**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**April 13, 2022**

**OP Recreation Center, Marlin Room**

**Ocean Pines, MD 21811**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DIRECTORS PRESENT** | | **ABSENT** | **GUESTS** |
| Frank Pasqualino, President | Wayne Klitsch, Director | Joanna Cross, VP | Cara Downey |
| Karen McClure, Secretary/Treasurer | Barbara Miller, Director | Patricia Diniar, Director | Christine Okerblom |
| Ed Guinan, Director | PattyJo Moore, Director | Dorothy Leslie, Director |  |

**CALL TO ORDER**

Having established a quorum, Frank called the meeting to order at 6:15PM.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Since the last meeting, OPP Treasurer Mary Ellen Chilcoat resigned from the Players. On top of Jerry Gietka’s resignation in March, that leaves two open positions. The Board will address this under Old Business.

**REVIEW & APPROVE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 14, 2021**

Upon a motion by Barbara, seconded by Ed, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Karen presented a brief report, based on the information handed off to her by Mary Ellen Chilcoat. The current available balance is $13,341.73. She also reported that the federal taxes have been paid and Mary Ellen submitted a request to Maryland for a two-month extension to file property taxes. OPP will also have to file another report in August with the state of Maryland pertaining to fund raising activities. She advised the Board that she and Frank would need to go to Taylor Bank ASAP to update the signatory authority. Frank also suggested that we get an ATM card. Karen suggested a credit card instead, as those transactions are insured against fraud. The Treasurer’s Report was unanimously approved following a motion by Patty Jo, seconded by Ed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS & CURRENT BUSINESS**

**Outreach/Publicity** – Currently, this committee includes both promotional activities and member functions, such as social activities. Barbara is less interested in social events than she is in the publicity end of things. She is ready to begin developing promotional material about the 2022 season as soon as the Board decides on the exact line up of shows.

**Grants** – Wayne is continuing to develop a master list of potential grantors. He reminded the Board that the county commissioners will be deciding at the end of May whether to award OPP a $3,000 grant to support the Women of Substance and historic program.

**Big Bad Musical** – After several child actors dropped out of the cast and Frank was unable to find replacements, he had to cancel the show. Frank wants to have a pizza party for the kids who did not drop out, to reward them for their hard work. There was also a discussion about offering classes at some future time.

Karen advised the Board that OPP would have to report ASAP to the Worcester County Art Council (WCAC) about the unexpected cancellation of Big Bad Musical because the grant we received from WCAC was specifically to support that project. She offered that she has most of the information from a patriotic cabaret OPP did in 2017 that involved both adults and children. It might be possible, if there are enough actors and singers, to obtain permission from CAC to substitute a new version of that show, thus enabling us to fulfill our grant obligation and provide performance opportunities for the kids who did not drop out. It would have to be performed before the end of June. Upon a motion by Barbara and seconded by Ed, the Board voted to pursue the idea of staging the cabaret, “Happy Birthday, USA” at both Most Blessed Sacrament School and at the Ocean Pines Community Center the weekend of June 24-26.

**River Boat** – Under orders from the Coast Guard, Snow Hill was forced to put the river boat in dry dock in Norfolk for an extensive safety inspection, which revealed significant problems that were not evident when the boat was examined prior to purchase. To make the boat seaworthy will now cost over $600,000 and the town does not know if it can raise the funds. Given the uncertainties surrounding the boat’s immediate future, Karen moved that OPP officially pull out of our obligation to perform three shows aboard the boat this summer, but offer to be available next year, should the boat be operational then. Wayne seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Grand Night for Singing (GNS) Cabaret** – The Yacht Club has agreed to host the cabaret on Friday, November 18, 2022. They require a $250 deposit up front to book the room. Frank has found backing tracks for most of the songs already.

**Love Cabaret** – The show is scheduled to be in early February 2023, right before Valentine’s Day. Karen and Ed will begin planning it in mid-May.

**Play On**—Ed will direct this play, which is scheduled for March 2023. Frank has purchased a regular script and a stage manager’s script. He will upload them to Google Drive so we can all read it. We are planning to do it at the Yacht Club and at MBS.

**“My Time” Play** – Ed proposed a full-length show consisting of several short monologs about their own experiences at various intense times of their lives. He wants to bring in people from other theater companies to participate. Upon a motion by Ed, seconded by Joanna, the Board voted unanimously to move forward with the show concept.

**OLD BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD**

**Open Board Positions** – In the wake of the resignations of Jerry Gietka and Mary Ellen Chilcoat, the Board needs to fill the treasurer position, which Mary Ellen vacated, and the head of the production committee, which Jerry was doing. Karen volunteered to serve as Treasurer if someone else would agree to be Secretary. Upon a motion by Patty Jo, seconded by Ed, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Karen as Treasurer. Karen moved that Barbara become the new secretary, but Barbara declined. No one else volunteered, so for the time being Karen will serve in both positions. Frank will send out an invitation to the general membership asking for volunteers to fill the empty slots.

**New Ticket Platform** – Frank began investigating options for a new ticket platform, but would like help. Cara Downey volunteered to assist him.

**History Program/Women of Substance** – In Pat’s absence, Karen reported that Pat wants to be sure that in this year’s program we do plays about Anna Burbage, Rozelle Handy. Additional possibilities include Amelia Earhart, and Harriet Tubman. These performances would take place during History Week in October.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Lifesaving Museum (LSM)** – Christine Okerblom introduced herself to those who did not know her and explained her role as Curator of the LSM. She talked about the museum’s outreach program and suggested ways LSM and OPP can collaborate. The next outreach is May 15. The Board agreed in concept to develop collaborations. Frank, who has a commercial boating license, volunteered his services for future events.

**New Web Site** – Cara Downey created a demo version of a new site hosted by Squarespace. It has an easy user interface and provides the capability to have interactive forms, surveys, and online ticketing. Registering the domain is $20 a year. Monthly hosting cost is $34.98, but Squarespace provides a 23% discount if paid annually. Eventually, the google account will cost $75 per year to host five email accounts. The log-in for the test site is oceanpinesplayers.org with the password OPP. Karen moved that the Board approve $500 per year +10% to pay for the new website. Ed seconded and the motion passed with five yea votes. Patty Jo abstained, due to concerns about the expense in this time of rebuilding.

**New Logo** – Frank drafted a couple possible new logos and so did Barbara and Cara. After considerable discussion about the pros and cons of moving forward with a new logo now versus waiting until after we update our mission statement and discuss what information we want the logo to convey, the Board tabled the topic.

**Strategic Planning Meeting** – Frank proposed having a Strategic Planning Meeting in May. Upon a motion by Karen, seconded by Ed, the Board picked Saturday, May 21, from 10-5.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Karen, seconded by Ed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Karen McClure, Secretary

April 19, 2022

Attachments to Record:

Final March minutes

Treasurer’s Report