

SUN LAKES COMMUNITY THEATRE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
NOVEMBER 11, 2019 11AM-1PM
In Oakwood Library

Present: Sandy Pallett, Mary Vandergriff, Bill Becker, Rick Whitney, Jack Mitchell, Howard Hummel, Jim Nielsen, Cindy Decker

Attendees: MJ Clement, Sandy Bocynesky, Sharon Guzman, Dennis and Susan Conzatti

Call to order: 11:03 AM by President Sandy Pallett

Motion to approve minutes of October 3 meeting made by Howard and seconded by Bill. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion to accept the Financial Report (as presented by Cindy) made by Howard and seconded by Rick. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Addendum to the Minutes: These are reports prepared in advance and reviewed by the Board offline and are attached as follows.

Programs, Education (Mary):

Upcoming general membership meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2019 at Cottonwood in San Tan Ballroom at 6:00 pm. We are having a member involvement exercise, "Stop, Start and Continue" to get more involvement in our theatre.

Sally Holberg has agreed to sing a song from You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, accompanied by Jeanette Cline.

Story Telling class that was to run from Oct 19-Nov 9 on Saturday mornings (to be taught by Karen Burns) is **cancelled** due to several people dropping out. This was a very busy time; open houses and fall play made it a little too hectic for a lot of people.

However, the Advanced Acting class is full, starting in Jan 9-Feb 13.

After researching the possibility of Tony Vicich to teach a stand-up comedy class, we have decided he may not be a good fit for our group. He teaches more writing exercises than hands-on which might not work well for us.

However, Ron Morey, the professional stand-up comedian I have hired for our Holiday Celebration, is working with me to find someone he knows who might be interested in teaching this class. He knows of two instructors who he will check with and let me know. At our last membership meeting, I took a survey of interest for a class to learn stand-up comedy and there were 16 people who are **very** interested! If this can be arranged, **maybe** we could have a small stand-up comedy night at some point! Fun!!

I still may consider Verve Acting Studio of Scottsdale at some point. Maybe they will have a full staff next year so they can send an instructor to us. No one seemed to be interested in traveling up there to their facility.

The **Holiday Celebration** is arranged and was advertised in the November Asides. Members will be signing up at the November 14 meeting and selecting their choice of entrée on the selection cards that will be available at that meeting.

There will also be reminders they may take with them if they want to mail in their reservation and indicate entrée choice.

Reservations need to be sent to Cindi Decker by November 26.

The entertainment for this party will be outstanding! Ron Morey's energetic show earned him a nomination to the list of the top five comics in the country by The Entertainment Business Journal. His show includes characters, music and impressions. In addition to his constant touring of premiere comedy clubs, Ron has spent much time entertaining the troops for the USO in such places as Iraq, Bahrain, Kuwait, Italy and South Korea!

Publicity(Bill)

Regarding the very successful run of Plaza Suite, articles with pictures were submitted to the October issues of *The Splash* and the *SunBird News*. Jim Nielsen manned the computers for tickets and also went to Cottonwood on the three Wednesdays and Oakwood three Thursdays before the show to sell tickets "face-to-face" to customers; his assistants were Jeanne Becker, Jim Brown, Greg Posniack, and Barry Berger. Jim also was at the door each evening of the show – overall, an excellent effort by Jim contributing to the success of this show!

Posters and flyers were posted in our area clubhouses and were be available for SLCT presentations at the Fall "Open Houses" at Cottonwood on Saturday, October 12 from 9-Noon, at Sun Lakes Country Club on Saturday, October 19 from 8:30 – 11:30, and at Oakwood on Saturday, October 26 from 9 a.m. to Noon, so we had a presence at all three open houses to advertise SLCT and to recruit new members. Also, 4x4s were distributed at several "Team Trivia" gatherings for added exposure.

Posted in the November Asides:

CONGRATULATIONS to Director Merrie Crawford, Assistant Director Apprentice Dennis Conzatti, Stage manager Barbie Bergerson, the actors, the Tech Team members, the stage crew, the house crew, and the load-in/load-out crew for the wonderful production of Plaza Suite! Actors for Plaza Suite: Jim Brown & Phyllis Novy; Jo Birkin & Jim Janowski; John Crawford & Kathy Miller; Sally Holberg, Greg Posniack, Mario Carranza, Zachary Posniack. Ticket sales: Jim Nielsen. Set construction and painting crew: John Crawford, Bill Becker, Jack Mitchell, MJ Clement, Norm Harris, Ray Texeira, John Vogelsang. Tech Team members for this show: MJ Clement, Susan Conzatti, Ron Fohlmeister, Norm Harris, Jack Mitchell, Robin Murray, Dave Patterson, MaryAnn Stevens. House Managers: Paula Jones & Pat Wolfe. Backstage: Tenni Annen, Barbie Bergerson, Mary Janscok, Janet Lewis. Ushers: Roxy Banta, Barbara Brown, Dennis Conzatti, Dennis Dannehl, Ginger Henry, Judie Janowski, Donna Quinn, Jacqe Texeira, Sandy Pallett, Sonja White. Load-in/load-out crew: Bill Becker, Jeanne Becker, MJ Clement, John Crawford, Rick Miller, Mario Carranza, John Vogelsang, Jack & Kathy Hahn (new members), plus hired workers: Lorena Polanco and Terry Ryan. Lorena and Terry also helped place and retrieve

the 16 large road signs. Special mention to Judie Janowski who showed up and helped every time that help was needed! Thanks to one and all for your dedication and hard work! Also, regarding the after-Christmas "Horton Show" and "fun activities" on Friday, December 27 at 2 pm in the San Tan. Information about this show was in the November Splash and is being promoted by Sun Lakes CC #2 (Cottonwood/Palo Verde) in their publications.

This announcement was made at the last SLCC #1 board meeting and it will also be in the SLCC flyer, The Sun Laker, in mid-November:

Free fun event for visiting children and their grandparents at the Cottonwood San Tan Ballroom on Friday, December 27 at 2 pm.

If you have grandchildren or other youngsters visiting Sun Lakes during the Christmas Holidays and you are looking for a fun event geared toward them, then this is the event to attend!

*Live theater: "Horton Hears a Who" by Sun Lakes Community Theatre's traveling troupe for Children's Theater – a live 30 minute fully-costumed show geared toward early elementary school age children (and "young-at-heart" parents and grandparents). The show will be performed **free** at the **Cottonwood San Tan Ballroom on Friday, December 27 at 2 pm**. In addition, there will be a magic show, face painting, crafts tables for children and their parents/grandparents to do fun crafts together, a balloon artist, plus free refreshments for all.*

Free tickets for this event are available at the Administrative Desk in our Sun Lakes C.C. Clubhouse during normal business hours.

Membership (Jack): We had a booth at each of the three October open houses: Cottonwood, Sun Lakes, and Oakwood. Received membership slips from 10 people. Several more people took the slips, but they didn't turn them in at the Open Houses. Going to contact the names we have to invite them to our next general meeting.

Tech:

Tech Chair (Rick):

1. Still have no clarity of where our equipment marking stands.--- **This item needs agenda time & has been requested for at least two months.**

This was discussed extensively with Rick wanting to etch an identifier on each piece of equipment. Jack displayed a handbook with pictures of each item listing their model number and serial number. It was determined that some items can be handled that way but others may need to be etched. Jim also recommended that all the handbooks be scanned and that all such information heretofore be digitized and stored on our web server. This prevents issues with lost handbooks or puzzlement as to who has it at any time.

Motion: Proceed with all the above identification and marking strategies with designated holders of the information. Jim moved, Howard seconded.

2. We still face an on-going struggle in regards to leasing the Robson space. -- **Item needs Agenda time discussion**

This was moot with Robson pulling out of the deal because they would be unable to provide a place where we can store and build sets without noise concerns.

Motion was made by Bill to abandon the search for the time being, seconded by Jack.

Board president, Sandy P, will send a registered letter the Mr. Robson indicating such.

3. What happened to the April BOD approved purchase of two baby follow spots? **Agenda time to discuss why BOD approved motions get derailed.**

Tech team will go to Clearwing and make decision about whether to with them on this issue.

4. Response to Riser cart info Rick sent out to all BOD? -- **Agenda item that requires thorough discussion.**

There was thorough discussion of the viability of using riser carts because of the cost of purchase and the fact that it does not necessarily eliminate the need for people who can do the heavy lifting.

ACTION ITEM; Prior to making any financial decision on this, Rick is to come up with a proof of concept showing that we can move these without hired help and can easily store them in current rental storage units.

Financial (Cindy): Will cover any questions at the meeting.

Handed budget variance sheets which generated a few questions that were easily answered.

Budget was approved by voice vote.

Grants(Penny): No new info. at this time

Shows updates:

Howard:Charlie Brown music rehearsals have been underway since the start of summer. New members Jeanette and Gene Cline have been working on the songs. We will rehearse 6-7 times in November/December and start full rehearsals in January. IronOaks has been wonderful to work with. Rick is putting up a ledger board around the back and sides of the stage to attach the flats to. They are paying for work lights above the stage to avoid using stage lights. Rick will install them.

Red Velvet Cake War (Summer 2020 show) Linda Caton will be directing and Sandy Bocynesky will be assistant directing this uproarious play. Linda has set the **audition date as Tuesday, March 31**; please contact Linda for information and scripts. Rehearsals will start on Tuesday, May 12; practices will be Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm.

Please note these performance dates: The opening show will be on Sunday, July 12, as a matinee at 1 pm. Monday and Tuesday will be dark. Then, the remaining shows will be Wednesday July 15 - Saturday July 18 with evening performances at 7 pm.

Sandy Bocynesky – Horton’s future? And interactions with local schools.

Basically, I don't know if I will be directing Horton again after next spring's show and no one has stepped up to learn the "administrative side of dealing with the schools" and then there is the directing. So without the Horton performances, the board needs to ensure that monies are still being donated to the schools to keep up our 501c3.

Also with regard to Ms. Likes, it might be time to do a “joint effort” with the schools and we are setting up a meeting to do that. According to Roger, she is very interested in doing something with us and will try to set up something. Roger doesn't know that he can make that meeting, but he will ensure that I get to meet with her and you,

See New Business for discussion for this item.

Old Business

Items not covered in the above Addenda were tabled until the end (which never happened).

New Business

Horton

Sandy B gave a substantial presentation about the need for more assistance in preparing and presenting the Horton shows each year at the elementary schools in Chandler. It is a practically a year-round task with sowkr starting in August for scheduling and ending in March or April after the cast party. Essentially, she wants to be relieved of the overall ownership at the end of the 2020 productions in March. To that end, she would like to break the management of the task into parts, each of which will have their own manager. These parts include Scheduling, Directing, and Logistics (managing the care and movement of props primarily). She will do a brief presentation to the club at November 14 club meeting and will request volunteers. See Addendum for additional information.

New Show in May

Sandy P. presented her plan to put on a show of three short half hour shows in May 6-10, 2020 in the Navajo Room at SLCC (Phase 1). The show will be called: *Laughter Is the Best Medicine* and will feature productions of Mother's Day, Hot Pursuit, and Naked Man on the Couch. The ticket will include appetizers at \$8 per person which would make the total ticket cost of \$25. (\$16 + \$8). A bar area is available as well.

Auditions for the show will take place on January 4th, 2020.

Motion to approve was made by Bill and seconded by Jack. It was passed by a non-unanimous voice vote. There was a concern that doing more shows at other SL locations might interfere with our current relationship at Cottonwood.

Fall Show

There is no firm decision on the Fall 2020 show. There was some discussion about teaming with Hamilton High School where we have people in their high school casts and then they perform here as well.

Play Reading Committee

There was discussion about someone from the Board working with the Play Reading Committee but none volunteered.

Fun Lakers

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The meeting went long and several members had to leave, so the rest of original agenda was postponed until the next meeting or will wither on the vine.

Meeting adjourned 1:47pm. Next meeting scheduled December 12, room is TBD.

Respectfully Submitted,
JIMN