



Ankeny Community Theatre

Board Meeting

6/10/2020 - 6:00PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Casber, Matt Tuttle, Tammy Sposeto, Brad Church, Ali Kirwen, Joe Kirwen, Tamie Mullen, Whitney Welp, Robert Uy, John Claes, Cheryl Clark

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Allyson Martens

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Susan Casber.

General announcements

John shared words of encouragement and an anecdote about patience.

April Minutes

Brad made a motion, Whitney seconds. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report

Tamie made a motion, Robert seconds. Motion passes.

Committee Reports see attachments for full report details

Building & Operations:

Someone is dumping items in our dumpster. We are still paying for garbage pickup.

Data Management:

No additional information.

Education:

No additional information.

Finance:

No additional information.

Fundraising:

No additional information.

Marketing:

No additional information.

Membership & Sales:

Had a membership meeting mid May.

We need to choose outstanding actress and actor awards. Susan, Matt, Allyson, Stacie and Whitney will be on the committee.

We have four open positions on the board that need to be filled for the next season.

Play Selection:

Play Selection, Marketing and Production chairs should meet to discuss the dinner theatre for the upcoming season.

Production:

No additional information.

Volunteers:

The current season was deleted from the site. The upcoming season has been set up on our volunteer site.

Old Business**Strategic Plan Review:**

Committee descriptions need to be sent to Matt to compile for the website.

Reopening ACT:

This has been tabled until we have more information about when to reopen.

Virtual Shows:

Ali and Joe are organizing Shakespeare on Sunday night. We have a few other shows planned for July. The last few had around 60 people sign up but only 20-30 people attend. A suggestion was made to send a reminder email to those who signed up.

New Business

Standing Ovation:

If we do not go with Standing Ovation we will be required to create the playbills ourselves. It was estimated that it would take 2 hours per show to layout the playbill.

Robert made a motion that we do not sign the contract with Standing Ovation for the 2020-2021 season. Cheryl seconded.

The marketing committee will help make the decision for what ACT will do for the 2021-2022 season.

Educational Opportunities:

Education committee is planning a virtual playwriting workshop and a short film workshop. They are deciding if the workshops would be paid (including the instructor). David Beech is interested in teaching the playwriting workshop pro bono.

The question was asked if this follows our strategic plan. We may want to suggest that plays be written for the virtual reader's theatre or our dinner theatre.

A suggestion was made to rework the short film workshop as a social media marketing workshop or something that could be used for marketing videos.

These workshops need to be discussed by the education committee and presented to the board as a motion.

Update: June 21

Board approved the Play writing class to be taught by David Veatch with a majority of 9 yes votes from Tammy Sposeto, Allyson Braun, Joe Kirwen, Ali Kirwen, Brad Church, Whitney Welp, Cheryl Clark, Tamra Mullen, and Susan Casber. No response from John Claes, Robert Uy, and Matt Tuttle.

2020/2021 Season Changes:

Cheryl, Tammie, Ali, Joe, and Susan discussed what we should do for the upcoming season due to COVID-19 restrictions. The proposal is to take out plays with larger casts such as Wizard of Oz, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Hands on a Hard Body, and Mr. Popper's Penguins. There is a recommendation that everyone in the theatre would be required to wear a mask with the only exception being those on stage (but masks would be required in the green room). Shows that don't require intermissions are ideal. We may need to have reserved seating to meet government guidelines.

The suggestion is to open ACT with a "small cast season" in October. Another alternative is to wait until early 2021.

Play selection committee will need to come up with a list of small casts that have limited numbers of people on stage at a time.

We are required to keep people at a distance of 6 feet. We have the legal right to request that audience members wear a mask or follow other safety measures we require. Our goal is to make people feel safe when they come to watch a show at ACT.

A limited selection of scripts are available for streaming but there is an additional fee.

Brad made a motion to cancel Wizard of Oz and Mr. Popper's Penguins. Play selection will need to fill the December slot. Susan seconded. Motion passes.

Further decisions about the 2020-2021 season have been tabled until the July board meeting.

Summer show opportunity:

Instead of a virtual reader's theatre on July 12 a proposal was brought up to have something in the Ankeny Bandstand. The capacity of that space is 2,000 so with social distancing we could easily aim for an attendance of 100.

The show suggested is Piece of My Heart. It would still require rehearsal but the set is minimal. The reception was mixed on whether it is worth our time to put on the show.

Another suggestion was to have a reader's theatre at the bandstand. Matt mentioned that he has microphones available if they do not need to be wireless.

Brad made a motion to adjourn. Joe seconded. Motion passes.

Upcoming board meetings:

Regular Board Meeting – Wed., July. 1th, 6:00 PM