

MINUTES OF THE PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT THEATRE BOARD
MEETING
June 11, 2022

Present: Steve Ives, Damian McDonald, Kathy Plummer, Sheila Rauch, Jerry Singer, Claudio Marzollo, Charlie Dupree, Byron Stinson, Chris Nowak

Not Present: Jim Semmelman, Peter Weed, Caitlin Chadwick, Terry Turner

Also Present: Amy Dul, Executive Director, Nancy Swann Artistic Director

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Steve Ives, at 9:30 Am in the Philipstown Depot Theatre.

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting was made, seconded and passed by the board.

The board discussed the power failure that occurred last evening in the early minutes of the Depot Docs screening of Ailey. The entire landing was dark but the theatre generator worked well and in a short time, the staff and board members present were able to continue the showing using generator power through the end. At that point the entire landing recovered power, including Dolly's Restaurant where the after show gathering was scheduled to occur and in fact did occur. The story of this power failure generated a discussion of the potential problems that could occur for a show suddenly without power. Chris Nowak and Damien McDonald will make a list of safety protocols and which items should be first on the list to use generator power in a power failure..

With Depot Docs up and running again after the 2 year Covid pause, we need to go back to the funders in the fall and also raise the ticket price.

Amy Dul reported on the success of the efforts toward increased diversity in programming.

Amy Dul reported on the success of the annual benefit, The Depot's Great Cake Bake-off. Nancy Swann suggested that in the future, if we have a fundraiser connected to a show as we did this year, we should do it early in the run. Steve Ives suggested and the board resolved that the Saturday of the

first weekend of every main event production should be designated “Board Night”, where all board members would attend and bring guests.

Amy Dul asked for help in drafting a booking agreement to use with guest artists who wish to book theatre space. Jerry Singer agreed to prepare something with terms and conditions that can be easily seen on our website.

Amy Dul also gave an update on the Kids Show, later today, with a ticket price of \$3.00, and the Blonde Redhead show on June 17 to benefit kid’s performances.

Amy is working on the audit now in order to apply for a New York State Council on the Arts grant. We will need to list some cyber security measures that are in place for the protection of information.

Mona Smith has agreed to help apply for the NYSCA grant.

We are looking for a Development Associate as well as a Tech Director. Damian MCDonald inquired about the tech director job requirements. It may be possible to think of this as two jobs; one for scheduled productions and one for general running of the theatre space.

Charlie Burkhardt has been hired as the summer set designer.

We have 16 fourth through seventh graders registered for the summer programs and 28 teenagers registered.

A piano has been rented for Sept 23, 2022 and the following weekend. Michael Musgrave, D. Kelley Jazz Trio, The Empire Trio from the city, and a cabaret performance will use the piano.

Measure for Measure by William Shakespeare directed by Maia Guest and John Plummer will be performed in the fall.

Nancy Swann reported on the continuing work of the Putnam Theater Alliance to have original one act plays written with a historical context reflecting the experience of indigenous people and people who came to this country as slaves. These plays will probably be read the weekend of Nov. 5; one in each of the three theaters.

As a board member of Philipstown Aging at Home, Claudio Marzollo suggested the possibility of setting up an interview/storytelling program using a professional interviewer and senior residents of Philipstown in the theater space. Amy Dul said this could be worked out when the theater is not being used for scheduled rehearsals and performances.

Amy Dul presented the 2022 Philipstown Depot Budget. After discussion, a motion to approve the budget was made, seconded and passed by the board.

Amy Dul reported that we are required to spend the Sheltered Venue Operators Grant money within the time requirements that came with the grant.

Charlie Dupree suggested increasing show ticket sales when we can. We are now having less than a full house.

We will meet again the 2nd week in July and again in September, after Labor Day. The dates of July 9 and September 17 are likely.

Damien McDonald said that Equity requirements for a carbon monoxide detector can be fulfilled by purchasing one from Amazon for \$69.

Jerry Singer has agreed to draft a welcome packet for new board members.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed by the board.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Plummer, Secretary