

## The Sudbury Savoyards Board of Trustees

Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Home of Tom and Nancy Powers, 477 Main Street, Hudson

### Minutes

**Attending** Board Members: Tom Powers, Karen Powers, Laura Jacobson, Brendon Chetwynd, Susan Elberger, Jim Ravan, and Sue Flint. Incoming Board Member: Mike Lague. Member: Nancy Powers,

Tom Powers opened the meeting at 7:33pm.

**Treasurer's report:** Nothing changed since the report at last night's Annual Meeting.

#### **Updates and Discussion:**

*Collaboration with PAC:* Nancy Powers reported on continued conversation with Carol Chan at the Framingham Performing Arts Center about potential collaboration with PAC and locations in Framingham. PAC has still been running music classes since they left the Danforth Museum, but haven't done a theater production and are still interested in working with us as part of their arts consortium.

PAC is now moving to the Wesley United Methodist Church in Framingham. The hall is 40 x 50 ft; they're adding mirrors and sprung dance floor. The new Framingham mayor is interested in developing an arts center in Framingham, and Carol Chan suggests adding Savoyards to the list of "potentially interested" groups. There was general interest in being added to the list, if we can confirm exactly what it would mean, and if we're committing to anything (Carol had said that there were no commitments).

The concept of being part of an arts umbrella / consortium is something that we've discussed previously and is potentially acceptable. It was suggested that the Location Committee talk to a number of umbrella type groups to gather information about their organizations. If/when we get to more serious talks about collaborations, the legal/organizational aspects of being part of a consortium will require that we negotiate detailed agreements (e.g. about use of resources, insurance, etc.). There's a list of suggested steps under "Plan C – Merger" (including Plan C1 collaboration) for this route.

Note: Our current storage space: is about 450- 475 sq. ft. with 12 ft. ceilings.

*Other Framingham locations:* There's a church on the Framingham green that might be available (214 Concord Street). Framingham Community Theater has done a dinner theater production at the church on the green – might be a good place to do a dinner theater production in 2019.

*Other events/fundraising:* Tom Frates called to talk about the Savoyards and offered to work with us on putting something on (maybe like the benefit NEGASS did two years ago).

*Development and planning discussion:* There was wide-ranging discussion of the need for fund raising (gigs, grants, donations) and the need for continuing the momentum that we currently have following Iolanthe and the Annual Meeting. Mike Lague is interested in working on grants/fundraising and potentially interested in being an assistant producer. Nancy Powers also expressed interest in being an assistant producer.

There was strong feeling that to get donations and maintain momentum, we need a show and a season. There are potentially people interesting directing and producing. Would need lighting and audio and publicity. We've got Maynard HS held for April 2019. When do we have enough information to produce a show in the spring? And what are the relative risks or producing/not-producing some sort of spring show?

*Suggestion:* that we harness the energy of the people who offered last night to do short term work and the board do the long term planning at the same time. E.g. we do a "deliberately reduced tech" performance in the spring (to mitigate tech space needs with no set, but include lights, sound, and background) while the planning goes on. After lengthy discussion, there was general agreement (but no formal motion) that we would talk to a few key people about their interest in the critical positions for a spring '19 show (director, producer, tech), and that we would put on a G&S show (of some scale).

*Suggestions:* We need to talk to the membership; listen to their feedback and suggestions and invite their participation. Tom Powers had proposed listening sessions. Maybe open invitation to committee meetings, or small listening session. Karen Powers has a list of the people who volunteered at the Annual Meeting.

**Action item:** invite people to the committees and start having committee meetings immediately.

**Action item:** Tom Powers will write a re-cap of the Annual Meeting for the membership.

**Next board meeting:** Doodle poll for early July. Note: the meeting needs to be after July 1 to start the new fiscal year.

**Meeting adjourned:** 10:10pm