

FIRE MOUNTAIN ARTS COUNCIL
MINUTES OF November 26, 2024
Prepared by Amber McKnight

Present: Jessica Scogin, Fred Schwindt, April Doolittle, Bruce Roberts, Clint Scogin, Marty Fortin, Kevin Downing, Amber McKnight, Louise Fisher, Christina Brischetto
Absent: Brian Green, Brad Nelson

Presiding over meeting: Jessica Scogin

Meeting called to order by Jessica Scogin at 7:00pm

Agenda and Minutes Approval:

*Bruce made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes, Kevin seconded, motion passed.

Treasury Report - Fred Schwindt:

We're doing well. But board members haven't been donating as much because maybe there isn't a perceived need? Corporate donations are good. We're not doing much in fundraising. Without corporate, we wouldn't be doing so great right now. Give Big was a great way to fund raise. Gallery sales are doing much better.

April moved to accept to Treasury Report, Amber seconded, motion passed.

Finance:

-April advised the board to look into in-kind donations for things like costumes.

-Christina mentioned recruiting more volunteers for the board specifically to help with fundraising.

-Mics cost a lot of money and are fragile. Mics need to stay on actors as much as possible and not be swapped. Need to add money in the budget for mics. Discuss more in finance meeting.

-Payment for Tiller building contract due in January of \$40,000 to include balloon payment. Paying it off would give FMAC \$375 a month back. We could ask if they would donate the building?

Marty mentions paying \$20,000 but offering to pay \$30,000 and asking for them to drop the last \$10,000 or we would pay \$275 to pay it off over the next 6 years.

*Clint made a motion that the board will pay the \$20,000 part of the balloon payment, Louise seconded, motion passed.

-Need to set up a finance meeting policies making payments for electronic funds transfers.

Board needs to change the policy on how much our movie manager (Christina Brischetto) can pay in bills. Board needs to raise payment allowance for Christina to \$700 for movies.

*Marty moved to refer this to the finance committee, Kevin seconded, motion passed.

Events report:

-Marty reports It's a Wonder Life exceeded expectations. 430 was the audience count total for all shows.

The show went well. 5 scripts left. Need to make sure QR codes get on the postcards for shows. Marty did great producing.

-Louise reports needing people willing to decorate trees for the Festival of Trees. The hospital isn't doing a tree.

-Jessica reported Barefoot in the Park auditions coming up. Need to order the portable stage before the show. Bruce will help Kevin build the set.

*April made a motion to authorize Bruce to make a decision to purchase a portable stage under \$10,000, Amber seconded, motion passed.

-Christina reported the snowboarding/skiing movie event did well. About 25 people showed. Another event of the same is coming soon.

Facility - Bruce Roberts:

-Breezeway progress. Bruce took the plans to the city to be passed. Hampton is gathering the wood needed from a sister mill. 2x4's aren't needed at this time.

-Marty says we need a safety committee. Marty suggests we take the first 10 minutes of board meetings to have safety committee meetings with the entire board. Safety committee meetings need to have their own minutes.

-Christina asked about policies regarding non-profits renting the theater for events. She understood the theater would only charge utilities, maintenance and staffing for these types of events. Marty mentioned if it was a school renting the theater for movies, they would need to have an insurance certificate to show.

OnStage - Amber McKnight:

Tech week is next week. OnStage can sell lollipops for a fundraiser.

Marketing:

-April – We eliminated blanket mailing. It would cost \$9,000 and would not be covered under Lodging Tax funds. Last year we received \$26,000 and in 2025 we will get \$27,000.

This year (2024) we have \$2,000 left to spend. April mentions requesting equipment to be added in our scope of work.

-Christina mentioned adding a calendar showing show schedules and Facebook feeds. It would cost \$1,500 to add these features. We could use the \$2,000 left in our budget for marketing.

*Marty moved we use \$1,500 from the county and request permission from the county to use another \$500 for microphones, Bruce seconded, motion passed.

Upcoming Calendar events:

-Up coming calendar events - Festival of Trees December 4-7

-Next board meeting at Marty's December 27th at 6pm.

-Dawkins Charitable Fund Gathering Dec 9th 12-2pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm