

## Minutes of the FCTC Membership Meeting

May 13, 2008

**Present were:** Robin and Walter Mahany, Tom Townsend, Bob and Jennifer Martin, Myles Cahoon, Cheri Gagnon, Kevin Christopher, Helen Soule, Jennifer Carbee, Margie Cain, Michel Denizot and Mary Skidmore Taylor

The meeting was called to order by President Walter Mahany at 8:06 pm.

Kevin Christopher said that the purpose of this meeting was for the membership to hear a proposal to do two fall shows. Two shows were initially proposed for the fall and *The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon* was approved. No holiday show has been proposed and director Margie Cain came back to the Board with a suggestion to do both shows in the fall. The Board approved an amended budget and the proposal is now being brought to the membership.

The proposal is that the play, *Translations* by Brian Friel, will be produced in two new sites and over two weekends, November 21-23 at the Baptist Building in Fairfax and November 28-30 at the St Albans Historical Society's Bliss Auditorium. The Director of the Historical Museum is very excited at the prospect of having an FCTC production there and the space will be made available for rehearsals. The Baptist building will also be available. Please see attached for plot summary. The cast has seven men and three women. The set will create the illusion of barn walls. Margie has proposed to both sites the same financial split that we have in Westford. Auditions will happen the week before *Spectaculathon's* production week. Please see attached for plot summary.

Linda thought the attendance numbers seemed a bit optimistic. Kevin said that the production team was planning some new and interesting marketing strategies, including partnerships with restaurants in St Albans and targeting local businesses for help. A \$500 sponsorship is included in the budget. Helen said that NWMC might be willing to pay full price for a group of tickets and then subsidize them for employees.

Concerns raised during discussion included a possible negative impact on the show already approved and whether there are enough people for the production team which is not yet filled. There was concern about the small pool of people who are typically involved in our shows and the potential for burnout or fatigue if we take on too much. Also it is ambitious to try to new venues at once because of the energy this requires. It was suggested that given difficulties with the school, particularly around rehearsal space, exploring new venues is a must for the company.

A paper ballot was taken with these results:

12 for approving *Translations*

1 against

1 abstention

The production has been approved.

Jennifer Carbee motioned that the meeting be adjourned and Helen Soule seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.