

MINUTES OF THE PHILIPSTOWN DEPOT BOARD MEETING
Saturday September 5, 2020

Virtual Meeting using Zoom

Present: Steve Ives, Claudio Marzolo, Chris Nowak, Kathy Plummer, Peter Weed, Sheila Rauch, Byron Stinson, Gerry Singer, Jack Goldstein, Terry Turner

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

The Philipstown Depot Board Meeting was called to order by Steve Ives, President at 9:00 AM.

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

Steve Ives announced that he has been informed by Town Supervisor, Richard Shea, that we are now permitted to produce outdoor performances. Nancy Swann explained the depth of preparation that had been underway for weeks awaiting this permission. It was to be a dance performance envisioned by Ray Bokhour but now denied by the Fosse Estate. Never the less, other shows will be able to open. Amy Dul is looking toward five consecutive Saturdays, beginning Sept. 26. Chris Nowak has submitted two possible plans for seating 36 people plus a stage on the plaza. The bathrooms will be kept available but patrons will be requested to avoid the bathrooms if possible by using home facilities just before leaving home and being mindful that shows will attempt to be kept to one hour. This is one of many examples of the detailed arrangements being carefully planned and communicated in order to be safe during the pandemic.

Amy Dul reported on details of the five Saturday programs. with Sundays as a rain date. Night Train, the storyteller program, would include five storytellers in one hour. The Erin and Marie Modern Dance Workshop and Performance would be danced on the Landing in the grass. The other three programs are still being arranged and will be announced. Insurance questions, availability and workability of indoor space alternatives, outdoor lighting, staging and seating were discussed.

Claudio Marzollo complimented the entire staff on the wonderful and so gratefully received kids summer program they had created and implemented. The 4th-7th grade students performed Into the Woods, Jr. directed by Lisa Sabin, Todd Hulet, Karen Kapoor, Amy Dul, Tess Dul, Gary Lundquist, and interns Percy Parker, Sophie Sabin, Elaine Llewelyn, and May Gelber. The teens Legally Blonde camp was directed by Christine Bokhour with Tod Hulet as music director, Linda Speciale as Vocal Coach, Liz Kiefer as Mindfulness Coach and Gary Lundquist as Tech Editor.

Steve Ives asked the board to comment on the advisability of gathering outdoors for a Depot Docs at some point. Our next Depot Docs, Ernie and Joe, will be virtual on Sept 25 at 7:00 PM.

The news of the recent gift of land and buildings to Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival was noted by Steve Ives with congratulations and good wishes. Byron Stinson, who is also a board member of HVSF, reported on some of the details of the proposed use of the land and buildings.

Jack Goldstein reported on the continued contributions and success of the Remotely Depot programming which has been underway since the beginning of the pandemic. There is no charge to watch Remotely Depot but there is a donate button on the site which has been generously used. Based on this success and the opportunity to expand our outreach with more content, Jack proposed we increase Ned Rauch's hours from 25 to 36. A motion to this effect was made, seconded and passed by the board.

Amy Dul and Gerry Singer presented three proposals for Directors and Officers Insurance. A move to accept Option 3 was made, seconded and approved by the board. Amy Dul will also acquire a rider for the use of the outside space events.

Steve Ives requested that the board plan a workshop or a retreat to address board diversity. Amy referred us to the Black and Indigenous People of Color BIPPOC paper that has been sent to theaters around the country. She will send everyone the link to read this. Other board members will send recommendations of recent books to note and read in response to the need for diversity.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Plummer, Secretary