

**SUN LAKES COMMUNITY THEATRE  
VIRTUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**JUNE 14, 2022**

**VIA ZOOM** (Final Approval 7/12/22)

Participating Board Members: Jim Brown, MJ Clement, Kate King-Turner, Michael Carter, Sharon Gerdik, Robin Murray, Greg Posniack (Partial Attendance / Vacation)

Participating SLCT Members: Sandy Pallett, Sandy Bocynesky, Barry Berger, Cindi Decker, John Zoeller, Roger Edmonds, Diana Nelinson

Invited Guest w/Limited Attendance: Stephanie Likes, Drama Director, Chandler High School

Call to Order: 9:00 AM by Vice-President Jim Brown

Check for Quorum: Seven members were in attendance, so quorum was met.

Proposal of Accepting Meeting Minutes of Last Meeting:

Jim B. entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the May 10, 2022 Board Meeting, which was approved by Robin and seconded by Greg. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Cindi

The monthly Treasurer's report of May 31, 2022 was presented. Jim B. made a motion to accept the report which was approved by Greg and seconded by Robin.

Membership Report: Michael

Michael stated that membership is growing and to his knowledge, the current number of new members are at 19. He tries to welcome each and every one and adds their info to the spreadsheet he created. Our newest member, Mark Wenz, pitched right in on helping with set painting and then placing signs. MJ commented that his help saved the SLCT \$120 since a paid worker was not needed. Michael notifies Sandy B of new members who are interested in the Children's Theatre.

Grant Report: Cindi

A Grant of \$8000 was received from the AZ Commission of the Arts. Greg asked Sharon to send a Thank you and she agreed. Another grant will be reviewed in July.

Diana N. asked the treasurer if the income was known yet from the previous production. That final amount is not yet known but should be available within a week.

Publicity: Kate

There were four articles in the June Splash. The July Splash will have 3 articles provided by Kate and Sharon.

All Sun Lakes Country Clubs have been contacted and are getting the info for the next play distributed.

Oakwood Country Club has new electronic boards that now provide that info as well as printed materials. Kate also placed a notice for the upcoming play in NextDoor.

## Summer Show July 8-12, 2022 / Sandy Bocynsky's "Last Round-Up of the Guacamole Queens"

Director, Sandy B, was in attendance and provided info for this show. She commented that progress is definitely being made.

Jean Jones, Cottonwood Activities Director, is working with Josh to create areas to accommodate 30 costume changes for males and females as well as areas for props.

It's possible that there may be only one day prior to going live, to practice with the 3 stage doors.

Furniture will need to be put in place prior to the scheduled activities of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of July, in the San Tan Ballroom.

The Guidelines for Directors have not been updated since 2006 and need to be. Sandy B with Sandy P's help will tackle this project after the current play is over.

John Z will update the Ticket Sales Policy. Cast members should not have access to early tickets.

There was conversation about Ushers being allowed into the show without a ticket. All ushers, if they wish to see the show, would need to purchase tickets for the day of their choice. MJ stated that students would get in free if they have helped with the set-up. In the past, Dress Rehearsal Tickets have been available, if performance tickets were sold out. Sandy P said she likes to have an audience for her Dress Rehearsals. Jim B said he was allowed to attend dress rehearsals in the past if he had a purchased ticket for another performance. There have also been times when Renaissance residents were brought over to watch the Dress Rehearsal.

Fall Show is "Sex Please, We're 60" and Director is Jo Berlin.

No official report was available. Jo is away at present and has not communicated with other members. Auditions are still slated for August 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Sandy P said she set up rooms for auditions at Cottonwood in the new building.

### Actors Workshop Suggestion: Diana Nelinson's Proposal

Diana stated that she'd like to create an Actors Workshop to help with a variety of issues, such as Character Development and Scene Work.

She suggested that she could take a group to either Hales or Herberger Theatre Center as an optional experience. They could take notes at the performance and then have discussions in class.

Topics would include what makes a character believable and what makes a show better.

Diana would make a syllabus if and when this project is approved.

A once-a-week attendance is a possibility.

Michael suggested that Diana attend the October 13 General Membership Meeting to discuss this project.

Sandy P said Merrie C. always offered classes prior, but it was determined that this class would offer something different and both classes would complement each other.

Robin will help facilitate Diana's syllabus with Merrie's and thus help to conceptualize the associated but separate projects.

Michael stated that he has been a member of SLCT for as long as Sandy P and he would be available to share his experiences with Diana's class, if she would like.

A motion was made by Kate to approve Diana's class and seconded by Michael. Then Robin changed the motion as "the concept of class as outlined" in order to move the agenda along. Kate then accepted Robin's amendment to the motion and it was so passed. This process will begin at the first Fall GMM.

#### Fall Show Conflict with Nov 10, 2022 General Membership Meeting: Jim B

The General Membership Meeting will be moved to November 17<sup>th</sup>.

Calendars will be updated to reflect this change. The change of date was confirmed with Robin and Cottonwood staff. The location of the meeting was confirmed as well.

#### Introduction to the Theatre Sessions at General Membership Meetings: Michael

Membership Form was updated to specify membership is open to Sun Lakes Residents.

Other changes were discussed and Michael will make those changes.

Greg will notify Michael and MJ of new members when an application and dues are received and confirmed.

More group involvement is needed. A suggestion was made to include a Board Member to sit at each table during the meetings to discuss and gather member's suggestions and thoughts. This idea could be split between the October and November meetings. A story board can be made with posters and Playbills from previous productions throughout the years. Michael stated that as a long-time member of SLCT he would gladly share his experiences. A sub-committee was formed by Greg and includes Robin, Kate, Sandy B and Sandy P. to discuss this project for the October General Membership Meeting. A new form will be available for existing members to update their interests and skills. Some Board Members thought some members might have concerns about their membership not being wanted if they couldn't participate in activities or projects.

The general consensus thought it would be helpful to share the history of Sun Lakes Community Theatre from its start to present. It was suggested that member, Merrie Crawford, could help with that. Show photos could be shown on a loop for members to enjoy.

A suggestion was offered that an imagined / unreal show was being produced and to see what ideas would be offered by members in attendance.

Jim B asked Robin about entertainment. He suggested an Acapella Group he has been performing with. Jim said he could invite the group when date is confirmed.

#### 2023 March Dinner Show / Sandy Pallett scheduled for Mar 19-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

Sandy P gave some info on this 2023 production. It's called "The Case of the Malted Falcon", aka Dead Bird. Performances will be at the Oakwood Ballroom in March 2023.

#### Discussion on Making All Shows Final Performance a Matinee: MJ

There was discussion regarding the need to make the last show of any production to be a matinee performance. This is especially so for Cottonwood Ballroom which need to have risers removed and back to normal by 11am, the following day.

Discussion of this matter was tabled at this time since there only seems to be an issue for the Cottonwood San Tan Ballroom and an updated policy was felt not to be needed.

#### New Membership Application: Michael

The current updated application will go up on our website but other changes are still needed.

#### Gift Donation from Kate's Church: Kate

Kate said her church was happy to receive a Thank You from SLCT for their donation.

#### Fall Open Houses: Michael

Michael has finalized the scheduling of the Open Houses at the three HOAs in Sun Lakes.

SLCC (Phase 1) is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>, in the Phase 1 Parking Lot.

CW/PV is scheduled for October 8<sup>th</sup> at Cottonwood.

IronOaks (IronWood and Oakwood) is scheduled for Oct 29<sup>th</sup> at Oakwood.

At this time, the times are 9am – 12pm and all dates and spaces are confirmed.

#### Other Business: Jim B

We decided to interrupt our lengthy meeting to allow a guest, Stephanie Likes, who was patiently waiting to enter our Zoom Meeting, in order to explain a joint venture with Chandler High School and SLCT. Roger Edmonds was in attendance as well since he is the SLCT Liaison Representative for the Chandler high schools. Stephanie is the Drama Director at Chandler High School and is extremely well qualified with experience on Broadway and with the Walt Disney Company. She stated her students were super excited to perform a musical with SLCT. She mentioned classic possibilities, such as "Fiddler on the Roof", "Music Man" and "Oliver". It would be scheduled for October 2023 and there would be a choice of venue locations, either Chandler Center for the Arts Main Theatre, which holds 750 and up to 1100 when pods are opened, or the smaller Hal Bogle Theatre, which has 346 seats. A member in attendance suggested "Bye Bye Birdie". Stephanie agreed that would be a fun choice as well and went on to explain the logistics of the production. The cost would be split. She would apply for Royalties, which average \$4000 to \$5000. She uses Costume Connections in Glendale and has other good connections for their needs. A member stated that SLCT uses a local prop company where props can be borrowed for free. Chandler H.S. has a budget of \$10-\$12K for production costs. Greg P. asked how many performances would there be. Stephanie said usually 3-4 nights. She also stated that Chandler H.S. productions average 400-500 attendees per performance. Pricing for shows is usually \$10-\$15. Robin asked who would run the soundboard and lights. Stephanie explained that if the show is at Chandler Center for the Arts, they have Audio Assistants who do that and usually have students assisting. But if the show was at Hal Bogle Theatre, then it could be SLCT Techs combined with students. Stephanie said the project would start around May in setting up time on both stages.

All the members in attendance thought it was a Win-Win for everybody. MJ would help design signs. Kate would handle the publicity. The idea of an intergenerational show was a wonderful concept. Stephanie has a good friend who is a Producer with Channel 3. Kate thought we could use a Grant for the high school show because of its special circumstance.

Jim B suggested a motion to approve, which was approved by Kate and seconded by Greg.

Stephanie and Roger left the meeting and we continued the agenda.

Other Business Cont'd: Jim B

Jim B announced that he and his wife will be moving out of AZ and relocating to NC, to be closer to family. He will not be in attendance for the July BOD meeting, since he will be in NC to start their relocation plans. He expects to put his home on the market in August. There is no definite timeline, as yet, as to when he will vacate his position on the SLCT BOD.

MJ mentioned that the Cottonwood Stage lights need adjustment and ClearWing can do that for a cost not to exceed \$200. Greg P approved that expense.

MJ confirmed that a Thank You would be sent to the Greater Sun Lakes Community Foundation.

Sandy P said that Robin has Education and classes have been talked about for Director Mechanics and a Comedy Class by Mary Vandergriff.

MJ said the House Manager Duties have been updated and Kathy Miller, the House Manager for the current play, was given a copy.

Sandy P asked MJ to thank Cottonwood for their wonderful accommodations and services for our shows.

Sandy B thanked John Z for his efforts in getting the ticket sales process up and running.

John Z thanked Sharon for her diligence with getting the website back up recently.

Sharon stated that she was no longer able to continue as Webmaster. There were too many issues going on. Barry was asked to send out an Eblast asking if anyone was interested.

The SLCT Summer Cool-Down is set for August 14<sup>th</sup> at the Oakwood Poolside. There is No Fee.

The Holiday Party is December 13<sup>th</sup> at Palo Verde and a tentative menu was provided.

Our next BOD meeting will be via Zoom on Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 9 am.

With there being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Robin and seconded by MJ.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42am.