

Board Meeting Notes

Thursday, August 24, 7:15 pm, DCM Offices

Board Business:

- Roll call: Gary, Evelyn, Jen, Gigi, Sarah, Kait, Ryan, Johnno, Robin, Mary
- Next meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 7pm at DCM (please note time change)
- Ryan made the motion to approve prior meeting minutes and Evelyn seconded; unanimously approved

Executive Session

- Staff Contracts: Shana looked it over and wanted to change one thing. (Attached to agenda)
- MSAC Grant: They opened an arts capital grant program. We would like to get a new grant to build storage for costumes because the outdoor storage is not large enough. The application is due in October. It is a very involved process, part of it includes getting letters from legislators. It was suggested that the board members help with the process. The last quote for adding storage was \$150,000 without moving sprinklers.
- Broom's Bloom: Gigi is going to talk to Broom's Bloom about the ice cream fundraiser for Nutcracker. Kait has the sign ready for promotion. Last year we raised \$500—not a lot of money but the visibility and promotion were great. Last year the ice cream flavor was dark chocolate with peppermint.
- Nutcracker update: 42 kids already registered for auditions in two weeks. We had hired a Snow King, but he got an apprenticeship and is moving. So, although he had signed a contract, we still need to find a Snow King. Alumni guests are not available. Shana is working on a creative Plan B, and since we already have him, Drosselmeyer involved in the snow scene, we could have him lift the snow queen this year. Also, a small group of six dancers will be winter pines and they will use pine garland. Developing a Plan B has been difficult, but we do not want to someone out of desperation. For the pines we can repurchase costumes that were used for the June concert at a reduced rate.
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Artistic Director's Report (per Shana's notes)

- Shana was not in attendance but submitted notes. She is creating a five-year performance where we alternate a newer show with one that we've done. We won't get into a rut, but we don't have to recreate the wheel. Swan Lake will be kept in reserve, and at this time won't be in the rotation: Sleeping Beauty, new show, Cinderella, new show, Coppelia.

Executive Director's Report

- We are looking for season sponsors and help with fundraising. Kait asked if everybody could try to get a season sponsor instead of program ad. She will send out a Google form so we can add our names to it.
- Annual budget and P&L review: General discussion of budget (attached to agenda). Discussed the possibility of opening dress rehearsal with tickets, but

only if the performance is sold out. We will also need to check with Towson to see if that is possible. The earnings for the master classes were lower because not many outside students came in. That line item will be decreased next year. The costume manager was budgeted super low. Next year the costume mistress line item will be broken out from supplies and her payment. The office supplies went up because of inflation and the bulk of the costs were for ink and paper. The fundraising goal is \$15,000. Evelyn made the motion to approve the budget, and Gary seconded. Unanimously approved.

- Reminder for Dues for Board members – Paid last FY: Bekker, Devanney, Ballinger, Palinkas

Meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.