

## Minutes of the FCTC Annual Meeting

September 26, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm by President Walter Mahany.

**Present were:** Jerry Starks, Kevin Christopher, Walter Mahany, Robin Mahany, Tom Townsend, Linda Horner, Helen Soule, Margie Cain, Michel Denizot, Cheri Gagnon, Brenda Smith and Mary Skidmore Taylor

**Secretary's Report:** Mary summarized the minutes of the last Annual Meeting (September 2008) which have been posted on our website. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Margie reported in the absence of our Treasurer. For the 2009 fiscal year, the company had receipts of \$2,980 and disbursements of \$4,581 for a loss of \$1601.43. Current funds available are \$3,534.29. Insurance and storage are expenses that are constant whether or not there are performances. Margie made a motion, seconded by Brenda, to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed. Helen commented that we need to get back on track with advertising and show sponsorships.

### 2009 Season

**Fall Show:** *Two Dragon Tales and a Taste of Saki* is opening in two weeks. Margie reported that it is going very well. She brought postcards and posters for distribution. Volunteers are needed for ushering and refreshments for all performances.

**Holiday Show:** Especially in the absence of a summer show, the company had hoped to begin a tradition of performing *Dickens by Candlelight* in December of this year. However, despite previous assurances, we have been unable to obtain permission to do this show. There is nothing else in the public domain and it is too late to write something. Perhaps we could create a show on this theme for next December. In the meantime, the Board is considering doing something inexpensive and simple for around Valentine's Day. Linda suggested putting this idea out to the membership.

Cheri asked whether the previous plan to link the spring 2010 show to the children's preparatory program was still in effect. The Board was unable to identify an affordable teacher for the children's program this year, but plans to revisit the concept in 2010. Therefore the spring slot is open.

**Membership Engagement:** There was a discussion of how information gets out to the membership. Although the minutes for Board meetings are posted on the website, people may not bother to go there to read them. It was suggested that an email be sent to the membership after each Board meeting with a few bullets highlighting the most important decisions/ discussions and perhaps a link to the minutes on the website. Helen made a motion that the secretary have access to the company email to keep the membership

informed. Robin thought that many people might not know that they are members and that an effort should be made to put the definition out there. There was some discussion of using Facebook and other free tools to get information to the membership. Margie said she would do a Facebook page for FCTC if she could get into the one Kevin did for *Translations*. Kevin will help with this. The motion passed.

### **2010 Season:**

There will be a Board meeting on 1-7-10 for the presentation of budget proposals for the 2010 season. The membership will meet on January 14<sup>th</sup> to vote on those productions that have approved budgets. Linda asked whether there would be workshops for those who have never proposed before. The Board decided not to offer these this year but when the call for proposals is disseminated, mentoring will be offered to anyone who requests it. At least two 2010 show proposals are “percolating” at this time. The Board will need to send Kevin the information that they would like sent out about this season, and he will send it and post it on the website. Franklin One and Henry Raymond’s website (vtgrandpa.com) could also be used for publicity.

Tom asked whether it is true that it is becoming harder and harder to use the school for our performances and rehearsals. There were stories shared of being moved at the last minute and other indignities. There was a suggestion that one of the Board members should go to the Fairfax School Board and let them know how difficult it has become. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting. Linda asked about the efforts to develop a community center in Fairfax. Mary reported that Citizens for Fairfax Community is working with the United Church of Fairfax to possibly take over and renovate the Baptist Building. This could potentially provide a home for the company, but it is a long term project.

### **Nominating Committee:**

Helen and Kevin presented the following slate:

President: Margie Cain  
Vice President: Jerry Starks  
Treasurer: Rachelle Howard  
Secretary: Mary Skidmore Taylor  
Members: San Harrington  
Walter Mahany

Jennifer Carbee and Helen Soule are continuing. Jennifer Martin and Kevin Christopher have resigned.

There were no nominations from the floor. Tom made a motion that the secretary be empowered to cast one vote for the slate as presented. Michel seconded and the motion passed. The vote was cast and the slate elected.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Website Committee:** Kevin is retiring from the job of webmaster as of December 31, 2009. Kevin Cahoon had expressed an interest, and Helen will check with him again. Brenda said that she does the website for her job and might be able to help. Kevin has been using software called dreamweaver, which he will be free to donate.

**Advertising Committee:** There was a discussion of the need to re-form this committee. Tom Townsend acknowledged the difficulty of the job and it is not easy to find people who have the interest and the time. In the past, letters, phone calls and personal contact were used. Letters alone are not very effective. Helen said that now would be a good time to approach NWMC for a sponsorship, although it might be best to wait until the 2010 season is set.

Tom Townsend made a motion to thank Walter, Kevin and Jennifer Martin or their service. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.