

## Opera House Board Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, August 16, 2022 10:00 am via Zoom

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

Absent: Jim Borling

Staff: Victoria Flynn, Julie McDougall

1. Call to Order, Verden—10:06 am.
2. Motion to approve July 19, 2022 Minutes by Lewis, seconded by Beutel—10:07 am.
3. Director's Report by Brehm—10:08 am.
  - a. The Member on-sale started August 1<sup>st</sup> and the General Public on-sale started yesterday.
    - i. With the majority of postponed shows out of the way, we're in a better place to compare where we are for sales today with sales pre-pandemic. 2019 was the best year on record for ticket sales. We are down about 22% since then.
    - ii. We hope some larger shows will be announced for spring.
    - iii. We have added many new patrons this year.
  - b. Brehm put together a memo requesting ARPA funds from City Council. An end date for ARPA requests has not been announced.
    - i. The City HR department is also presenting a request for ARPA funds.
    - ii. The City's process for determining and distributing the funds will be discussed in a meeting next Wednesday.
4. Financial Report by Brehm—10:32 am.
  - a. Borling is absent, but sent the final 2021-22 Season P&L report.
  - b. The Shuttered Venue Act funds kept the Opera House in the black.
  - c. This season started with \$8,000 in the Opera House fund which will increase with ticket sales. However, without City intervention, projections suggest the season will end with a deficit.
    - i. The ARPA fund offers a unique one-time opportunity to close the potential deficit.
  - d. Memberships and donations are up, though patrons aren't coming to as many shows.
5. SOHFA Report by Lewis—10:47 pm.
  - a. The seat cushions are in process. SOHFA already paid \$40,000 of the \$100,000 cost.
  - b. There will be a net of \$49,000 left in the account after the seats are paid in full.

- c. Brehm mentioned the paint on the tin tile ceiling in the theater is starting to peel and will need to be repaired in the next two years. This will be a time consuming and pricey project. It will likely cost at least \$250,000. Planning for this is of the utmost importance.
- d. Move to adjourn the meeting by Lewis, seconded by O'Connor—10:52 am.

Next meeting: Sept. 20, 2022

Respectfully submitted, V. Flynn 9/15/22