

IOWA THESPIAN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, October 14, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Adult Board: Aaron Dean, Kate Baumgartner, Liz Hansen, Katie Howard, Mike Hunter, Nate Jorgensen, Stacie Kintigh, Leslie LaCorte, Bill Myatt, Elizabeth Powers, and Tom Stephens

Student Board: Maaz Ahmed, Oswaldo Ambrosio, Brady Booth, Melanie Comer, Ali Girsch, and Isobel LaCorte.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Student: Kate Struble

Adults: Sam Burns, Colleen Babcock, and Helen Duranleau-Brennan

CALL TO ORDER: 9:37 AM

I. General Session

A. Approval or corrections of previous meeting minutes (Hunter moved, Kintigh seconded; motion passed)

B. Financial Report

- We are in the process of switching account management from Leslie to Mike
- Mike presented the September 2017 financial statement; our Wells Fargo balance as of 9/30 was \$14,205.50
- Mike and Leslie reconciled our accounts and have submitted the data to EdTA

C. Advocacy Report

- Helen has been active and will continue updating the Board as appropriate
- Leslie and Bill attended the EdTA National Conference in Nashville; a focus was on STEAM instead of STEM and the use of theatre skills in scientific applications

D. Leadership Day Review

1. Review Financial Update

- Preliminary numbers indicate a profit of \$370 on the event

2. Post-Mortem

- STOs recapped successes and areas for improvement
 - Directional signs and timing could be improved
 - Leon was very well received as the keynote speaker
 - STO candidate lunch was very beneficial
- Adults feedback
 - The Des Moines Playhouse was a good, unique, central location
 - Hearing advocacy information sparked important conversations
 - Feedback from attendees on workshops was positive

3. Thank You Notes

- STOs have received an email with names/addresses and will send thank you cards in the next two weeks

E. Iowa Thespian Festival

1. Festival Schedule

- Aaron presented and discussed the most current schedule (updated 10/13)

2. Festival Reports

a. Student Board

- Camp Games will have five stations with delegates randomly placed in mixed groups

- STOs are streamlining the fundraisers to make them clearer and more focused: Pie an STO (Iowa Send a Troupe), Minute to Give It (Send a Troupe), T-shirt Grab (scholarships), Red Buckets (Broadway Cares)
 - Returning STO candidates will participate in Leadership Lunch activities; retiring STOs will observe to watch for interaction style and leadership potential
- b. Registration
- We have 780 delegates and 116 adults registered from 33 schools – Urbandale is new this year; CR Kennedy and West Delaware are returning after a hiatus; a few schools are not attending who have in the past
 - 46 guest artists have registered
- c. Tech Challenge
- 15 teams have registered
 - Mike has been coordinating with UNI to make sure there are enough helpers
 - Teams will come and go as available (around studios and IEs)
 - Rules have been adjusted slightly to accommodate our available time and resources
 - ETC will provide prizes again this year
- d. Mainstage
- All contacts are in and directors are individually scheduling walkthroughs with GBPAC staff
 - Load in/out schedule is being tweaked by UNI and will be finalized soon
 - The seating chart is on hold until we receive an updated template from the GBPAC
 - Leslie is waiting on royalties from all mainstage schools
- e. Festival Advertising/Vendors
- Advertising income is at \$3065, a significant increase from in the past
- f. Studio Theatre
- Studios will be in SWT from 1-6 on Friday (Grinnell, Clinton, Jefferson, West Delaware, and PV) starting on the hour
 - Tom is waiting on royalties or contracts from three schools
 - Due to UNI's set being in place, the director's meeting will be important for schools to finalize staging options and restrictions
- g. Scholarships
- The morning judging panel will be Christina Myatt, EdTA rep, and Colleen Babcock.
 - The afternoon judging panel will be Lynn Jensen, Bill Myatt, and Liz Hansen
- h. Workshops
- We currently have 29 workshops registered: 5 acting, 3 audition, 1 improv, 8 musical theatre, 7 other, 5 technical
 - We are still accepting workshops submissions with a goal of 35
 - Presenters receive \$50 per workshop session (except UNI students)
- i. Hall of Fame
- There is a nomination Natalie Dommer from Ottumwa
- j. STO alumni
- no report
- k. Special Projects
- Liz is securing auction items from Broadway Cares and Chelsea from Waukee is getting items from an alumnus in School of Rock
 - We are exploring selling Thespian items in a store at Festival such as water bottles, hats, pop sockets, fanny packs, etc. We can also make Iowa Thespian branded merchandise. This discussion will be tabled for consideration at the 2018 Festival.
- l. Troupe Recognition
- Mainstage and Studio titles will be sent to the Trophy Shop in Davenport to make plaques

- m. Individual Events
 - Due to a great response we will have some rooms with 3 judges
 - We could still use some judges for technical events
- n. STO Candidates
 - We have 10 candidates this year
 - Sam, Aaron, Leslie, an EdTA rep, and an ITO rep will conduct the interviews
- o. Communications
 - Liz will be printing badges and programs
 - Liz will photograph Festival instead of hiring an outside person
 - The updated website made registration operate much more smoothly

II. Committee Work Session (11:20-2:00)

III. Tour of Waukees Theatre Arts Center, site of the 2018 Junior Thespian Festival

IV. New Business

A. Work Session Reports

1. Adult Board

- Finalized the board work schedule flow chart
- Voted on three motions (see below)
- Discussed Junior Thespian Festival (see below)

2. Student Board

- Worked on the student work schedule flow chart
- Finalized scripts for curtain speeches and inclusion of a PowerPoint
- Planned camp games and open mic night
- Created a list of supplies that need to be purchased
- Will email/Tweet asking for troupe pictures (camp "houses") ahead of Festival
- Assigned STOs to Candidates

B. Voting on Motions

1. Hall of Fame Candidates

- Motion to approve Natalie Dommer from Ottumwa (Hunter moved, Myatt seconded; motion passes)

2. Michael Peitz Leadership Award

- Motion to accept Danielle Schmaltz from Waukee (Hunter moved, Myatt seconded; motion passes)

3. Other

- Motion to deny UNISTA a performance opportunity during open mic night (Myatt moved, Stephens seconded; motion passed)

C. Junior Thespian Festival Update

- Registration will open in early January in preparation of the March 24th event
- Festival will run from 9:00-3:00 with four 45 minute workshops (including a teacher roundtable) and a 45 minute mainstage performance by Waukee
- \$30 registration should cover our costs
- We will offer the 2017 STOs the opportunity to stay on board until March 2018 to assist with Jr. Festival

V. Pre-Curtain Speech Rehearsals

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- Thursday, November 9 – Country Inn and Suites, Cedar Falls

MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:24 PM