

## **Ouachita Little Theatre Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 21, 2019**

Members Present: Rudi Timmerman, Brad Storey, Bill Hays, Lamar Austin, Amanda Baker, Jackie Biard, Robby Burt, Jane Buttermilk, Jessica Kropp, Julie Ulmer (Absent - Judy Kropp, Alexa Night, and Beth Coogan) Guests: Beth McMillan, John Puddington, Scott Jenkins

Meeting Called to order by President Rudi Timmerman, 5:30 PM

**Secretary Report:** Jessica Kropp made a motion for the minutes from the last Board Meeting to be approved. Brad Storey seconded, and the minutes were approved.

**Financial Report:** Bill gave the treasurer's report. Arvest register balance = 3,069.86; First Financial register balance = \$1,701.87; Union Bank register Balance = \$10,607.12

Rudi mentioned there are some struggles with Pay Pal; membership names are still going to Barry Mikelson, so even though we are getting the money, the patrons may not be receiving their tickets in a timely manner. He is aware of the issue and working on it to improve efficiency.

### **Reports**

**Annie Production** - Auditions are March 1, 6:00-8:00 PM, March 2, 10:00 AM to noon, and March 5, 4:00- 6:00 PM. Rehearsals will begin as soon as the directors determine, probably the end of the first full week in March.

**Just 4 Fun Players** - Scotty Jenkins reported that "Farce of Nature" had nice crowds of about 40 people on Friday and Saturday, around 60 on Sunday. They are expecting a bigger crowd in the coming weekend, and people seem to be enjoying the show. Box office has taken in \$998 so far, concessions \$232.

**Lyric Players** - Justin Richmond and Annie Baker did a scene from "A Company of Wayward Saints" before the February movie night. It was well received.

**JOLT** - The JOLT participants and their chaperones had their lock in at the theatre, and everyone seemed to have a good time. No new business at this time.

**Office** - Beth reported that ticket sales and memberships are being processed at a greater rate than previously. She was able to encourage a donor last week to join OLT and the person donated \$1000 to the theater!

**Bensons** - Scotty reported that they need to have a meeting shortly. He will be in contact with those helping.

### **Productions:**

- **Always Patsy Cline** - Jessica reported that she and Judy have been looking over the script and music and have determined they will serve as director/music director respectively. They will also be looking for another actress to play with Lana onstage.
- **SNL in Mena** - is set for Lum and Abner Days, June 7-8 weekend.
- **Chekhov** - John Puddington will hold auditions for the plays in August or September. He is also interested in pursuing a workshop for **Othello**. He has given the information details to Rudi who will assist in getting the word out to interested people.

**Box Office** - Covered for "Farce of Nature."

**Concessions** - no report

**Publicity** -The frustration continues with getting information in papers and on radio, even when provided well in advance. Julie is going to send the same article again as well as a shorter one, and each paper hopefully will choose the one they will publish in time for auditions beginning just a couple of days later. KENA is also informed.

**Play Selection** - Lamar has read most of "Othello" and hopes to have a meeting with his committee in March.

**House:**

- Smoke detectors are up and fire extinguishers serviceable now. It cost \$670, but it had to be done.
- Rudi said the 30-ft. curtain track is going up after Farce of Nature strikes the set. We are getting ten 4 foot 6 inch panels at \$100 per panel in "wine" color instead of gray.
- Brad brought up new issues with the leveling of the flooring for the concession stand remodeling. He received three bids. We also looked at the counter design, and Rudi called for a motion to approve that design. Julie made the motion to approve, Jessica seconded, and it passed. Lamar made a motion that we hire MSBI to do the work on the floor with a turnkey job price of \$6455, completed in April. Jane seconded the motion and it passed.
- Brad discussed the key situation. He talked to Frank (?) and he estimated it will be about \$450 to rekey the locks and provide enough keys to us for our needs. Brad moved that Frank be authorized to create four types of keys meeting our specifications. Bill seconded, and it passed.

**Costumes:** Jane has been working on a plan for costume rental fees. She has proposed that we work out a reciprocal agreement for other theaters, such as Mt. Ida

Players. She also wants the authority to use her discretion for area schools and the college when it comes to using costumes. Jane made the following motion to 1) assign different value levels of fees for costumes to rent at \$10 \$20 and \$50. Dry cleaning expense will fall to the renter, and costumes can only be rented for one month. 2) in exchange for money for organizations with limited income, volunteer hours at OLT can be used. 3) Jane will have authority to use her own discretion in the rental, care, and money charged for all costumes. Lamar seconded the motion and it carried.

**Membership:** Rudi has been talking to Pasha Watson at the Chamber of Commerce to help us with our membership drive.

**Outreach** - Next two movie nights will be Rodgers and Hammerstein productions including South Pacific and The King and I. This is meant to encourage people to think about musicals and try out for "Annie."

Rudi will pursue the Remnants of Rock concert. Marty Haggard wants to perform again at OLT on July 11<sup>th</sup>. We will ask for a \$2 per ticket handling charge for OLT in addition to the usual rental fee.

Jessica moved to adjourn, Jane seconded, and the meeting dismissed at 6:30 PM.

Submitted by Julie Ulmer for Secretary Judy Kropp