

Opera House Board Meeting – Tuesday March 21, 2017 – 10:00am

Present: Vice President Jon Lewis, Gen Wilberg, Jim Borling, John Beutel, Paul Lawrence, Mayor Donna Olson

Absent/excused: President Mary-Carel Verden

Staff: Bill Brehm, Julia Blaikie, Nicole Richmond

1. The meeting was called to order by Lewis at 10:04am.
2. Moved by Lawrence and Lewis to approve the minutes of 2/21/2017 meeting. Approved unanimously.
3. Director's report presented:
 - i) Challenging time of year with active schedule, booking next season, planning CRMF and working with SOHFA for sponsors.
 - ii) The Harp Twins was a surprising success; also had 13-14hr day working 2 Marty Stuart shows last weekend.
 - iii) Working with Arts Council on projects
 - iv) Bryant Foundation Grant for LED lights, ramp to stage
 - v) Work with Christina going well; she knows the agencies, sends offers, etc.
 - vi) Planning a recorded intro to shows. Plan to make list of previous shows.
 - vii) Approved by Fire Dept & HR for fog (with safety measures) for Michael Perry shows
 - viii) Norwegian dance group coming from Norway in July
4. Financials presented by Borling:
 - i) Sales great. In the red pre-subsidy, but sold 19k tickets; estimate was 18k.
 - ii) Added shows; tracking good.
 - iii) Nearing end of season—sales will shut down, costs continue.
 - iv) Loss on Lyle Lovett due to post-contract production buyout deal.
 - v) Can now measure finances year to year.
5. SOHFA:
 - i) Grant paid for railings, conductor's stand, dressing room remodel. Still plaster work to do. Request for lighting, ramps. LED lights long-lasting and will cut power bill by 75%. Building endowment \$6600.
 - ii) Potential to grow SOHFA through relationship with artists, outreach at Catfish Festival, etc.
6. Next meeting April 18.
7. Motion by Beutel to adjourn meeting at 10:51am; seconded by Borling and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Blaikie