

**Minutes of the Desert Theatre League Board of Directors Meeting
September 18, 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

Absent

Karen Schmitt – Director

Call to Order

Frank Berman called the meeting to order at 4:30PM.

Minutes

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the July 2023 Board meeting.

Treasurer’s Report

Derik Shopinski reported a balance of \$32,479.11 in the checking account, which includes deposits from Eventbrite ticket sales, less 20%. The CD balance is \$10,318.23. The CD will be due for renewal in October.

He reported that he has filed the California 990 for 2022 but did not have the necessary information to file the 199-N.

Desert Star Awards

Frank reported an estimated \$800 loss to DTL with regard to the Awards Ceremony. He also mentioned the increases in various charges from Sun City, including Audio/Video, a \$350 security fee, etc. A sandwich platter is no longer available for the Greenroom. Frank asked Karen to request marinara meatballs instead. Still awaiting a revised catering proposal. Frank asked all Board Members to be present at the site by 3:30PM on Awards Day.

- ▶ **Trophies** Frank reported excellent and speedy service from the Special Awards provider.
- ▶ **Program** Derik reported a total cost of \$551 for 375 programs.
- ▶ **Check-In Table** Roger, Michelle and Jonathan will work at the check-in table.
- ▶ **Scholarship Recipient Performance** Ben Van Dijk will perform “I Can Do That” from *A Chorus Line* to a track.

As yet there is no estimated date from Karen Schmitt for next year’s Awards.

Judging and Judging Coordinator

- ▶ John Toogood reported that Judging Education will take place at the PCT performance of *Brigadoon* on September 21. Judges will attend and fill out ballots.

- ▶ He also opened the conversation as to whether or not an established production brought in from outside the desert communities is eligible to be judged. After lengthy discussion, the subject was tabled until a new judging rule can be put into effect next season. John Toogood will create a proposed judging rule requiring “local creation” with regard thereto.
- ▶ John Toogood will remind Producing Members that they must acquire the rights to any copyrighted material (including music) which is part of any judged production and publish that fact in any program.
- ▶ Frank requested that Michele and Jonathan put together a compilation of judging tips to be distributed to this season’s judges.

Membership

Susan Berman reported that the following schools have not yet paid their dues: Cat City, DHS, Shadow Hills, Indio and La Quinta. Palm Desert requested an invoice, which Susan has submitted.

Regarding CVRep, Derik offered that he has spoken with them and they will not be joining this year.

Website

- ▶ Frank requested that ballot and judging instructions be posted on the website ASAP.
- ▶ Charles will receive the ballot and judging information early enough that award winners’ names can be placed on the website as soon as possible after the Awards Ceremony.

Old Business – Further issues with Joshua Carr are not anticipated.

New Business – Tony Bogard had informed Frank Berman that he would be retiring from the Board due to family issues. Frank asked for an e-mailed letter of resignation, which he has not received. The Board has decided to accept the verbal resignation.

The Board thanks Derik Shopinski and John Toogood for their hard work on the Program and Trophies, respectively.

Next Meeting

The next DTL Board Meeting will take place on Monday, October 9 at 4:30PM.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Louise B. Ross, Secretary

September 23, 2023