

2016-2017

Trumbull New Theatre Annual Corp Meeting

June 21, 2017

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Bennett, Ginny Bond, Brett Bunker, Amy Burd, Micky Burnsworth, Phil Cuthbertson, Niki Cuthbertson, Sherman Davidson, Terri Gilbert, Susan Gillespie, Mike Hill, Tom Jones, Jenny Long, Melanie Lucas, Alex Lucas, Janet Lynn, Dave Lynn, Peg McGinnis, Dustin Miles, Patience Miles, Ray Nuhfer, Deb Nuhfer, Ed Rantilla, Gary Roddy, Jill Sakonyi, Jackie Shannon, Ron Sinesio, Art Smallsreed, Karen Thomas, John Timmins, Linda Welke, Bob Wilson

GUESTS: Baby Amelia Lucas, David Kapp, Beau Allen, Katie Allen

- Welcome & Call to Order – B. Bunker welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:05pm
- Approval of Agenda – John Timmins moved to approve Ron Sinesio seconded, motion carried
- Reading / Approval of 2016 Annual Minutes – John Timmins moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes, Peg McGinnis seconded. Minutes approved in advance by nominated proxies.
- 2016-2017 Treasurer's Report – S. Gillespie reviewed the various financial reports that were provided in printed format separate from the Annual Report. Reported receiving a check from Lida M. Kroehle for \$2000 today. No questions.
- Appointment of Three Members to Approve 2017 Minutes – Ginny Bond, Sherman Davidson, Patience Miles
- Appointment of Four Election Tellers – Ed Rantilla, Peg McGinnis, Art Smallsreed, Karen Thomas volunteered and were accepted.
- Nominating Committee Report – Susan Gillespie reported that there are three positions open with three people running for Trustee. From the floor, John Timmins nominated Sherman Davidson and Ron Sinesio nominated Ginny Bond. Jill Sakonyi is the only nominee for the Endowment Committee and is appointed by acclamation. Ginny Bond, Sherman Davidson and Melanie Lucas came forward and spoke briefly.
- Roll Call of Dues Paid Members / Ballot Distribution – election tellers distributed the ballots as Susan Gillespie called the roll of dues paid members. Voted ensued.
- Election of Trustees and Nominating Committee –

- Scholarship Presentation – L. Bennett reported on behalf of the committee that 3 scholarships for \$500 each were being awarded to Violet Burd, Ariana Shannon and Daren Price. Accepting the scholarships on behalf of their children were Amy Burd and Jackie Shannon.
- Introduction of New Members – Brett Bunker reported that we have three new members this season: Ginny Bond, Sarah Puhala, and Brian Sechora.
- Remembrance of Passed Members – Brett Bunker called for a moment of silence to remember Jeff Smith a long time member who will be sadly missed.
- 2017-2018 Budget – S. Gillespie reviewed the budget for the 2017-2018 and went over how the numbers were derived. Called for questions. None received.
- Annual Committee Reports – All reports in the Annual Report are as printed. The following were offered from the floor.
 - Micky Burnsworth added that another \$150 has been received for Advertising. Next year's is already at \$2500.
- New Business – Terri Gilbert reported that TNT with the help of the Wo/Men's Committee are looking at replacing the auditorium seating. Working with Irwin Seating. In looking at old scrap books it was discovered that the original seats were refurbished from another theater and were a gray. The sample colors are blue to lighten things up and take us back to our roots. The new seats will be wider and a thicker cushion. Everyone here tonight gets to vote on the fabric. A seat campaign will be run where people can buy a tag for a seat.
- Acknowledgement of Retiring Trustees – Brett Bunker noted that Megan Myers is the only trustee retiring this year. He acknowledged and thanked Megan for her contributions over the years and noted that she would be missed.
- Announcements of Nominating Committee and New Officers –
 - Results – Lisa Bennett, Susan Gillespie and Melanie Lucas were elected as Trustees. Jill Sakonyi to the Endowment Committee
- New Business –
 - Play Reading Committee – Lisa Bennett reviewed the new Play Reading Committee process. The nature of this committee requires that we limit the size or we would never be able to wade through all the material in a timely manner. In recent years, this committee has grown in popularity with people scrambling to join and us having to turn people away. In the past it has been the first 8 people to sign up which shut out a lot of people. We needed to find a fair way to fill this committee. In an effort to fix this problem we are requiring that members of this committee be dues-paid members of TNT to allow members in good standing to have the strongest voice in the operation.

And, in an effort to represent all our members, we will be drawing 8 names – 4 under age 40 and 4 aged 40 and up. The names will be drawn at the October Membership meeting – you do not need to be present.

- 60th Celebration of the physical building – Brett Bunker reviewed the events – Aug 5 3pm there will a picnic at the Country Porch Winery, Music Revue – Aug 19 – Reservation line open Aug 17 and 18 – First come first serve – FREE. Master Class with Austin Pendleton – Nov 4 – reservations will be taken beginning Oct 16 – money is going to the seating campaign.
- Magic Show – Micky Burnsworth reported that this Saturday is the Magic/Comedy show with Eric Thompson. Eric is donating his time. All profits are going to the seating campaign.

- President's Report –

Good evening. I sit before you tonight as we conclude yet another season of performances at this wonderful theatre we call home. Thank you all for your time and dedication to making it successful. Also thank you to our board members for being good stewards of the corporation.

It is important to remember, though we are stewards, we are not the end all be all of this theatre. The board, individually and collectively, is not infallible. Missteps were made this past season in regards to valued contributors of TNT with corrections made to address any future issues that may arise. Educator and author Stephen Covey once said, "Trust is the glue of life. It's the most essential ingredient in effective communication. It's the foundational principle that holds all relationships."

As with any season past, present or future TNT is only as strong as its membership. As your elected representatives we are expected to be unbiased and neutral. However, there are moments when, personal bias can creep in. We as a board must do a better job of eliminating personal bias from decisions.

In order to maintain the trust you have placed in us, I invite you, our members, to speak up when you see a failing of the board, individually or collectively. As Elon Musk once said, "It's very important to have a feedback loop, where you're constantly thinking about what you've done and how you could be doing it better. I think that's the single best piece of advice, constantly thinking about how you could be doing things better and questioning yourself." We have an opportunity to grow from this and be a more well-rounded organization.

As we move forward we must remain engaged as individuals as part of a greater whole. TNT is only as strong as its membership. I urge us all to come together, not as a membership group but as a family to continually move this theatre forward. As a family we will have disagreements and arguments. However, in the end, we all want what is best for this theatre. We not only wish to see it continue but to prosper and grow for generations to come.

Thank you again for your time and dedication to Trumbull New Theatre.

- Open Floor for the Good of the Order –
 - Brett Bunker reviewed the 2017-2018 season.
 - Peg McGinnis reported on OCTA – Congratulations to Barefoot in the Park for being selected to go to state Labor Day weekend in Worthington. More info will be coming.
 - John Timmins asked about the new faces in the crowd. Guests were acknowledged and spoke briefly.
 - Brett Bunker noted that we need people to sign up for committees and we are looking for some chair people.
- Adjournment – Patience Miles moved to adjourn at 7:52pm. Micky Burnsworth seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes Approved:

Ginny Bond _____

Sherman Davidson _____

Patience Miles _____