

Sudbury Savoyards Board meeting

March 5, 2019, 7:15pm

Attendees:

Ellen Simmons, Karen Powers, Mike Lague, Tom Powers, Laura Jacobson, Susan Elberger, Jim Ravan, Brad Amidon

Executive committee commenced.

Executive committee concluded.

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Meeting minutes from February meeting approved.

Two checks from Al LaPage have been handled. A \$500 check to "A Place to Turn" was delivered to them. A \$100 to the Sudbury Savoyards was deposited. Also, \$190 check from the Facebook Fundraiser from last November was received and deposited.

Planning for annual meeting discussed. The issue of what should constitute being a "member" of the Sudbury Savoyards was discussed. Should this be "dues" based? It was felt that this relatively new requirement would exclude orchestra players, tech people, and others who have participated in shows, but did not pay dues. An idea was presented that "participation in a show" (cast, orchestra, tech), and also donors could be members.

Tom will have a proposal ready for the next meeting, and invites board members to provide input for membership ideas.

The annual meeting was proposed for Monday, June 17, 2019 at 7:30pm. Karen will check with the Baptist church to see if it might be available to use as a meeting spot.

Tom visited "A Place to Turn". Some history...it started as a tiny super market in a garage for people who needed food, and has grown over the years. They get some assistance from the Greater Boston Food Bank. Tom handed over the \$500 check from Al LaPage.

Tom made a recommendation that The Sudbury Savoyards should have a "Company Tech Director" to oversee our "stuff" and to be able to answer questions about what we have to use. Also, someone who could help recruit tech people. Tom himself does not want the job. Tom will investigate a "job description" for this position.

Karen also suggested a "company promoter" to represent the company and to promote its works.

Mike talked about the Development Committee and the plans forming for the Gala Fundraiser. The basic idea is to have a night of food, small musical numbers, and a silent auction. The proposed time and place was Saturday, June 15, 2019 evening at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury. The expectation is that we would have up to 60 people there. *Note: after this March 5 meeting, the date for the Gala changed from Saturday, June 15 to Friday, June 14, due to availability of the venue.*

A motion was made: "The board approves the money toward the Gala for June 15". *This date has been changed to June 14.* This motion passed 7-0-1.

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There was not much discussion about "The Yeomen of the Guard" production, but it was mentioned that the Lobby Staff says we had 685 audience members over the 6 shows.

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There was concern from the Program Committee that there has been no interest for the role of Producer for the show. What should we do? A discussion ensued that said we should continue on with the show plans, and continue to look for a producer. The expectation is that if a producer could not be found, the board would either step up to fill the role, or the show would have to be canceled.

It was presented the director interviews for the summer show would take place the next night. When asked how many candidates there were, the Program Committee chair said two. When asked who they were, the chair did not want to say. This led to a discussion about what the authority the Program Committee should have about choosing producers, directors, and the show titles themselves.

Since the Board has never explicitly granted any authority to any committee to work independently from the board, it was concluded that the Program Committee would recommend a director after interviews were concluded, and that the Board would make the decision whether to accept the recommendation or not. When concern was expressed whether this could be done in a timely manner, it was raised that the secrecy of the Program Committee was not helping this situation.

This led to a discussion that the board needs to determine the Program Committee's role in selecting directors and a producer for the 2020 main stage shows of "Trail By Jury" and "HMS Pinafore". The question was also raised whether the Program Committee of the full board should select our main stage show.

Tom asked the board members again to look at the committees for the each board member to work on these problems between board meetings.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 7:30pm at Susan and Jim's house.

Motion to adjourn at 9:33pm.

Meeting adjourned.