

Montana Performing Arts Consortium
Winter Board of Directors Meeting
January 31, 2016
Grand Union Hotel, Fort Benton

Minutes

President Tom Webster called the meeting came to order at 11:10 AM. Also attending: Jill Hill, Connie Jenkins, Jim Peaco, Larry Gomoll, Kate Huntsberger, newly elected member John Zirkle, artist representative Rob Verdi, and John C. Barsness, non-member staff.

As there was no member of the public present, public comment period was skipped.

Minutes

Fall teleconference did not have a quorum, consequently did not take place, but an e-mail quorum approved minutes of the summer board meeting.

Financial report

Motion from Tom to accept most recent financial statement as distributed, Kate second; motion passed unanimously.

Artist report (Rob)

- Jam started late again, we need to figure out a timeline, 9:30-9:45; continue booking meetings?
- Website, again, Jonathan Kingham volunteered to work on revamping it and will ask Jim Peaco about supplying photos; site needs to show the energy of the conference
- Artist/Presenter contacts (copier skipped the presenter list and JB did not catch it, but updated version was sent to all contact people the following week)
- There needs to be a female dressing room, perhaps a sign would help
- Artist state of residence needs to be on badge (which depends upon agents and artists supplying accurate information)
- Look into electronic submission of showcase applications as with Arts Northwest (which has bigger budget, and more staff, but regarding panel meeting UM now has Wi-Fi access--which did not exist until very recently—which previously prevented MPAC from putting it on-line) and perhaps supplying comparative data (at summer meeting)

Related to Artist report: Conference Pokes ‘n Strokes from Sunday morning joint session (pokes first then melding into strokes):

- Some, but not all, missed the Friday evening mixer
- Not all the mics were turned on during the showcase
- Turn the Tables is possibly too long—45 minutes?
- Turn the Tables needs more artists—remind competing artists
- Need better traffic flow to meet more people, avoid being bunched up in the center, and not monopolize time when visiting a booth

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- A development session on what works (c.f., MAC's little green book)
- Have keynote on Friday, ask Kristen about a politician
- Silent auction reminder, perhaps find new/additional fundraiser
- Kudos to caterer!
- The conference was educational and uplifting
- Best showcase (despite some inoperative mics)
- Presenters look forward to it and it is a perk for members
- Strokes to Women's Club!
- Strokes to Don Phillips & Mike Jones
- Diversity/ADA for showcase
- Kudos to Rob on Jam!

Other Business

Jill reported the silent auction brought in \$527.00 which included \$40.00 for two items not received (both checks were deposited in February).

Election results from the presenter membership meeting:

Tom Webster, re-elected to a 3-year term

Jill Hill, re-elected to a 3-year term

John Zirkle, to fill an unexpired 1-year term

Artist meeting: Rob Verdi, re-elected for a 1-year term

John Z. will look into alternative funding possibilities and report back at the summer meeting.

It was generally agreed the next conference and showcase will be in Great Falls on January 27-29, 2017, the convention center space is available and John B. will be in touch with the Mansfield PAC on arrangements. (The main benefits will be ground floor on-grade access, catering using the kitchen instead of a trailer outside, and everything except the showcase will be in one large room. Disadvantages include acoustics for speakers, if there are two workshops at the same time, and the floor will be concrete instead of carpeting. Larry and John B. will look into cost comparison for new and traditional spaces (decision and deposit will probably be made well prior to the summer meeting to hold either space).

The next summer board retreat/planning meeting will be back at the Grand Union, Fort Benton, June 26-28, 2016. (Rooms are reserved for each board member, please advise staff if not needing both nights, and we have the meeting room scheduled Sunday afternoon and all day Monday.)

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM on a motion from Larry.

Respectfully submitted (with pertinent editorial comments in parentheses),
John C. Barsness, Executive Director