

**Minutes of the Desert Theatre League Board of Directors Meeting
July 24, 2023**

Present

Frank Berman – President
Susan Berman – Vice President
Louise Ross - Secretary
Derik Shopinski – Treasurer
Charles Harvey – Director
Roger Medanich – Director
John Toogood – Director
Michele Davis – Director
Jonathan Epstein-Brenner - Director
Karen Schmitt – Director

Absent

Tony Bogard - Director

Call to Order

Frank Berman called the meeting to order at 4:34PM.

Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the June 2023 Board and All-Member meetings.

Treasurer's Report

Derik Shopinski reported a balance of \$15,789.90 in the checking account. The CD balance is \$10,284.

The CD will be due for renewal in October.

Desert Star Awards

► **Special Awards** Frank reported that two Producing Members offered three nominees for Special Awards: Jerome Elliot Moscovitz of DETC nominated Shawn Abramowitz for the Sidney Harmon Award. Janet Miller of COD nominated Lou Galvan for the Michael Grossman Award and Lynda Shaeps for the Sidney Harmon Award. After discussion, it was agreed that Harmon and Grossman awards will be presented as suggested, and that the Bill Kuhlman Award is appropriate for Lynda Shaeps.

(Presentation: Jerome Elliot will present the Harmon award to Shawn at the Awards Ceremony. Frank will offer Janet Miller the opportunity to present the Grossman award to Galvan. Louise will present the Kuhlman award to Shaeps)

► **Musical Director/ Honoraria:** Derik has arranged for Chip Prince to act as Musical Director. Frank suggested and the Board agreed to an increase in the honorarium for Darci and Paul to \$200, \$125 for Chip Prince, and \$75 to Program Designer Nick Edwards.

► **Ticket Prices/Menu:** Though Sun City catering still does not have a new menu and pricing, it was determined that ticket prices should be set at \$54 (general admission) and \$59 (VIP). This will result in a net loss of approximately \$1800-\$2100 for DTL.

► **Program** Derik established that changes or additions to the Program must be in by August 31.

Judging Coordinator

John Toogood relayed that a total of 93 Desert Star Awards will be presented at the Awards gala. The new season has begun with the judging of **Mean Girls**.

The new rules for judging discussed at the previous meeting will go into effect and posted by Charles Harvey on the website August 1st, including the proviso that membership must be paid 30 days before a Producing Member's first show is judged.

Membership

Susan reported re Ballet that she had sent a letter to CK Dance. If they do not rejoin, then Starlight will likely not either and there will be no Ballet category this season.

She will send a reminder to unpaid Producing Members, reminding them of the new 30-day rule for judging. Susan also contacted DHS, Palm Valley and Cathedral City about rejoining DTL - no responses.

A new Producing Member – Revolution, is in Palm Springs at the old Desert Rose premises.

Website - Nominations will be announced and Ticket Sales for the Awards Ceremony will begin on August 1.

Old Business – There is still only one PO Box Key.

New Business – In order to avoid any appearance of “cronyism,” Frank and Charles suggested that it be made clear that nominations for Special Awards come from Members and not from the Board. This information can be disseminated on the Website and in the Awards Ceremony Program.

Next Meeting

The next DTL Board Meeting will take place on Monday, August 21 at 4:30PM.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise B. Ross, Secretary

July 28, 2023