

Date : February 23, 2023

Board members present:

X	Alex Night	X	Jered Biard
X	Brad Story	X	Robby Burt
X	Judy Kropp	X	Ann Glenn
	Bill Hays	X	Jessica Kropp
		X	Makayla Kenyon-Ortiz
X	Lamar Austin	X	Rudi Timmerman
X	Amanda Baker	x	Julie Ulmer

Secretary's Report: The secretary's report was approved by Brad. Seconded by Jered and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Arvest (general fund) \$3376.73
Union Bank (Building) \$14,874.87
First Financial (concessions) \$1909.44

3. Office Report—Alex

A. Bob and Peggy Young have updated their membership and have asked we give it to someone else. It was given to Cheryl Rice and husband and daughter. It was suggested that we offer it to them again and Brad will contact them.

B. Jered made the motion to upgrade the Star and Pulse membership, Lamar seconded and motion passed. The Star and Pulse are awfully good to us!

C. Audition Forms need to be gathered by the director, then immediately given to the office and then the directors can have them back. We need to have all the info in our database as soon as a cast is selected. We would also like to have a place for permission for photos to be distributed on social media and a place that say the actor commits to all the performance dates.

D. There is a new person running the Cash Mobs. He came by to see if we would like to host or to be mobbed by the group. Much discussion was held about this because of misunderstandings in the past. Ann made a motion, Amanda seconded that we table this issue for now. Motion passed. The board asked Alex to keep the communication open and explains our concerns to see if the mob would want to come and have only tickets to purchase.

E. Alex brought up the point that we might want to increase our ticket prices. It was suggested that we at least go up to \$10 and \$15 to get rid of all the one dollar transactions. Another suggestion was made to make the first 5 rows more expensive seats. It was decided that a committee should get together and bring their guidelines to us next meeting so that we can vote on it at our general meeting in May. The committee is Amanda, Jered, Alex, and Ann.

4. Artistic Director Report—Judy

A. To get the logo for Clue we need to pay the full price for licensing and royalties-Broadway Licensing will not allow us to pay partial at this point. Alex offered to make a type of digital place. Then it was asked if we had paid for The Fantasticks yet, which we have not. The board mentioned that April had gotten \$2000.00 in sponsorships and so we should have the money to pay that too. Rudi made a motion to pay all the royalties and fees for both the Fantasticks and Clue, Jessica seconded and the motion passed. Judy did remind the group that she has to put this on her credit card and that Bill is very good at paying her back before the bill comes due.

B. At this point, Judy is terminating any more work on the LYRIC sign for the marquee. At the last meeting it was decided that we might have major foundation work to do and we don't need to be spending money on the marquee.

C. Burn the Mortgage Fund is within \$2000. of being paid off. I need to be sure that the \$2000. from the Orbison show is paid and then hopefully the rest will come from the Women of Country show by Lana and her band.

D. I believe that if a director is interested in directing a play, it is their responsibility to get the script perusal and present it to the Play Selection Committee. That was agreed upon by the Board.

E. We still do not have a correct poster from Lana. I have been working with her for days and still does not have all the info on it I want. I will try to get that to all the publicity people by Friday. Board Members should pick up posters next week from the office. Replace *the You Can't Take It with You* posters with the Lana posters. Then after the Lana show, we will replace with *Little Shop of Horrors* posters.

F. We have a great show going on right now. Lots of positive buzz going on!

6. House—Brad

A. The internet has been updated. Yay! Lines were run and now we have internet access in the auditorium as well as better access in the office. A Huge thankyou to Brad and Jered! The network is OLT, the password in OUACHITALITTLETHEATRE. We do not want to hand this out to our patrons or members as such!

B. Sandy Henley has offered to make for us seat covers that have RESERVED stitched on them so we can stop doing the paper and tape thing. She sent a sample and we were all amazed. She is donating all her time if we will pay for the materials which will probably be about \$300-400. Brad made a motion for Sandy Henley to make RESERVED seat covers and we will pay the cost of the materials. Rudi seconded and motion passed! The question was asked who actually puts the reserved seating signs up and it is the office that normally does this.

7. Play Selection—Lamar

Next meeting will be in March.

8. IT Report—Jered

A. The next items to be included on the website will be cataloguing of playscripts we have in the office and if anyone has scripts at home they want included, please get them to the office ASAP.

B. Jered would like to get our volunteer database up and running.

C. we need to replace the computer in the sound booth as soon as possible. It is just not working efficiently.

9. Box office—Amanda

We need more volunteers for the Box Office. If we get more volunteers they need to be trained. All board members should help with Box Office when you are not in the show. It would be preferable to have a way for all cash payments at the concession stand and the box office to be recorded digitally. Amanda put Jered in charge of looking at prices of tablets and telephone squares to be used. She would like to see this purchased before *Little Shop of Horrors*. Brad suggested that we find a person who would be willing to work the box office and one person to work the concession stand for ALL shows. It was even suggested we might pay them minimum wage by the hour. I asked if the directors wanted to use their money that way? MaKayla and Kristie Kenyon-Ortiz said they would be willing to do that and really didn't need to be paid.

As a director, Amanda asked about what to do with people on their phones during a show.? She had a person on the front row doing TikTok and using the volume and it was very annoying. She tried to get her attention but did not succeed. Finally the gentlemen with the lady told her to stop and she turned the phone on her lap but the sound was still going.

Use a flashlight and shine it on the phone to get attention and then ask the person to quietly turn off their phone. If they will not comply, an option is to call the police. That person is disrupting the play for everyone who has paid to come.

10. Publicity—Julie

A. Julie wanted to bring it to our attention that we have now had to purchase larger ads since so much info is required on them. The ads are considered 1/8th page and they really look good! It is good no know that [tickets can be purchased at oltmena.com](http://oltmena.com) or ouachitalittletheatre.org

B. Julie was questioning if we should continue with movie night. Pros were that in this present cast, we got them interested because of movie night. Cons were: we are still running them illegally when we don't pay for the rights to show them, we don't have a lot of people attending, and it is a lot for MaKayla to come to run the machinery, which she is ready to do. **Brad made a motion that we table the movies indefinitely,** Rudi seconded and the motion passed.

C. Julie also asked for clarification on the Benson voting to publicize. Voting may begin on Mar 1 and will end on Mar 29, so that awards can begin being made by April 1. Only members may vote. About 20% of members may need written ballots and will be encouraged to come to the office to get those. Alex may vote for them as proxy on the computer if they desire. They must return by March 29.

11. Readers Theatre-Ann

A. The Valentines performance went well with the audience laughing and enjoying themselves. It was a success.

B. They have been asked to return to the Extension Homemakers on April 28.

C. Ann is still working to find a script for the Christmas at the Ouachitas performance.

D. Their next meeting is March 4.

12. Ann made a motion to Adjourn, Jessica seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Kropp, secretary