

Opera House Board Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, Sept. 18, 2018—10:00 am

Present: Mary-Carel Verden, John Beutel, Bill Brehm, Gen Wilberg, Tass Johnson, Mayor Tim Swadley, Paul Lawrence, Jon Lewis

Absent: Jim Borling

Staff: Nicki Dowland, Victoria Flynn

1. The meeting was called to order by President Verden at 10:05 am
2. Motion to approve 8/21/18 minutes. Passed unanimously.
3. Director's Report presented by Brehm:
 - a. The 2018-19 season opening went very well. Met all goals for opening weekend.
 - b. August fire inspection. Some minor adjustments were made in backstage storage to allow better access in case of emergency.
 - c. The first day of Music Appreciation went off without any problems
 - d. The city budget process is underway
 - e. Madison Essentials ran a great cover of the Opera House with accompanying article. Generated a lot of interest and is widely distributed.
 - f. Opera House was nominated for Madison Magazine's Best of Madison in the category of Best Performance Venue.
4. Financials Report presented by Brehm:
 - a. Membership levels have met goals
 - b. Not all expenses have come in, but off to a good start for the season
 - c. Lawrence raised a question of the Mayor regarding City expectations of the Opera House. Swadley discussed the potential of acquiring a bank building and relocating City offices to that property in order to open more retail and income opportunities for the Opera House.
5. SOFA update presented by Lewis
 - a. Catfish River Music Fest was a success
 - b. Looking into grant money
6. Move to adjourn meeting at 10:50 am; carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Flynn