

Minutes for ART Meeting September 12, 2011

Present Board Members: Esther, Jerry, Cindy, Sally, Carlos, Angela, Samara, Bobby, Nykki, Kerralisa

Guests: Ana Linares

The meeting was brought to order at 6:06 pm.

The minutes were accepted with an addendum that comments by Bobby and Carlos need to be added after being emailed to Esther. Jerry moved and Bobby seconded.

Treasurer's report: Cindy is still treasurer as cannot get new account until all board directors are registered with the state. This is pending. Treasurer position is open again as Esther will be moving to California next month. Until this position is filled, will need two signatories on checking account after state registration is complete and bank account changed to an institution without monthly charges. Samara recommended Jerry as second signatory. No vote was taken.

Report on last play: "You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running" was very successful with an average audience of 50.5 people and total box of \$3,752.30 (including snacks, raffle and T-shirts).

The September 10 fund raiser was also successful with a net of \$772.00.

Current balance after paying rent, GRU and some other expenses: \$1384.95.

There is an amount still owed of \$5112.75. There was a discussion of how current funds and future income should be spent to pay down these debts. Cindy said she would prefer to defer payments to her as she is the only person signing checks at this time. She prefers to wait until another person's name is on the account who can approve payments to her.

After discussion Bobby motioned to pay off two oldest rights to plays, even if it means partial payments, and \$95 to pay off the CPA. Carlos seconded. Motion passed.

Bobby further suggested that every time there is a weekend of shows that that money be used to pay down past rights still owed and rent to Akira, with rent paid first. It was further suggested that no more than \$150 be kept in the account as long as money is owed. There was general agreement but no vote was taken.

Jerry's report on YKICHYWTWR: He had difficulty finding older actors which resulted in his taking one of the parts.

Talk backs were sparsely attended, although those who attended seemed interested. Ways were discussed to increase interest: advertise that they were happening, have food, cooler weather. Jerry felt that giving promo tickets to key people was helpful in getting the word out about the play. Only about 10 people attended the rehearsal during Artwalk.

Cindy said Ken (from Artwalk) would like for the ART to do a rehearsal outside by the

Hippodrome during Artwalk. A scene from Oleanna was suggested. Jerry suggested having real buskers perform with signs for the ART. Esther pointed out that if we were promoting the next show while one was already playing that that show needed to be promoted too. Ana said she would look into students doing readings. A committee was appointed to look into artwalk possibilities: Cindy, Ana, Bobby and Kerralisa.

Report from Fund raiser September 10. Angie and Carlos. All agreed it was a success with a full house. There was a sense of community and “coming home” among those who attended. It was noted that the income from the meals prepared by Carlos was not commensurate with the amount of work he put into it, at his own expense. Bobby suggested that if we have food again it should be at the beginning instead of the middle. Someone suggested that if we have food it needs to be included in the advertising, as only about 5 meals were sold. Cindy noted that Publix will donate food to 501C3 organizations and this would save a lot of effort and money from board members. Bobby emphasized that these activities need to continue to make all groups feel welcome. Samara noted the we must have more of these activities.

There was some discussion of responsibilities of the fund raising committee. There are three events planned for October but no one has taken responsibility for organizing them. Some thought Carlos was doing this but Carlos did not think it was part of his position. It was noted that Nykki was in charge of fund raising for grants and donations, and Carlos and Angie were in charge of fund raising events. There are two nights of playreading of original works scheduled for October 14 and 15. Who will do the promotions? Kerralisa suggested that promotional materials be put in Latino businesses.

Samara suggested that emails be limited to a “need to know” basis as mailboxes are being made full with information not everyone on the board needs. Bobby will make up a contact list and send it out so that board emails can be more selective.

Promotion Events: There is a MOU with UF to allow student volunteers with the ART.

On September 4 Ana, Sally and Jerry tabled an event at the Reitz Union to encourage student volunteers.

On October 25 there will be another tabling event at the Reitz Union. Kerralisa and Ana volunteered to person that.

No action was taken on UF National Humanities Week October 3, 10-3.

Facilities: Bobby reported a 21% increase on the website from last month. There were 856 hits with 61% of them first timers. Facebook had 524 likes, a 53% increase, as well as promise of a \$500.00 donation.

There were 150 volunteer hours for August providing many facility improvements. Aran requests one 5 gallon bucket of paint costing \$65. Fire extinguishers will be brought up to code before the expected inspection in December.

We need a dedicated handicap space. It is Bobby’s understanding that we will need to hire an outside company to do this because of the regulations for handicap spaces.

Bobby also voiced a real need for an authentic janitor bucket and mop.

Sally mentioned a need for an automatic door closer to save air conditioning and heat. The Board generally agreed that whoever wants it should pay for it. Bobby stated that there are plans to put radiant shielding on the roof which will save on energy bills.

Jerry presented a resolution providing guidelines for the play-reading committee, currently headed by Ted Lewis who was not at the meeting. Bobby motioned to adopt the Resolution, Cindy seconded. Motion passed. Copy to be attached to these minutes.

Jerry mentioned that he and Aran had nominated Cindy for the Spirit of Gainesville Award. He is asking for a supporting letter from the Board. Samara agreed to write the letter and send it to Jerry after input from Board members. Deadline for submission is September 15. Bobby moved to accept the Board's support of Cindy for this award, Samara seconded. Motion passed.

Cindy mentioned the need for a Strategic Planning Committee to determine where the ART may be in the next 5 years. Jerry and Angie volunteered so far. They will meet October 4 at 5:30 pm at the theater. Others may sign up to be on this committee.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Kimberly