

Board Meeting Notes March 2, 2016

Present: Laureen Catlin, Perry Gary, Jason Gonzalez, Lara Gonzalez, Peyton Hahn, Tess Catlin, Matt Lisa, Darren Lee, Julie Poux, Eric Grimm

Excused: Jonathan Eckman

Guests: Joel Lind

Call to order: Julie Poux, MCP President called the meeting to order at 7:32PM

Minutes: Lara moved to accept the minutes for the February meeting, Matt seconded, motion passed 7-0-2

Treasurer's Report: MCP is still in the black, LM&M came through. Loans from the Catlin family have been paid back, but the loan from the Gonzalez family has not been paid back. There is an additional \$2200 that will be in the bank shortly (was in the mail that was checked today). Season tickets and patron \$ have increased. It was suggested that the Finance committee begin exploring alternatives to a paid credit card system (PayPal). Sweetheart Review had more credit card sales than a typical show due to the need to buy tickets online in advance. Lara moves to accept the Treasurer's report for February; Peyton seconded. Motion passed 9-0-0.

MCP has enough \$ in donations to pay for the wardrobes. This means that, after the wardrobes are finished, MCP will no longer have to pay for any extra storage outside of Theatre 42. The other project that MCP can get done now is finishing the Board Room and making it functional.

One way to offset costs, is to push people to use Kroger Plus cards and Amazon Smile to make more \$ for MCP.

Proposed Budgets:

- Admin/Shows for 2016: Last year, MCP budgeted for two shows at \$19,182.67; for 2016, there will be a budget for 5 shows and it is \$44,435.00 as an increased expense. Lara motioned and Darren seconded. Motion passed 10-0-0.
- Theatre 42 Budget for 2016: Last year, MCP budgeted \$48,988.56. This year, the budget was increased to \$51,615.63. Going forward, each show MCP does this year will set aside 25% of its profit for Theatre 42. The eventual goal being that there will be a set \$ amount each show can give to Theatre 42. This year, we will need to find additional ways to raise \$ or our budget this year will not balance properly. Lara suggested to ask people to sponsor a month's rent for 2016 because the deficit is equivalent for 4 months' rent. Lara motioned and Darren seconded. Motion passed 10-0-0.

Communication Committee: Lara reported. Julie is going to reach out to Black Barn to see about potential fundraisers. The committee worked on a role description for duties of the Communication Liaison for each show. A list was also developed of all of the different publicity activities that are currently being done. Currently, the committee is stretched doing all of the current publicity activities. However, anyone who has connections to extend publicity efforts is encouraged to use them.

Finance Committee: A lot has changed since the last meeting. Peyton sent out a proposed event calendar for the year. Among other opportunities, the Cincinnati Reds do offer the opportunity for nonprofit organizations to staff the games and earn \$. Proposed shifts in April, May and June. Peyton suggested an 8 person stand to make the maximum \$ during this fundraiser. Peyton also said he would be the lead on

this and take over the planning. The Reds fundraiser will require a small and dedicated number of individuals who are willing to be trained and commit to it. This fundraiser will work better if there is a personal ask from friends and family or the membership as opposed to a general email blast. The dates for the Reds fundraiser will be April 22, 23, 24; May 6, 7, 8, 20, 21, 22; June 3, 4, 5. Laureen moved to pursue this fundraiser and the board agreed.

Crowdfunding for the expenses of Dirty Rotten Scoundrels with a goal of \$4000. With crowdfunding, there is typically a rewards program set up so that each person who donates a specific amount of \$ will get some sort of a reward for the donation. Julie brought up the point; why crowdfund for a show and not a project? The thought would be that it gives MCP a financial boost going into August fundraisers. Matt suggested to emphasize that doing Dirty Rotten Scoundrels will be a new musical, not done in the area very much and as a result may incur additional costs.

Liaison Committee:

- ACT Report – MCP's initiative was to help recognize the next generation of thespians in ACT. However, Joel reported that this issue is doomed to be lost in the politics of ACT. Joel brought copies of the ACT award nominations. The three awards are Mario Pitocci Award, Roger Grooms Award, Art Rouse Award. These nominations have to be in by May 1. There is another award, OCTA Award for the spirit of Community Theater; the person who's work best embodies the spirit of Community Theater.
- ACT Judging Workshop – The spoke on sound, light and producing. Judges can be pickier on technical aspects. Encouraged judges to give more descriptive feedback. Spoke about difference between sound and light execution and sound and light design.
- Peyton will sub represent MCP at ACT for the next few months.

Membership Committee: Becca mentioned for committee to do bonfire/picnic to get people together. Membership database is still in the works; will hopefully be completed by the end of the year.

Production Committee:

Performance: has not yet met but there is an established group of members. Matt plans to meet within the next month and then he wishes to be at the production committee meeting to assist producer of Tuna. Matt will finish inviting members of the committee.

Facilities: Matt reported that they met. One goal was to try to place end dates for some of the projects that were on to-do list

- Wardrobes end date is March 31
- Lawn mower will be paid for in time to cut grass (end of March)
- Urinal auto flusher has been procured by end of March(fell off a truck)
- Lighting ballasts will be procured by end of March

Request: during any event, the last 30 minutes will be spent tidying up and making sure things get put back to where they belong.

Another priority is to designate someone to stop in when the theatre is not being used to ensure that the facility will be taken care of. Signs: will have zip tie of show dates, Mason Community Players. It was pointed out that once a donation is made, that property no longer belongs to the individual, but rather MCP. People are getting to know that Theatre 42 is the home of MCP.

Renters: Matt reached out to woman interested in renting Theatre 42 (who came to Sweetheart Review). There was a gentleman who visited the theatre with Matt today and he wants to see a contract and is interested in renting. It is a country band with a potential for members of MCP to perform. The potential renter said that \$400 a night was too much, but Matt countered that there might be an opportunity for discount if the potential renter became more involved in MCP.

OLD STUFF

MCP 2017 Season Selection: Last meeting, there was an extended discussion and it was decided that we want a varied audience, including children. Lara reached out to Shannon Mahoney. She would like to direct *Wizard of Oz*. Another option for Shannon would be *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

- Feb/March – *Love Lost Review* directed by Mo Rettig
- April – *Pride and Prejudice* directed by Rebecca McLaughlin
- July - *Wizard of Oz* as directed by Shannon Mahoney
- October - *Curious Savage* – directed by Gail Rudolph
- December – *Tuna Christmas* directed by Lauren Catlin

Lauren moved to accept this as the 2017 season, Perry seconded, motion passed 10-0-0.

LM&M Update: Will is the Assistant General Manager and is running things. There was a large staff turnover. They are transitioning to a nonprofit organization. They proposed to MCP to do Easter, Thomas and North Pole Express events for 2016. LM&M will honor the \$55 per shift despite the changes within the organization. There is also a potential for us to do a Murder Mystery Train with LM&M. They would be willing to give tickets to train rides for MCP to raffle off.

Sweetheart Wrap-Up: Lauren doesn't think there will be a lot of money to be made, but the final figures are not in yet. Hospitality was a bit expensive because it was fancy, MCP now owns some things to dress up the theatre. The connection with the Houston went really well. Lauren suggested doing this for each show, but for only one performance and then instead of getting a free meal, getting a discounted meal.

Greater Tuna Update: Lara reported that there is a budget in place and profit is anticipated to be at least \$1510. About \$377 would go to Theatre 42. She had a question about programs: What if instead of a traditional program, do fans because it is Tuna and Texas and it is hot. Instead of promotions in programs, get the characters of Tuna to advertise radio style during one of the shows. Peyton moved to accept budget, Jason seconded, and motion passed 10-0-0.

NEW STUFF

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels Auditions: Mid-April auditions.

Eric Grimm suggested that we ask for show proposals earlier in the year with the intent to have 2018 season planned in enough time to announce it at the 2017 banquet.

Julie Proposed to close meeting at 10:52, Eric seconded, all were in favor so it ended.