

Opera House Board Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 10:00 am via Zoom

Present: Mary-Carel Verden, Bill Brehm, Mayor Tim Swadley, John Beutel, Jill Patterson, Lisa Reeves, Pat O'Connor, Jonathan Lewis

Absent: Jim Borling

Staff: Victoria Flynn, Julie McDougall

1. The meeting was called to order by President Verden--10:03 am.
2. Motion to approve January 18, 2022 Minutes by Lewis, second by O'Connor --10:04 am.
3. Director's Report, Brehm—10:05 am.
 - A. Some of the stand-out shows for February were Steely Dane, Davina & the Vagabonds, and Allison Russell.
 - B. In March there were some great crowds for the Jayhawks, Milk Carton Kids, and Mardi Gras Mambo.
 - a. There was a tornado touchdown outside of town during the show, but no sirens went off. Everyone was safe at the Opera House. It gave us a chance to brush up on emergency procedures.
 - C. Two new shows were added to early May—Aimee Mann and Suzanne Vega.
 - D. There is a week in April with 8 shows in a row, including 2 Music Appreciations.
 - E. We've had the lounge open after Music Appreciation for meet-and-greets and non-alcoholic beverages and snacks. It hasn't drawn notable sales.
 - F. The current City of Stoughton Covid policy leaves the building managers in charge of vaccination and mask regulations. There is a building social pressure to stop requiring masks.
 - G. Streaming tickets have been very helpful and a popular option for people still nervous to go out.
 - H. Catfish River Music Fest is planned for July 2-4.
 - I. Lighting for the small stage has been purchased and is on its way.
 - J. There will be a full page ad in the new Isthmus along with the film festival guide.
 - K. There will be 2 Open House volunteer training sessions with the help of the Head Ushers.
4. Financial Report, Brehm—10:29 am.
 - A. Borling is on vacation. Much of the financial report was covered above.
 - B. Looking at the ticket sales, Iris DeMent will sell out along with Kathy Mattea & Suzy Bogguss and Janis Ian.
5. SOHFA Report, Lewis—10:36 am.
 - A. The sample seat with cushion has arrived. It will need more padding.

- B. SOHFA has \$40,000 in matching donations through the end of April.
- C. The campaign hasn't started yet. The website needs a quick fix to get the funds set up.
- D. Franksen needs to get QuickBooks integrated with Square.

6. Move to adjourn by Reeves, seconded by Lewis—10:48 am.

Next meeting: 4/19/2022

Respectfully submitted, Victoria Flynn

4/13/2022

Next meeting 5/17/2022

Respectfully submitted, Victoria Flynn