

# STAGE-M General Membership

## Meeting Minutes

**May 4, 2019 - 9:00AM**

Present: Aaron W., Philip H., Sarah K., Emily A., Laura T., Lisa B., Chris L.

Absent: Gordon M.

I. Called to order: 9:00 am

II. Minutes from April Meeting – Approved online

### III. President's Report

- A. Got rights for all shows next season.
  - a. Agnes – Last weekend of Oct/First weekend of Nov
  - b. Foreigner – Last weekend of March/First weekend of April
  - c. Evita – Last weekend of July/First weekend of August
  - d. Lughnasa – Last weekend of Oct/First weekend of Nov
- B. Got mailbox put up in scene shop

### IV. Treasurer's report - \$25,268.49

- A. Still working on credit card

### V. Correspondence

- A. We are invited to go to Clio MI to see a Swamp Opera. We have two free tickets. Last 2 weekends in June. They want us to be among the community theatres to do this show. We do have to make reservations. No one wanted to go.
- B. On stage – formatting work for programs. Theoretically it's free. Aaron will look into.
- C. Letter from Voca Lyrica thanking us for donation of season tickets.
- D. Report from Freemont Area Community Foundation – We have ~\$13,000 in Leon Keys Fund, we can give out ~\$11,000.
- E. Membership to AACT – this is how we get membership to On Stage, 20% discount for MTI, access to reading library, plus a plethora of other things. Cost is \$205.00. We will renew this. We can get ASCAP licensing fees for \$170.00. This gives us discounts on non-musical music. May not be worth it this year.

### VI. Standing Committee Reports:

- A. *Budget Committee – Philip Himebaugh (TABLED)*
- B. Education Committee – Chris Lamar
  - a. We've received one application to go to Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Jerena might have more due to the mail debacle.
  - b. We could award senior scholarship at Little Shop instead of High School Awards night.
- C. *Election Committee – Gordon Mallett (TABLED)*

D. Facilities Committee – Jon Taylor

- a. Chris Lamar reporting. Pump is fixed. There are two new parts and it works. While Chris was there, he also trimmed some trees. There is a big pile of brush. We could do a bonfire on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
- b. Jon would like to approval get a dumpster in a couple weeks for the Great Purge of the Scene Shop. Lisa seconded.
  - i. Funds come out of scene shop budget. We are not sure how much it will cost.
  - ii. Approved.

E. Fundraising Committee – Sarah Kirby

- a. Still wants to do Variety Show. Needs a budget. Sarah has people who want to help. Aaron requests that Sarah make a budget for us to look at and approve.
- b. Tentatively thinking spring 2020 (May)?

F. Audience Development Committee – Lisa Bondarenko

- a. Met with Aaron and discussed what this might look like. Implementing more social media. Want to try and get creative ways to get audiences involved.
  - i. Business gift baskets
  - ii. Program raffles
  - iii. Surveys online – directing people to our website, what types of shows would they like to see
  - iv. Incentives to bring people to shows/group discounts
- b. Aaron posts on social media as much as he can with his schedule. It is a ton of work and time. Website traffic is up again this month.
- c. Lisa will get a gift basket for each day of the show for Little Shop. Aim for sponsors of the show first, then ad sales.

G. Program Selection Committee – Laura Taylor

- a. We had two shows get submitted for 2021 season.
  - i. Devann Hattis submitted Spring Awakening. The show is not family friendly.
  - ii. A high school student submitted The Play that Goes Wrong (no rights available and it is financially and technically unattainable).
- b. Start soliciting to get more people to submit for 2021 season. Can update ad cycle to start focusing on getting directors.
- c. Laura will send out acknowledgements for submissions, and when decision has been made.

H. Publicity Committee – Aaron Wilkinson

- a. We use online ticket sales through eventbrite. If we were to update our wordpress site up to professional, we can start to accept sales through website (ads, sponsorships, tickets, memberships, group discounts, etc).
  - i. Is this something worth exploring? Yes.
  - ii. Lisa's husband will contact Aaron to talk about saving money on credit card processing fees.

**VII. Old Business:**

A. The Hollow – Aaron Wilkinson

- a. Aaron handed out final budget for The Hollow. Total audience 224 which is equal to or less than the amount of season tickets we have out. We spent \$5675.12 and made \$6921.50. The Hollow was successful. Audience response was very positive.

B. Little Shop of Horrors – Philip Himebaugh

- a. From Jeanna – asked Anna Mounts to accompany and she cannot. Jeanna is still looking. Chris asked some high schoolers about being in the pit – keyboard and bass. They will get back to Chris. Jeanna will ask Ruth. Lisa will do it. Lisa will not be available weekend of auditions, we can use canned music for auditions.
- b. Auditions are in two weeks. Philip is excited and nervous.
- c. Everyone needs to share the ads on facebook. Aaron upped publicity amount on facebook.

C. **New Business:**

A. Production Bylaws – Aaron Wilkinson

- a. Aaron would like to schedule a meeting for after next board meeting (June 1), this will be just for E-board. Lisa may be gone that weekend. Ad hoc committee is dissolved, E-board will work on this.

B. Director/Staff Guidelines and Responsibilities – Aaron Wilkinson

- a. Aaron will begin to draft director guidelines during the Little Shop process.

C. Fundraising Ideas – Emily Aslakson

- a. End of season celebration/next season announcement (early Dec? Poor timing? Mid Nov?)
  - i. Recognize each show/award winners
    1. 10 second recap of each show
    2. Recognize bedpan and spotlight
  - ii. Announcement of new season
  - iii. Membership drive
  - iv. Food
- b. Rocky Horror screening event around Halloween 2019
  - i. Partner with Bulldog Cinema?
  - ii. Partner with Ferris/Williams Auditorium?
  - iii. Could we clean up the scene shop and have it there?
    1. Probably not this year – only one bathroom

D. **Adjournment at 10:30 AM**

**2019 MEETING SCHEDULE:**

June 1, 2019 – 9am  
July 13, 2019 – 9am  
August 3, 2019 – 9am  
September 7, 2019 – 9am  
October 5, 2019 – 9am  
November 2, 2019 – 9am  
December 7, 2019 – 9am