

# **POSSUM POINT PLAYERS**

## **ARTISTIC COMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 9, 2020

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairwoman Marsha Shull called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM  
Members present were: Marsha Shull, Fred Dean, Nina Galerstein, Bernie Noeller, Rosanne Pack, Jill Lewandowski, Diane Counts, Donna Flomp, Anthony Policastro (proxy for Chuck Cutsail) Gianna Voges, John Hulse, Steve Perry (proxy for Richard Huffman) & Donna de Kuyper, Also present were Dawn Conaway, Executive Administrator, Les Ferguson Director of Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Stephen Dow Director of the Producers and Dick Pack. Absent: Claudius Bowden and Lorraine Steinhoff

Quorum was confirmed.

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ELECTIONS**

A. Approval of minutes - Minutes of Dec 5th 2019 were corrected by Roseanne Pack. Junior Wilson will be playing banjo music as entertainment before the show and not during the show as indicated in the minutes. After properly moving (Donna DeKuyper) and seconding (Jill Lewandowski), the minutes were approved with that correction. **CLOSED**

#### **B. Elections**

1. Publicity Chair - After properly moving (Bernie Noeller) and seconding (Jill Lewandowski), Rosanne Pack was elected as Publicity Chair
2. Artistic Committee Chair - After properly moving (Anthony Policastro) and seconding (Bernie Noeller), Marsha Shull was re-elected as Artistic Committee Chair
- 3, Secretary - After properly moving (Nina Galerstein) and seconding (Donna DeKuyper), Anthony Policastro was elected Secretary
4. Representative #1 to Executive Committee - After properly moving (Jill Lewandowski) and seconding (Bernie Noeller), Rosanne Pack was re-elected as Representative #1 from the Artistic Committee to the Executive Committee

5. Assistant for Sound - Anthony Policastro has been proxy for Charles Cutsail via e-mail approval. In the long run it makes more sense to formalize this position. After properly moving (Nina Galerstein) and seconding (Bernie Noeller), Anthony Policastro was elected Assistant for Sound to represent Charles Cutsail at Artistic Committee meetings.

**CLOSED**

### **III. REPORTS**

#### **A. SHOW DIRECTORS**

##### **MAIN STAGE**

1. Christmas from the Heart - Rosanne Pack had no follow up report other than to indicate that things had gone well. **CLOSED**

2. Guess Who's Coming to Dinner- Les Ferguson.

a. Budget (Attachment 1) was presented. After properly moving (Donna DeKuyper) and seconding (Rosanne Pack), the budget was approved

b. Rehearsals are on schedule

c. Les is pleased with the work on the set to this point and he and Fred Dean both indicated that there had been a great turnout to assist with that

d. Les provided Anthony with a script and a flash drive of sound cues to be used for the production

e. Les is waiting to hear back from Chase Schirmer about lighting

f. Publicity is going well

g. Bios are being worked on for cast

**OPEN**

3. Godspell - John Hulse

a. Gail Kelso will be musical director

b. Auditions will take place in 10 days

c. They are doing the revised version which requires three guitars and a drummer

d. Set will be minimal

e. Costumes and look of the show are yet to be determined

f. Budget (Attachment 2) was presented. After properly moving (Donna DeKuyper) and seconding (Donna Flomp), the budget was approved.

## **OPEN**

4. Hayfever - Meg Kelly will be at the February Artistic Committee meeting

5. The Producers - Stephen Dow

a. Two proposed budgets were presented. One was if we did the usual 6 shows. The second was if we did 8 shows. There would be a Saturday matinee the first weekend and a Thursday evening performance the second weekend. Discussion took place about whether to do 6, 7 or 8 shows. Since attendance at the extra shows only needed to be 50 tickets sold at each performance, it seemed to make sense to proceed with the 8 show proposal. After properly moving (Donna Flomp) and seconding (Donna DeKuyper), the proposal for 8 shows was approved. **CLOSED**

b. The budget for the 8 show run was then reviewed. It was noted that there would be a great deal of costumes and props involved. Some of that had not been worked out yet. For that reason it made sense to delay the approval, After properly moving (Rosanne Pack) and seconding (Jill Lewandowski), a proposal to table the budget discussion until the Feb Artistic Committee meeting was approved. **OPEN**

c. A separate discussion took place about ticket sales in general. In the past we have only released tickets as new shows become available. The question arose about making tickets available for the entire year's shows now rather than doing it for each show. There was a discussion about possible confusion among audiences in terms of getting tickets for the wrong show. Ultimately, the decision was made to refer this to Executive Committee for their consideration. After properly moving (Donna Flomp) and seconding (Nina Galerstein), the proposal to ask Executive Committee to open up ticket sales for all performances. **OPEN**

## **AFFILIATES & FUNDRAISERS**

1. On the Edge - is planning on participating in the annual Easter States Theater Association (ESTA) production on Feb 21-22.

a. Dick Pack will be directing a one act play titled Address Unknown. It is about two men who write letters to each other during the rise of Nazi Germany. One is located in Canada and the other in Germany.

b. It is not yet clear whether we will participate in Wilmington or New Jersey

c. Rehearsals will take place during normal On the Edge scheduled times.

d. Makeup and costumes will be needed for two men

e. Props include two small tables/desks and 2 chairs

f. If the schedule works out, there may be a performance at Possum in the form of an open rehearsal.

After properly moving (Donna DeKuyper) and seconding (Bernie Noeller), the decision to move ahead with the plan was approved **OPEN**

2. May 2 fundraiser. Roseanne Pack reported the following:

a. Junior Wilson (banjo) and Chatty (percussion) will do pre-show music

b. Food plans still being worked on

c. Both a silent and live auction will take place

d. Coordination with Meg Kelly directing Hay Fever will take place

e. Donna De Kuyper and Doug Yetter are doing the music

**OPEN**

3. PJ's

a. Will be presenting a budget for their summer show at next meeting

b. There will be a tech rehearsal at 6 PM on Jan 20th. Anthony Policastro will be available to open the sound/light booth.

**OPEN**

## **B. EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR**

1. Annual Report is now available

2. Constant Contact was sent out for Godspell auditions

3. Guess Who's Coming to Dinner has sold 567 tickets to this point. That is good

4. Royalties for all five shows have already been paid
  5. Possum raised over \$32,000 in the Delaware Division of the Arts Challenge
- INFO**

**C. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE** - no report

**D. ARTISTIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS** - no reports

**IV. OLD BUSINESS** - Tabled until February meeting

- A, Proposed 2021 season - see Reading report
- B. League of Women Voters - still being looked at.

**OPEN**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Budgets upcoming shows - see above
2. Performance approval for On the Edge - see above

**INFO**

3. Request from Sussex County Emergency services for volunteers for training exercise, Roseanne has reached out but has not heard back. Will send out further information when she hears from them. **OPEN**

4. Marsha shared correspondence from Kenney Workman that he received about a parade and activities in March to be held on the Circle in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment. Marsha will forward info and those interested should contact her. **OPEN**

**VI. ITEMS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL, NOTIFICATION OR INFORMATION**

1. Results of elections
2. Approval of Godspell budget
3. Approval of Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Budget
4. Approval of On the Edge participation in ESTA

5. Approval of the Producers plan for 8 shows (one additional Saturday matinee first weekend and one additional Thursday evening performance second weekend)

6. Recommendation that ticket sales for entire year's slate of shows be available now  
**OPEN**

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE** - February 6, 2020 at 5:30 PM **INFO**

**VIII. Announcements and Adjournment** -There being no further business a motion was made (Donna Flomp) and properly seconded (Donna DeKuyper) to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM **CLOSED**