

IOWA THESPIAN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, January 13, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT

Adults: Sam Burns, Aaron Dean, Kate Baumgartner, Helen Duranleau-Brennan, Katie Howard, Mike Hunter, Leslie LaCorte, Bill Myatt, Christina Myatt, Liz Powers, and Tom Stephens

Students: Maaz Ahmed, Brady Booth, Samuel Castaneda, Melanie Comer, Ava Deitrich, Ali Girsch, Isobel LaCorte, Anna Myatt, JJ Pierce, Sophia Pike, and Kate Struble

MEMBERS ABSENT

Student: Oswaldo Ambrosio

Adults: Colleen Babcock, Liz Hansen, Nate Jorgensen, and Stacie Kintigh,

GUESTS PRESENT

Katie Savely

CALL TO ORDER: 9:33 AM

I. Welcome and Introductions

- A. 2017 and 2018 Members
- B. Collect Contact Information

II. Financial Report

- Mike Hunter presented a financial update document (https://drive.google.com/open?id=1uTYfAvvyEzoDj6Eg8KfxyQxSsYAWR_hC) and a Festival invoices document (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1j6mQ7bGo-4J5PFWT9N3jBQCU7wWWONqB>)
- The final bill from UNI has not yet been received. There are also a few uncashed checks and also a few schools who have not paid their Festival balance.
- Please communicate accurately with purchases and bills for timely payment.

III. 2017 Festival Review

A. 2017 Student Board Report

- From the student perspective, Festival was a success.
- Rest Stop/Campfire organization and setup could be streamlined.
- Purple shirts are a great resource and interaction while on campus.
- The use of social media was a positive this past year
- Many of the STO goals for 2017 were met

B. 2017 Adult Board Post-Mortem Report

- Aaron created a Google Doc for post-mortem topics: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZeiJZStNG9caHAyVjeYhdohtDKbzEiX73YfB-8TeozU/edit?usp=sharing>
- Discussion on whether information (STOs, tech challenge, scholarships, etc.) should be posted during intermission or publically announced during closing ceremonies
 - Can STO candidates be texted privately during intermission?

- Can Leadership Day be used differently in the selection/announcement process?
- How do we find more time in general to interact with and assess STO candidates?
- How else can STO candidates be identified and visible throughout Festival (hat, ribbon, bucket, etc.), both to the general delegates and to each other?
- Can STO candidate presentation boards be displayed somewhere public?
- We need to take a look at workshop overlap so as to maximize our resources and presenters.
- Signage throughout Festival can be improved
- Does Rest Stop/Campfire Games meet the intended purpose? Can it be improved or does it need to be eliminated?

C. UNI Conference Call Report

- Aaron and Leslie presented the notes from the UNI post-mortem call
 - Purple Shirt expectations can be clarified; there will be new interns next year which will necessitate further coordination and training as well.
 - Signage will be improved
 - Workshop size and location will be addressed
 - Location and logistics for studio shows, open mic, and IE showcase in 2018 will need to be addressed based on Strayer-Wood being arranged in a proscenium stage rather than thrust. Maucker Union or Lang Hall could be potential alternate sites.
 - A few IE door timing issues with Purple Shirts that will be addressed through further training

IV. Adult Board Breakout Time

A. Board Roles

- Proposed Board Structure (<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fthTCXZKpJA3QPYC0x8ktsPox3Ry06HeB70NI3NJPRs/edit?usp=sharing>) will be adopted for implementation in the 2018-2019 term, understanding that changes may be necessary (Hunter moved, W. Myatt seconded, **passed** by voice vote)
- Create a coordinator guide for future board members (<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1vfNxNa2O6U25uVktBKSUKAz7kqYXSYYM>)
 - Arts Advocacy Coordinator (Helen Duranleau-Brennan)
 - Hall of Fame Coordinator (Lynn Jensen)
 - Hospitality Coordinator (Katie Howard)
 - Individual Event Coordinator (Nate Jorgensen)
 - Registration Coordinator (Aaron Dean)
 - Scholarship Coordinator (Christina Myatt)
 - Special Projects Coordinator (Liz Hansen)
 - STO Alumni Coordinator (Sam Burns)
 - Mainstage/Studio Theatre Coordinator (Tom Stephens)
 - Tech Challenge Coordinator (Kate Baumgartner)
 - Troupe Recognition Coordinator (Liz Powers)
 - will also recognize new troupes present at Festival and troupe “years of participation”
 - Workshop Coordinator (Stacie Kintigh)
 - Webmaster (Liz Powers)

B. Junior Thespian Festival Planning

- https://drive.google.com/open?id=16y1PWq6Ebg1_Rj9ryDPr8sUXoWhKyh6F
- Date – March 24
- Theme – Blast Off: An Exploration of Theatre

- Liz P. will do badges and programs
- Registration will be done via Google Form (will look like the Leadership Day form)
- Colin Muenster will design the artwork and Nate will find a vendor to print the shirts
- Schedule has been updated to reflect 5 workshop sessions
- Helen and Bill will contact OPUS board members for their assistance in contacting middle schools

C. Leadership Day

- Date – August 4, 11, or 18 – TBD
- Site – Mount Vernon
- Keynote Speaker – TBD

D. ~~Committee Meetings~~

- ~~Junior Thespian Festival~~
- ~~Leadership Day~~
- ~~All State Show~~

V. Student Board Breakout Report

A. Goal Setting

- Create a mobile friendly app with show calendars, Thespian events, etc.
- Maintain Rest Stop but find ways to improve it
- Make Tech Challenge a more prominent and supported part of Festival
- Incorporate STO candidates more throughout Festival
- Add the names of schools on the back of Festival shirts – makes them extra special
- Send out a monthly newsletter with updates to troupe directors

B. Festival Theme – Among the Stars

C. Board Roles

- Brady Booth – chair
- Samuel Castaneda – special projects
- Melanie Comer – communications
- Ava Deitrich – Junior Thespians
- Anna Myatt – membership
- JJ Pierce – special projects
- Sophia Pike – secretary

D. Social Media Guidelines

E. Advocacy

- STOs can record short videos about advocacy and create a comment forum that can then be shared online
- For Theatre in Our Schools Month (March), troupes could submit videos on how they advocate or why theatre is important
- Encourage schools/troupes to attend shows at other schools to help troupes statewide better connect with one another
- Connect with the state by expanding the website with ways to contact STOs (questions/answers, feedback, etc.)

VI. New Business

A. Set Board Schedule (see “upcoming board meetings” below)

B. ~~Membership~~

- ~~Review of Current Troupes~~
- ~~Discussion of Recruitment of Troupes~~

C. Alumni Board Proposal

- Katie Savely presented a proposal to create a Thespian alumni board
- Duties would include arts advocacy, development, membership, and Festival support
- The person who serves as alumni board liaison would also serve on the Thespian board

- The Iowa Thespian Alumni Association membership would be open to all Thespian alumni, but the governing board (as defined in the proposal) would be limited to former STOs.
 - Stephens moved to establish an Iowa Thespian Alumni Association, Duranleau-Brennan seconded; motion **passed** by voice vote.
- D. Arts Advocacy Day Opportunities
- Iowa – January 17
 - we encourage all STOs to attend the event this year; in the future we will make attendance at this event mandatory for STOs
 - Washington, DC – March 12-13
 - the board will financially support sending one STO to the event, chosen by essay submission; the STO will then lead the advocacy workshop at Leadership Day and Iowa Festival (W. Myatt moved, Howard seconded, vote **failed** 3-4-1).
 - motion amended to limit board expenditure to \$1000; **passed** by voice vote.
- E. Indiana Thespians State Conference
- Tom and Helen will be attending Indiana’s festival January 26-28

VII. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

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|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------------|
| ● Saturday, March 24 | Waukee | Junior Thespian Festival |
| ● June 25-30 | Lincoln, NE | International Thespian Festival |
| ● July – TBD | | |
| ● Saturday, August 4, 11, or 18 | Mount Vernon | Leadership Day |
| ● October – TBD | | |
| ● November 9-10 | Cedar Falls | 2018 Iowa Thespian Festival |

MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:12 PM