

SUN LAKES COMMUNITY THEATRE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 7, 2020

ATTENDEES: Board members: Jim N, Howard H, Sandy P, Mary V, Jack M, Bill Becker, Rick W.

OTHER MEMBER ATTENDEES: Cindi Decker (Treasurer), Diana Nelinson, Roger Edmonds

LOCATION: Section of Oakwood Ballroom

CALL TO ORDER: at 8AM by president Sandy P.

Motion to accept November meeting minutes: by Howard H, second by Bill B, passed unanimously.

Motion to accept December Financial Report: by Bill B, second by Rick W, passed unanimously.

Offline reports by various members and committees: see addendum at end of these minutes.

Howard H. reported on progress of the Charlie Brown musical with current activities focusing on the music and the choreography.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of the continuation of donations to the high school drama departments in Chandler school district.

- We have been making donations since mid-2000s
- Schools get no theater support from the district and must earn all expenses
- Schools do get a lot from the Arizona state tax credit donations by friends and relatives

ACTION ITEM: Pitch a plan for encouraging tax credit donations by club members and not do direct donations from club earnings. Roger E and Bill B to do this.

NEW BUSINESS: Diana Nelinson came and delivered a statement about unfair selective acceptance of members in certain classes.

MORE OLD BUSINESS

Board discussed how to change our Education policy to make it clearer about what a class instructor can or cannot do when accepting people into a class.

Education Policy was presented that would do that. It was moved to include it in our Policy Book: by Howard H, seconded by Rick W. Board voted to accept it as written but it was not unanimous.

Upcoming Productions

There are plays scheduled for Summer 2020, Spring 2021, and Summer 2021, but nothing as yet for Fall 2020. The problem was a lack of qualified directors who were willing to direct a show in the Fall. We discussed some alternatives.

Action Item: Bill B and Jack M are to brainstorm some alternatives and present to Board and club membership.

Start, Stop, and Continue. The results were shared but with no discussion as yet. We will tell the club that we will get back to them about it at a later date.

Interest Survey: will be used internally for matching people with projects.

Lighting Guidelines: MOTION: Rick W will write an addendum to the Lighting Policy. Seconded by Bill B and passed.

Upcoming Election

Howard said he has one person so far who wants to run, and several on the fence. The slate needs to be ready for introductions at the February Meeting (vote occurs at March meeting).

Grant Chairperson Needed: Penny P does not want to continue in the role. Sandy P will ask for volunteers at the Club meeting.

Riser status: discussion about the usefulness of riser carts to aid in moving riser flats back and forth to storage. It was decided to purchase and have a demonstration of how easy they are use and then decide if we need to buy a full set.

Motion to buy the riser and schedule a demonstration: by Rick W, seconded by Bill B. Passed.

NEXT MEETING:

It was agreed to have a work meeting of the Board on January 29 at noon, to discuss prioritization of our outstanding tasks and work on updating our goals, finally.

ADJOURNED AT 9:41 PM.

Addendum information for January 7 Board Meeting

Programs/education:

Our upcoming general meeting on Thursday, **Jan. 9** will be a “**Tribute to Children’s Theatre**”. We will recognize all the hard work that goes into making these live theatre performances happen for the children of the Chandler school district. Sandy Bocynsky has graciously agreed to bring her show, *Horton Hatches an Egg*, to us that follows on the heels of a terrific performance of *Horton Hears a Who* in the San Tan Ballroom on December 28. It was a fun experience: a magician, the *Horton* presentation, a balloon lady, plus many tables where kids and grandparents could draw and do simple crafts, plus some tasty refreshments; it was a fun event presented for our community of Sun Lakes. A big thanks to Linda Caton who should be recognized for all her help arranging the event and making it a fun day for all.

The advanced acting class is full! Twelve people will start the class Thursday, Jan. 9 at 10am. It will be taught by an outstanding professional instructor who many of us have had the pleasure of improving our skills under her direction. It will run Thursdays, Jan 9, 16, 23 and 20 from 10am to 12:30pm.

During our interest survey meeting, I polled those who might be interested in a stand-up comedy class and I had 17 people sign up! What a response! Therefore, I’m excited to announce, I have found an instructor who teaches stand-up comedy. She has years of experience teaching at the college level and at comedy clubs. She presently holds classes at a comedy club in the West Valley. She is willing to come here and teach a 3 hour, 6-8 weeks class with a comedy showcase on the last session. She would produce and direct the show. I can have her “resume” available. I hope to be able to make this happen.

Roger Edmonds has assured me he will have a drama class from the schools to perform for us at our **Feb. 13** meeting. He asked me many months ago to switch his usual January high school performance at our meetings to February because of the change in school vacation schedules. They would need more time to prepare. I agreed.

A snippet from *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* may be added to the Feb. 13 agenda.

Publicity:

Preparations are underway for SLCT's spring musical/comedy, **You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown**, coming to the Oakwood Ballroom on March 4, 5, 6 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday evenings at 7 pm) and March 7, 8, 9 (Saturday, Sunday, Monday matinees at 1 pm). Co-directors, Howard Hummel and Penny Petersen, have cast the show: Chris Mank (Charlie Brown), Sally Holberg (Lucy), Jim Brown (Schroeder), Joyce Recupido (Linus), Ginger Henry (Sally), and Susan Schlesinger (Snoopy). These talented actors have begun rehearsing their lines, songs and scenes. Choreography is by Carol Horowitz and live piano music will be played during the show by Jeanette Cline.

The Publicity Team (Bill and Andrea) are writing several articles for publication, will distribute the colorful flyers and 4x4s throughout Sun Lakes, and a small team will erect the road signs in early February.

The Tech Team is planning its part of the show involving construction of the stage sets and arranging for placements of the lighting and sound, etc. The stage design for the Oakwood Ballroom will start at the small stage at the rear and then risers will thrust out into the room at different heights, creating a large acting space surrounded by the audience on three sides seated on the floor level. In addition, the crew will be constructing colorful, cartoon-like sets, plus a large doghouse for Snoopy, a mock piano for Schroeder, a "psychiatry booth" for Lucy, and a real television. The Tech Team will set up in the area by the entrance to the ballroom where they will provide excellent lighting and sound for this funny and lively show.

Road signs will go up on Sunday, February 2, 2020, and flyers and 4x4 will be distributed throughout Sun Lakes the week of February 3-7. Tickets will go on sale electronically at www.slctinfo.com on Monday, February 10, 2020 at 10 am. Box Office (face-to-face) ticket sales will be available on Wednesdays (Feb. 12, 19, 26) from 10 am-Noon in Room A-3 at Cottonwood and on Thursdays (Feb. 14, 20, 27) from 10 am-Noon at Oakwood in the main lobby. This will be a fun show for the young and young-at-heart, so be sure to buy your tickets when they go on sale in February!

Technical: Rick was authorized to purchase a software program that designs scenes for plays. He said he will offer a training class for interested SLCT members.

Budget: Cindy has emailed two documents to Board members: The regular monthly budget for Jan. 2020 and a second document indicating how much money has been spent so far this year based upon the yearly budget. Any questions can be addressed to her at the meeting.

Grants/fundraising: No activity at this time.

Productions updates:

Howard: *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*—brief update.

Sandy: 3 short plays, *Laughter is the Best Medicine*, May 6-10 in the Navajo Room at Sun Lakes Country Club. Dates: May 6-10 Time: 4:00pm - Happy funny hour (cocktails and heavy appetizers); show at 5 pm. Cost: \$25.00.

The show has been cast:

HOT PURSUIT: Merrie Crawford, Greg Posniack, Diana Nelinson, Mary Vandergriff, Nancy Patterson.

NAKED MAN ON THE COUCH: Diana Nelinson, Kathy Miller, Sally Holberg, Jim Nielsen.

MOTHER'S DAY: Merrie Crawford, Michael Carter, Sharon Guzman, Pat Wolfe, Roxy Banta.

With additional roles going to Mario Carranza and Kathy Tomasewski.

Update on the production itself will be announced at the January 7 Board meeting.

Summer play: *Red Velvet Cake Wars* is on track with auditions on Tuesday, March 31 at 3 pm in Cottonwood room A-6. There are 8 female and 4 male parts, and we are thinking of adding two non-speaking characters to the play; their roles can be either male or female. Anyone needing a script should contact Linda Caton.

Performances: Sunday, July 12th will be a matinee at 1 pm; Monday & Tuesday are "dark";

Wednesday 15- Saturday 18 will be evening performances at 7 pm.

2020 Fall & Spring season: No plays proposed yet; this needs to be discussed at the Board meeting.