

Sudbury Savoyards Board Meeting
First Parish Unitarian Universalists Church, Sudbury, MA
January 7, 2018

Attending: Karen Powers (remotely), Laura Jacobson, Nancy Powers, Tony Parkes, Tom Powers, Brendon Chetwynd, Sue Flint, Jim Ravan, Susan Elberger, Kathryn Denney.

1. Agenda review: Iolanthe, program meeting, Harvard (tech venue), response to SUMC, meeting before Feb 1st, QuickBooks.
2. Treasurer's Report (Brendon Chetwynd): We need to finish annual report to state, and federal report, and need to get books under control. Brendon suggested getting QuickBooks (an accounting package) from Tech Soup for \$50/year. Motion to get QuickBooks from Tech Soup. All in favor. Tech Soup is an organization that distributes low-cost donated software packages to non-profits.
3. Sudbury United Methodist Church (Brendon Chetwynd): Tom Powers and Brendon have been crafting our response to SUMC's email about the condition of the church. SUMC is concerned with things left in the short cellar mostly and request remediation by the end of January and payment for their "emergency" dumpster pickup costs (\$200).

Discussion: Since we don't have the capacity to remove stuff now, Brendon suggests that we tell SUMC to contact us after April for any further discussion, and that we pay the requested \$200 as a relatively small peace offering. Emptying the "short cellar" (aka crawl space) would be challenging because there are new pipes across the doorway. Issues that we haven't brought up in this email exchange (yet): our losses in the workshop, the issue of safety of access to the short cellar, our long standing donations to both SUMC and UMCOR. Stuff remaining: materials in short cellar (sona tubes and 2x4s), long cellar (stair units, rope, swept clean), attic (10 pieces or so in the back). There is concern that if SUMC sues us for the cost of junk removal, they could potentially sue for their legal fees. Brendon will, taking this discussion into account, respond to SUMC's email.

4. Iolanthe (Tony Parkes and Kathryn Denney): as of today we've added people to chorus, most of orchestra filled, rehearsal schedule distributed. Jim Ravan and Jamie Cobleigh will get the cast/tech/orchestra lists together. All files loaded to the Google Drive should be named with version numbers (version-date will work fine). There will still be a pass-worded page for cast & crew (including cast list, schedule, forms, etc).
5. Moving to Harvard Tech space (Susan Elberger): Joyce Isen and Bill Fisher offer us tables for our use. "Put in" for tech space will be Saturday, Feb 3rd.
6. Program Committee (Susan Elberger): The committee met and has discussed appointing directors and auditioned vs. un-auditioned chorus. We have not yet applied for rights to *Bells Are Ringing*. The music is a little harder than G&S and there are significant dance numbers. How to respect the "open" chorus and get a chorus capable of meeting the artistic challenges?

Discussed group auditions and careful blocking of less-capable members. Discussion: Can we find other ways to include people in the group, like doing a G&S sing-through later in the year? The open chorus is THE special thing about Sudbury Savoyards. We can block and accommodate people who are not as capable. Are we losing potential directors and members because of an open chorus? Probably there are directors who won't work with an open chorus, but very theater group has people who "won't work with them" because of something.

Appointing directors for *Bells Are Ringing*: the board has wanted longer prep time to do non-G&S and Susan suggests that we don't have time to search for director and producer. So, Susan recommends that we appoint Susan Elberger as Producer and Jim Ravan as Director for *Bells Are Ringing*. Other suggestion: that Susan Elberger and Jim Ravan do the summer show and we start a search for the Spring 2018 producer and director. We would still need to recruit a second director and a choreographer for *Bells*.

Motion to appoint Susan Elberger (Producer) and Jim Ravan (Director) for *Sherlock*. Discussion: Susan is willing to produce *Sherlock*, but would like the board to seriously look for an assistant producer. Six in favor. One abstention. Motion passes.

Motion to appoint Susan Elberger (Producer) and Jim Ravan (Director - either Stage or Music) for *Bells Are Ringing* for Spring 2019. Discussion: are we being too closed a group if the director/producer positions are filled? Five in favor. One abstention. One against. Motion passes.

Susan will make the application for rights to *Bells Are Ringing* and get information about how much/when and if we can get money back if don't do the show.

7. Sustainability: Susan and Brendon will plan a discussion of sustainability over the next two months.
8. **Motion:** to approve the November and December minutes as submitted. All in favor.

Next meeting: Laura Jacobson's house on Feb 3rd.

Adjourned: 5:26pm