

Minutes of the FCTC Board Meeting

May 26, 2009

Present were: Margie Cain, Helen Soule, Walter Mahany, Jerry Stark, Jennifer Martin, Kevin Christopher and Mary Skidmore Taylor. We were joined toward the end by Jill Snapp.

The meeting was called to order by President Walter Mahany at 7:19 pm.

Secretary's Report: The minutes had been sent out and posted, and Mary reviewed the highlights. Jerry moved and Margie seconded a motion that the minutes be accepted as written. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: On productions to date, we have lost \$26.29. Our current checking balance is \$1,364.54 and our money market balance is \$2,238.28.

Margie moved and Mary seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion passed.

Old Business:

Fall Show: The venue is still undecided and we could not have a conversation with Tom Townsend about the Westford Brick Meetinghouse because Mary neglected to invite him to the meeting. She will invite him for the June meeting. Margie (director) is still awaiting scripts, but expects to get information out in the next three weeks.

Children's Preparatory Program: Kevin has spoken briefly again with Susan Palmer, who is still interested. Kevin said that he is definitely not able to take part, but will follow up with Susan. He has also talked with the Flynn Center's Director of Education who said it would be possible to collaborate with them. They would provide one of their teaching artists. We would pay the Flynn and they would pay the teacher. Some concern was expressed about the financial feasibility of this, although the consensus was that it was worth exploring further. Jennifer M. said that a man named Rich who is part of the new St Albans group has experience teaching adults and children and might be interested. There was no time to talk with him, however. The Fairfax Recreation Department is interested in working with us, although the Director has been recovering from surgery and unavailable for planning. There is concern that we would need to have promotional materials ready by the end of school in order to generate interest. A decision will be made at the next Board meeting and we may wait until next year to implement this.

Holiday Show: Margie has read the script for *Dickens by Candlelight* and watched a DVD. She thinks it is beautiful and will work well for us. She plans to propose it at the Annual Meeting. There are three actors, one man and two women, and she would want to

precast the show, which runs about 75 minutes. She pictures a quartet singing Christmas carols and food being served. The actors will mingle with the audience. We discussed possible venues including Westford BMH, and a coffee shop in St Albans that is not open in the evenings. There will be no need for a set, theatrical lighting or any tech at all. We could do it every year with different directors and different actors. Margie is thinking about the weekend after Thanksgiving and perhaps the following weekend if we decide to do it in two places. Jennifer knows the people who ran the Duchess Tea Room and might be willing to help with refreshments. Kevin knows someone who has proper English tea service necessities.

St Albans Society for the Performing Arts: Jennifer attended their organizing meeting on our behalf. This made her a founding member and a member of the Advisory Committee. Jen read their mission. They are working on bylaws and plan to begin their first fiscal year October 1. They are working on a bus trip to the Flynn and a holiday benefit, "Festival of the Trees". They have a benefit performance by a concert pianist scheduled and plan an event with Nan O'Brien and a local talent benefit for next April. They are hoping to stage a musical about the St Albans Raid and make it a regular event. The President and Vice President of this group would like to come to one of our meetings. We discussed ways to partner with them, including advertising their events on our website, and perhaps doing something dragon related in collaboration with their plans for St Albans Day in September

Play readings: Walter has talked with Mimmos and they are excited to have us do readings at their restaurants. We decided on Tuesday, June 30th for the next reading, which will be of *Dickens by Candlelight*. Walter will confirm the date with the St Albans Mimmos.

Play Selection: Jennifer has identified one committee member but needs one more. Cheryl Reed, Alice Wright and Alice who worked on the Durang show were all suggested. Jennifer will follow up. It would be great if the committee could come to the reading on June 30th.

Calendar: Kevin will send out a suggested timeline via email.

Lighting Systems: For the Durang show they had to rent a small lighting board because our existing equipment was not functional. The rent was cheap and the board worked for that show. We need to start over with all equipment under our sole protection and care. The plan will be to rent for the fall show. So far B. Kneen has not sent us info about the used equipment he had spoken about. Margie will talk with him. When we are able to purchase equipment, there will need to be a lighting subcommittee.

New Business

Annual Meeting: Kevin will send an email with suggestions for dates.

Nominating Committee: Walter will talk with Michel about being part of this committee. Robin Mahany might be interested in serving.

School Security: A question was raised about surveillance cameras being put in at BFA and whether security was being amped up yet again. Margie will talk to Mike, who has not mentioned this to her.

Summer Fund Raiser: Jennifer volunteered to work on a summer fund raising event. Kevin suggested a “movie under the stars” as a possibility that would be fairly easy. Please contact Jennifer with any ideas.

Fairfax Community Center: FCTC has sent a letter of support to the group that is attempting to establish a community center in Fairfax.

Margie moved and Helen seconded a motion that we adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48.