

Starlight Board Meeting Minutes 6/12/22

- I. Present: Cathy Merrill, Abeth Spencer, Elise Kurbat, Lynn Golden, Craig Frooninckx, Justin Cain, Christina Clodt, Stacy Gibbons, Dan Ashlock, Barbara Surloff
- II. Call the meeting to order/opening remarks —Cathy: called to order at 6:33 p.m.
- III. Managing Director Report--Nena
 - A. Box office updates - n/a
 - B. Box Office volunteers - if interested in learning ticketing system, email Nena
 - C. Status of the lease for the theater —Craig and Nena: Lease rates are up dramatically all over the Valley, our new rate is comparable. Lease is for three years, going to try to stagger increase with landlord so that net is the same, but not a dramatic jump for us. Lease is up at end of July, will stay on top of it and see if landlord accepts our counter offer. Bell and I-17 movie theater location is not viable, plus, it's difficult and expensive to move the theater. It's possible our HVAC replacement would be covered under lease, going to explore with landlord. Fire Department says we need a blueprint of theater - we are still miszoned. We can make ourselves and get reimbursed from landlord.
- IV. Upcoming Election Update—Abeth: election begins June 20, membership list is almost done. Four names have been submitted for nominations so far. Election is for at-large board members, and will use the slate to fill any vacancies on the board (one known so far).
- V. Setting a consistent Board Meeting Date--Cathy: discussion on pros and cons of month-to-month meetings vs. set dates. Also debated Sundays vs. weeknights. Everyone will look at their calendar for the next year with 2nd Sundays in mind, and look for conflicts (particularly holidays).
- VI. Artistic Director Report —Dan
 - A. The Little Mermaid: In 2nd weekend of 3 week-run. 73% sold seats. Friday 6/17 is low. The daytime show went well, but needs to be made clear at auditions for summer shows that it will be included. Look into more schools or senior citizen centers for similar performances or seats at a regular show.
 - B. Heathers: has been cast and had first read-through. Starting rehearsing 6/13. Has production team, Kristin Dybvig-Pawelko is co-producing and training.
 - C. Director Assignments for 2022/23 Season: Van Rockwell turned down Complete Works, show has been shortened to one weekend with one cast instead of two, Abeth will direct.
 - D. New Season: Programming tickets for Heathers and Libris soon. Will look into season ticket bundles (for next year). Discussed board discount vs., actors/directors.etc.

Lynn moves that we adopt a \$3 discount for board members regardless of cost of ticket (early vs. general admission). Craig seconds. Motion passes.
 - E. Goodwill Drive: took place yesterday, don't know total yet. Need to make it clear that Starlight donations go in large bins since Goodwill employees aren't always in the know.

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- F. Playwriting Contest: nothing yet, Dan will address soon.
 - G. Summer Camps: acting camp is full, 30 registered, 28 paid. Tech has 7 registered and paid. Beauty and the Beast has 34 registered and 25 paid. Working on a camp leader for Beauty and the Beast, will confirm. Rest of production team is in place already.
 - H. Thank you email: Craig asks if we can change the text in the ticketing system when it sends the “thank you for coming” email to have a call to action, such as leave a google review? Dan will look into that.
 - I. Zonis: Dan and Kristin went to annual meeting (artistic director and box office manager always invited to review process). This year, nominations will be read Aug. 1st online, August 15th are nominations for special awards, show is October 3rd in Scottsdale. Theaters will have presenters and performances in show. Zonis are trying to be better about getting theaters to communicate with each other and support each others’ shows.
 - J. Status of Various Programs
 - 1. Educational workshop (various models): n/a
 - 2. One-Off Workshops: n/a
 - 3. Murder Mystery, Trivia: n/a
- VII. Old Business--Abeth
- A. Continuing discussion regarding Adult coverage at all Starlight rehearsals, etc: Abeth made the board aware of an incident during Little Mermaid’s tech week involving two actors in the cast (one minor, one adult). This incident was handled by the director of Mermaid, as well as Abeth as producer and consulting with Dan as Artistic Director. Due to the nature of the incident, the board discussed two separate issues to examine and refine for further shows: changing rooms and actor behavior.
- Changing room discussion revolved around what other areas can be used in our limited space (including the shop and restroom) or encouraging actors to use modesty suits under their costumes. The next all-ages show is Elf in December, and it was agreed that adults and minors should not be using the same dressing rooms. Other theaters with limited space like ours may have solutions - can we reach out?
- Actor behavior discussion revolved around the actor and crew commitment form and rewording it to include stronger language about consent and touching. No one of any age should have bodily contact with anyone else without explicit consent. This protects our actors and volunteers as well as the theater. Christina said she had recently signed a more extensive policy about adults working with minors at another theater and would share it with the board to see what other language we might need to adopt. Other theaters may have similar contracts.
- VIII. New Business? None
- IX. Adjourn: Next meeting is July 10th at Starlight, and will include new board members.

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