

Community Players of Salisbury University  
BOARD MEETING  
February 2, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Melissa Dasher, presiding, Kate Adkins, David Allen, Sammy Barnes, Sharon Benchoff, Bobbie Calloway, Cass Dasher, Robin Finely, Charlie Linton, Darrell Mullins, Rusty Mumford, Kel Nagel, Tom Robinson, Shelbie Thompson

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Bosies, Kyle Hayes, Debby Nagel

GUESTS PRESENT: Jessica Windsor

President Dasher called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Rusty Mumford/Charlie Linton moved to approve minutes of the January 5, 2021 meeting. Motion passed

Charlie Linton reported as follows:

- Commented that financially, January was a good month for us.
- \$355 in Facebook donations.
- We have two potential endowments (Recording Secretary's note indicate a need for clarification on this).

Kel Nagel asked for clarification of the distinction between "Donations" vs "Patron Contributions."

President's Report: President Dasher reported as follows:

- President Dasher informed us that long-time Players, Mary Viese, passed away. Flowers have been sent on behalf of Players.

Rusty Mumford/David Allen moved that the remainder of our season be dedicated to the memory of Mary Viese. Motion passed.

#### Committee Reports

Facilities: President Dasher commented as follows:

- The sliding door in the "Warehouse" area was left partially open.
- We should be aware and make sure the facilities are secure.

Grants: No Report

Lifetime Achievement Award: No Report

Hospitality: No Report

Membership: Cass Dasher reported that membership cards were being distributed.

Newsletter: Rusty Mumford reminded us that the deadline for submitting newsletter content is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month

Nominating: No Report. Sharon Benchoff stated that nominees for Board positions will be announced at the March meeting.

Patrons: No Report

Production: Shelbie Thompson reported as follows:

- The committee is reading the plays submitted

- Reminder-Director's Pitch Meeting is on February 20 at 2:00 pm. Board members were strongly encouraged to attend.
- Scripts of the shows submitted are available electronically so that Board members can start reading them.

Publicity: As Interim Committee Chair, Shelbie Thompson reported as follows:

- "Spelling Bee" was promoted on Delmarva Life and other media outlets.
- Please, someone, step up and become the Publicity Coordinator.

Scholarship: Melissa Dasher, on behalf of Lynne Bratten, reported that we should encourage students to apply for the scholarship. So far there has been one inquiry.

Social Media: Shelbie Thompson reported that we had good social media engagement in January.

Tickets/Season Tickets: Rusty Mumford reported as follows:

- Tickets for "Spelling Bee" are low. Only 100 tickets sold so far.
- Please talk the show up.
- The Box Office at Players is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 to 8:00 pm for those that would prefer to purchase tickets in person rather than online.

Other Reports: House-Kel Nagel reported as follows:

- We have an adequate number of volunteers for will call tickets and ushers.
- We do not need help moving the "Spelling Bee" set to Wor-Wic, the cast and crew have it under control.

Melissa Dasher reminded us that Kel is not available to be House Manager for "SuperStar." We need a volunteer to step up for that.

### Old Business

"Spelling Bee": Producer Shelbie Thompson reported as follows:

- The show looks great
- We had to purchase "Performance Tracks" as we were unable to secure a Musical Director or Accompanist.
- Help is not required to move the set
- We did postpone the schedule of performances

"Twain" Show: Director Matt Bogdan reported that the cast is in rehearsal.

"Senior Follies:" Melissa Dasher reported as follows:

- Rehearsal begin tomorrow
- The casting is complete but the cast list has not yet been posted.

Usher Badges: Debby Nagel reported as follows:

- Melissa Dasher reached out to Echart printing; they will provide 12 badges in exchange for an ad in our program.
- The badges will be ready in time for "Spelling Bee."

Musician Stipends: Darrell Mullins reported on the ongoing struggle to find people willing to serve as Musical Director and/or Rehearsal Accompanist. Below are responses from other Board members.

- It was suggested that an ad hoc committee be charged with researching what other groups are doing.
- Rusty Mumford reported that Jeff Baer suggested that \$100 per performance and 4 rehearsals would be an appropriate.

- Someone serving as rehearsal accompanist should be paid more. Perhaps \$1,000-1,200.
- Melissa Dasher reported that in checking with Ken Dasher, that musicians should be paid \$75.00 per “service.” Services would include rehearsals as well as performances. The fee might be lower if rehearsals were shorter.
  - The issue of the size of the orchestra also came up. In such circumstances, the Musical Director should decide.
  - All orchestra members should be paid the same.
- It was suggested that a silent auction, like Matt Bogdan implemented for “South Pacific,” is an option for raising funds to pay orchestra members.
- Shelbie Thompson reported that the going rate appeared to be \$50.00-100.00 per rehearsal/performance.
- Rusty Mumford commented that as we are a volunteer organization, why are we paying anyone.
- Charlie Linton commented that we have one member who does not charge for playing at rehearsals/performances.
- Robin Finley suggested we partner with musicians in the Visual and Performing Arts program in Wicomico County.
- Jessica Windsor supported the idea of reaching out to music teachers in Wicomico County.
- Melissa Dasher stated that this is an issue for the Musical Director of a production.
- Rusty Mumford/Bobbie Calloway moved that we form a committee to establish a policy. Motion passed.

#### 85<sup>th</sup> Season Fundraiser:

- Rusty Mumford reported as follows:
  - There are volunteers willing to work on planning the event.
  - The event will be in July or August
  - There are potential venues for the event.
  - Suggests a performance for members for free and then a performance elsewhere for admission.
  - He will present a plan at the March meeting.
  - Anyone interested in working on the project should contact him.

#### New Business

Paper Tickets: Individuals commented as follows:

- Charlie Linton commented that we need to have paper tickets. We cannot rely on the internet and/or social media for ticket sales. Further, we must have paper tickets for next season.
- Melissa Dasher commented that we just received confirmation of dates/venues. As such, there was not much we could do until we had that confirmation.

Online Ticket Platform: Rusty Mumford reported as follows:

- The online ticket platform will be updated next week to include “Senior Follies,” and “Jesus Christ Superstar.”
- A reminder that we can’t sell season tickets without venues/performance dates.

“Jesus Christ Superstar:” Sharon Benchoff reported that posters publicizing auditions for the show have been created and distributed.

Micro Grant: Rusty Mumford stated that there is an opportunity to apply for a “Micro Grant.” He has shared that information with Grants coordinator, Gary Finley. Rusty volunteered to apply for that grant.

Shelbie Thompson/David Allen to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm