

**Vaud-Villities Productions
Board of Trustees
Meeting of January 8, 2008**

MINUTES

Present: Toni Auch, Connie Bauer, Lynda Eckard, Herb Johnston, Scott Jones, Meg Kelley, Les Lash, Donna Lehr, Katie Maliwesky, John Poole, Bob Potts, Tricia Privette, Paul Sabine, Carolyn Smith, Kent Stuckey, Frank Timmons, Sonny Whitehead

Guests: Everett Friedenmacher, Elizabeth Hoops, Doug Lash, Bob McWilliams, Peggy Rennick, Terry Timmons

Absent: Christian Laver, Marilyn Lash, Jackie Miller,

Chairman Kent Stuckey opened the meeting at 6:12 pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Lynda moved to approve the Minutes of the November 28 meeting with corrections. Frank seconded and the motion passed.

Finance:

The December 31 statement shows a small operating loss of \$952, but our need for cash continues with more than \$29,000 in overdue expenses. We are counting on the cash raffle, advance ticket sales, early program ad revenue, and development activities to reduce this deficit.

Artistic Director:

1. *Rehearsals:* Production section vocal rehearsals have already begun at Immaculate Conception, and chorus rehearsals will be held here through January. Beginning on February 2, all dance and vocal rehearsals will be held at NPAC, pending final inspection approval and resurfacing of the dance floor.

2. *Casting:* Preliminary production section casting for singers and dancers will be distributed at Kickoff. Rehearsal schedule conflicts need to be resolved quickly. We have an all-time record 61 dancers, and Toni says “the quality is excellent”.

3. *Sets:* No scenic construction will take place at NPAC. We will locate and re-use selected pieces in the building or the storage pods.

4. *Vets:* Jim Goodenow, the new general manager, asked that we reschedule the orchestra rehearsal from Saturday to Sunday before show week. With the support of orchestra contractor Sid Townsend, Jim agreed to waive the overtime rates normally charged for a Sunday.

5. *Chorus:* As of last week, we had 104 women and 71 men registered.

Business Manager:

1. *Marketing:* Paul reported that the spring show is now posted to the EventSetter link from Craig’sList.com, a very popular Web site. We continue to explore cross-promotional opportunities with Fifth-Third Broadway Across America. We have a commitment for 2 round trip tickets to London which can be used as a ticket buying incentive or a prize in a possible raffle in the lobby during show week.

2. *Benefit Night:* It’s on, thanks to Chris Laver and his company who have agreed to underwrite the \$7,000 cost of this performance. Elizabeth Hoops led a discussion on the selection process for our honorary member featured annually in the program. The Board was asked to e-mail her with possible candidates, including any in Vaud-Villities who have worked with the disadvantaged.

(Over)

Facilities:

Kent reported on his meeting with the chief inspector of Columbus. Fire doors are to be installed on or about January 23, so we should be granted a partial occupancy permit for rehearsals in February. The fire suppression cost quote from a new commercial vendor was less than expected. Total compliance cost should be in the range of \$50,000. Kent also mentioned that we should revisit the Bingo proposal, considering the potential support from area residents and merchants. Lynda has a potential props rental for a Mardi Gras party, and a group will meet quickly to see if we can accommodate this request. Carolyn reported that Russ Coffman may be willing to be the new Building Manager, and that the broken front window has been repaired.

Development:

Bob reported bad and good news. Our grant applications to the Reinberger Foundation and Huntington have again been turned down, but we did receive a \$2,000 grant for Kids Camp from the Greater Columbus Arts Council. We will soon complete our application to United Way, which will be greatly aided by expressed support from the Northland Community Council.

Officers:

Our holiday performance at the governor's mansion was well received, and we will post the event to our website to point out our activity beyond the spring show. John distributed detailed agendas for new member orientation and Kickoff, both to be held on January 15.

50/50 Cash Raffle

Herb urged the Board to accelerate efforts to distribute and sell tickets. About \$2,000 has been turned in so far.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 5, 2008, 5:30 pm wherever chorus rehearsals are being held. Presumably, this will be at NPAC.

NOTE: If you cannot attend this meeting, please notify Paul Sabine at 614-794-9177, or email at psabine@earthlink.net. Thank you.

Paul Sabine
Secretary