher, B. Metzger, J. Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.

C. Linton/A. Currey moved to approve minutes of the September meeting. Motion passed

T. Robinson/R. Mumford moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as distributed.

President's Report: President Nagel deferred his report until we got to Old Business

Committee Reports

- Facilities: K. Johnson reported as follows:
  - The facility is in good shape.
  - We have a few burned-out lights that will need to be replaced.
  - Concerned over items loaned to Bennett High School which have yet to be returned.
- Hospitality: R. Mumford deferred his report until we got to New Business.
- Membership: We are currently accepting new members. Please refer those interested to C. Dasher, newly appointed Membership Committee Chair.
- Newsletter: R. Mumford requested newsletter content should be sent to him no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- Nominating: This committee needs a chairperson. S. Benchoff will stay on the committee.
- Patrons: K. Nagel reported that we currently have about 30 patrons.
- Production: T. Robinson asks that those interested in serving on the committee let him know.
- Publicity: The committee met on September 25 and have the following to report:
  - Billboards are a cost-effective publicity strategy
  - 5 billboards cost \$895.00
    - We provide the artwork, sign company puts it together
    - Placement is random, not something we can control
  - Yard Signs for "Little Women, the Musical" are coming soon.
    - P. Cuesta seeks direction on how many yard signs we need and ideas for where the signs should be placed.
  - Banner on the Bennett High School fence costs \$60.00
  - Matt Bogdan reported that Joe Emond agreed to let us place a sign/banner at his business location.
  - K. Nagel expressed concern that no one is interested in chairing the Publicity Committee.
- Scholarship: No Report
- Social Media: S. Thompson reported the following:

- Rehearsal pictures from “Little Women” have been posted.
- “Meet the Cast” pictures will soon be uploaded.
- We need to prepare for paid social media; it’s coming.
- Tickets/Season Tickets: R. Mumford reported as follows:
  - Tickets, especially season tickets, are moving very slowly. We need to get the word out.
  - An email blast will go to our distribution list.

### Old Business

- Community Players Performance Venue:
- K. Nagel reported as follows:
  - T. Robinson is investigating the possibility of our current facility being transformed into a performance venue. The Fire Marshal has approved but we are still waiting for Zoning approval.
  - A group of interested Players’ members met to share ideas about the original plans we had for our former Glen Avenue space.
  - Challenges to using our current space are as follows:
    - Getting the aforementioned Zoning approval
    - We cannot “build back” due to drainage issues.
  - The city of Salisbury would like for us to be downtown. Issues/Ideas on that are as follows:
    - No optimal space
    - The bank building on the plaza is available and encouraged by Mayor Day. S. Benchoff suggested we talk to them
    - K.Nagel commented met with Laura Soper who will look more closely at the possibilities downtown.
  - R. Mumford expressed concern that things are happening that the Board knows nothing about. We need transparency.
  - T. Robinson responded that he had been asked to research this issue. At present, it depends on whether or not we can get Zoning approval for our current space as well as approval from nearby residents.
  - M. Bogdan commented that we need to be ready to respond if an opportunity arises.
  - T. Broadbent commented as follows:
    - We perhaps could reach out to other companies who have been through this process.
    - Think outside of our current building
    - Get this message out in front of Social Media users.
    - Find out who has the money.
    - Connect to established events, eg-Seagull Century
  - D. Nagel commented that we know how this information is being disseminated.
  - K. Nagel commented that all are welcome to join the task force for this effort.
- Printer/Copier: R. Mumford reviewed for us the options that were discussed during the September meeting. R. Mumford/D. Mullins moved approval to purchase the Delmarva Business Center option. Discussion of the motion was as follows:
  - T. Robinson commented that we regularly use the printer at Christ Church. We pay for ink cartridges. What do we gain by purchasing a color printer.

- B. Bosies commented that scanning capability would be a good feature.
- J. Smith commented that if we buy a new machine, we will be essentially taking over what the church has been doing.
- Motion passed.
- Little Women: D. Mullins reported that the cast is stellar and rehearsals are going well.
- Kick-Off Dinner: R. Mumford announced that as only a few people responded to the invitation; the event will be cancelled.

### New Business

- Leading Ladies: M. Bogdan announced the following:
  - Auditions will take place on November 17 and 18 at 6:30 pm, and on November 19 at 2:00 pm.
  - Callbacks will take place on November 20 at 6:30 pm.
  - Seeking production staff members.
- Broken Sign: K. Johnson reported that our exterior sign was damaged. The company that designed it will replace it but will alter it so that it is consistent with the height of the fence, for \$250.00
- It was moved to approve the cost-motion passed.
- Summer Camp Update: K. Nagel, for M. Dasher, reported as follows:
  - Alexa Nastasi is interested in running the camp.
  - She is developing a survey to gauge interest level.
- Giving Day: S. Thompson reported as follows:
  - Giving Day happens on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving
  - Last year we raised \$1,500.
  - There is an online platform that allows for developing a wishlist.
  - Let her, or S. Benchoff, know if you have ideas for what to ask for.
    - Perhaps a new copier?
  - Will seek testimonials from members.

### Other New Business

- Sales Tax Exemption: C. Linton announced that we have applied for a renewal of our sales tax exemption status. We are awaiting a response.
- The Poe Show: M. Bogdan reported as follows:
  - Dates/Venues have been set.
  - We are looking for advertisers/sponsors.
  - Half of the proceeds will be donated to the Humane Society
- \$250 Grant from Coastal Realtors
- Wicomico Environmental Trust Event: We have been asked to donate a “Goody Bag” for the event. R. Mumford/B. Calloway moved to donate 2 tickets to each of our remaining productions in the current season. Motion passed.
- Collaborations With Other Community Theatre Groups: M. Bogdan offered to head a committee to explore working with other theatre groups. He cited the example of performing the Poe Show at Possum Point Players. C. Linton/S. Thompson moved to approve the initiative Motion passed.
- SWAC Grant: C. Linton reported that we received an operational grant from SWAC in the amount of \$1,900.

- Lifetime Achievement Award: P. Cuesta reported that the winners of the award have been determined and will be announced at intermissions of "Little Women, the Musical."

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 pm. Next meeting will be on November 9.