

Opera House Board Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 10 am via Zoom

Present: Mary-Carel Verden, Bill Brehm, Mayor Tim Swadley, Jon Lewis, Paul Lawrence, Jim Borling, John Beutel, Lisa Reeves

Absent: Genevieve Wilberg

Staff: Victoria Flynn, Julie McDougal

- 1) The meeting was called to order by President Verden--10:03 am.
- 2) Motion to approve November 17, 2020 Minutes by Lewis, second by Lawrence--10:04 am.
- 3) Director's Report by Brehm:
 - a) The Opera House has been awarded a Cares Funding Grant in the amount of \$136, 354.38.
 - i) Lobbying by the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA) allowed municipalities to apply.
 - ii) The national organization is working to have a Save Our Stages (SOS) Act included in the next national relief package.
 - b) We will be undergoing a ticketing system migration that will involve the transfer of all our data.
 - i) Beginning this week, this will be an ongoing effort including a change in gift card provider.
 - c) Brehm has been setting up dates for future postponements of all shows through May to Fall 2021.
 - d) New light fixtures have been installed in the refurbished rooms on the first floor.
 - e) Last week we received a generous donation from one of our major donors.
 - f) Our online t-shirt sales have net a little over \$1,000 in the first few weeks.
 - i) Kong shirts and other merchandise will be coming in 2021.
 - g) We're working toward concession sales when the doors open for shows again.
- 4) Financial Report by Borling:
 - a) We have \$128,951 in profit and \$78,000 in memberships since July as well as \$6,645 in brochure revenue.
 - b) The new system's reports will be the same or better.
 - c) Gift card reports will be much better.
- 5) Opera House Streaming Tech Discussion by Brehm
 - a) Discussion and slide show about the necessity and viability of live-streaming performances on the Opera House Stage in early 2021.
 - b) Brehm requests approval to spend \$52,000 on cameras, soundboard, computer equipment, and remote camera controls.
 - c) Motion to approve Brehm's request to spend \$52,000 on streaming technology by Lawrence. Second by Reeves. 10:59 am.
 - i) Motion is carried.
 - d) Lawrence moves to approve Borling's Financial Report. Second by Lewis. 11:00 am.
- 6) SOHFA Report by Lewis:
 - a) Refurbishment on first floor is complete.
 - b) SOHFA balance is still in the positive.
 - c) A large donor came through last week which will help with purchases for first floor rooms.
- 7) Lewis moves to adjourn. Second by Lawrence. 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted by Victoria Flynn 1/15/2021