

Minutes of the Newberry Opera House Foundation Board

Date: February 24, 2021

Time: 4:30

Location: Newberry Opera House Stage

Board Members in Attendance: Les Hipp, Tom Pope, Rob Summer, Susan Wessinger, Jack Shields, Robert Matheson, Mattie Dillon, Matt DeWitt, Joe McDonald, Jim Suber

Board Members Not in Attendance: Morrie Scherrens, Foster Senn, Bob Shirey, Peggy Winder (previous standing meeting at the same time), Luke McCormack, Guild Presidents

Administrative NOH Staff in Attendance: Molly Fortune, Anne Smith, Megan Shealy

Call to Order: Les Hipp called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm and noted quorum present.

Minutes: The minutes from the December 9, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

Special Introduction: Megan Shealy was welcomed by the board and each person was introduced.

Executive Committee and Executive Director: Molly Fortune and Les Hipp updated everyone on related to the Executive Committee call on February 14th. The conversation held related to building upon the great foundation of our business systems and growing them and integrating to make them better and more robust as needed. The outdoor concert was discussed with Molly talking about the two bands, possible price point, and timeframe. Molly would like for everyone to think about how we re-open more seats and business as we move forward, pricing as we move forward, and messaging. Molly also shared with the full board the status of several Federal programs and possible overlaps which might need board attention in March.

Development Committee and Director of Development: Tom Pope and Anne Smith reviewed the positive movement in giving by our donors. Tom and Anne are working to identify links between the board and corporate Newberry. Anne presented a spreadsheet to assist in this ID. Anne spoke about the Lifetime giving timeline moving forward.

Programming Committee: Opening at a certain percentage and when was a topic for review. Molly talked about two interesting out-of-the-box programming ideas: Game Shows and Video Games. At this point, Les Hipp asked all Committees to begin to meet as necessary to move the organization forward. Tom Pope recommended having non-board members present on committees for outside viewpoints.

Motion from Tom Pope: For Chairman to appoint up to 3 non-board members to serve on committees as appropriate.

Jack Shields second

Discussion: how to appoint, how long will they serve, and they would be non-voting members, code of conduct for these members.

Vote: 7 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention

Motion passed

Financial Committee and Business Manager: Megan presented the Treasure's Report with Susan introducing her and speaking to the amount of work Megan has accomplished. All accounts have been reconciled through December 31, 2020. Jack is going to meet with Megan and Molly and staff to walk through Gift Cards and reporting. This will be next week. Susan introduced the new Finance Committee as Jack Shields, Mattie Dillon, Jim Suber, and Susan Wessinger and this committee will meet within the next two weeks.

Guild: Les Hipp gave an update to include the Boston Butt fundraiser quickly approaching.

Governance Committee: Matt reported several new names were added to the list of candidates and reviewed the list with the board. Tom and Les have talked with many of the candidates. A conversation occurred related to diversity, development, and being diligent in the process. Robert Matheson asked how we rate each of these and Les commented a Board Matrix does exist and is being utilized. Joe McDonald and Tom Pope agreed to serve another term.

Conclusion: Les spoke about the dedication of the ambassadors during this time. Without them, we would have issues with presenting our wonderful artists. He asked everyone to thank a volunteer. With no other business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm. The next meeting will be on March 24, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Fortune