

**DESERT THEATRE LEAGUE MINUTES**  
**Monday, July 16, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Berman at 3:58 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Frank Berman	President	John Toogood	Director
Susan Berman	Vice President	Tony Bogard	Director
June August	Secretary	Shawn Abramowitz	Director
Derik Shopinski	Treasurer	Gina Bikales	Director
Karen Schmitt	Director	Charles Harvey	Director
Irwin Rubinsky	Director		

**MINUTES**

The revised minutes from the June Board Meeting and the Annual Meeting were approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

As of 6/30/18

Total Income	19,750		
Total Expenses	17,421		
Overall total	1,799	Bank balance as of 6/30/18	\$23,038

The financial report was approved.

June August has completed the necessary paperwork at Wells Fargo so that she can sign checks in an emergency. Derik Shopinski, Treasurer, plans to complete the paperwork at the bank on Monday, July 23.

Frank received a check from Charles Hampton in the amount of \$25 as a donation to the Scott Smith fund. June will acknowledge the donation.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

There are currently 9 paid producing members and 22 paid individual members of DTL.

**JUDGING REPORT**

John Toogood announced that there are already 70 shows scheduled for the 2018-19 season. Not all producing members have reported their season.

## **JUDGING Continued**

Frank mentioned that attendance at the judges' meeting has been lower than desirable. John Toogood replied that if we strictly enforce attendance rules, we might lose judges. Frank asked that we think about possible solutions to that problem.

John said the meeting will probably be held on the 3rd Monday of September at 4 p.m. Frank said we might consider not having the meeting because of poor past attendance. Gina Bikales offered to reserve the Community Room at the Universalist Unitarian Church just in case we do hold the meeting. Frank suggested that one-to-one training might be more effective than a group meeting. John said he would wait to schedule the meeting until the board decides one way or the other.

## **WEBSITE REPORT**

Charles Harvey announced that Phase 2 of the calendar is now posting information through April 2019.

Shawn Abramowitz asked about creating a link to producing members' websites for announcements about auditions, for example. Charles said it would be possible and that he would need the audition information to be able to post it. Shawn also asked whether we could create an announcement section for posting every Tuesday. Charles will look into it. A suggestion was raised about taking a 3-pronged approach to communications with producing members: face-to-face, print, and video on Facebook.

Frank asked June to email members by July 24 or 25 to inform them that Desert Star nominations and ticket purchase information for the Desert Star dinner will be posted as of 8 am, August 1. Members can purchase tickets then.

Frank asked whether Go Daddy can inform us about the number of visitors to the website, Charles said yes, and that it has already been set up. Charles will report the number of visitors at the next meeting.

## **SCHOLARSHIP REPORT**

Karen Schmitt reported that only Victoria Mendoza will perform live at the Desert Star Dinner. Karen will notify winners that they should purchase tickets for family and friends early to avoid disappointments.

## **DESERT STAR DINNER**

Sun City Palm Desert Catering has confirmed our use of the Sierra Ballroom on Sunday, October 14, 2018, for the dinner. Catering also confirmed that the Ballroom can accommodate thirty-six 10-seat tables for this year's event, for a total of 360 seats.

## DESERT STAR DINNER Continued

The members' ad price in the Desert Star program is \$250 for a full page. Space will be assigned in the order checks are received: back page for 1<sup>st</sup> check, inside front cover for 2<sup>nd</sup> check, inside back cover for 3<sup>rd</sup> check, inside pages for subsequent checks.

Shawn suggested offering a lower price for schools purchasing a ½ page. It was discussed and rejected. However, at Shawn's suggestion, we will solicit business for full-page ads and adjust the price. Shawn also suggested soliciting businesses to sponsor the tables. It was agreed that he will proceed to acquire one sponsor for all 36 tables.

Derik Shopinski said that August 24 is the deadline for all ad copy and art.

Frank asked Karen to provide a dinner table map with 5 tables in the front row.

The cost of dinner tickets will be the same as last year: \$45 per person and \$50 for VIP tables.

John Toogood announced that he'll need access to the stage by 1 pm on the day of the dinner. The stage will be set up with front steps as it was last year. Karen will arrange for projections on both sides of the Sierra Ballroom.

Wayne Abravanel will be the pianist. Frank will introduce Wayne at the event.

There will be three no-host bars set up: two in the lobby and one inside the ballroom. The cost to DTL is \$105 per bar, which includes bar set-up and bartender.

### MENU:

Pre-dinner crudites for 50  
Maritza salad  
Lemon herb chicken  
Classic Bomba

The gluten-free, vegan option will be wild mushroom ravioli.

The Board approved an expenditure of \$2,600 for trophies and approximately \$150 for badges for Board members.

## **SPECIAL AWARDS**

After considerable discussion, the Board chose the following Special Award Winners.

Lifetime Achievement	Garnett Smith
Michael Grossman	Yo Younger
Sidney Harmon	Jim Strait
Bill Kuhlman	Abe Daniels
Joan Woodbury Mitchell	Paul Taylor

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Approved Minutes posted on the website will not include personal information.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Frank read a letter from Jerome Elliott thanking DTL for expanding communications among member companies.

Frank read a letter from Paul Taylor about an email he received from Bruce Fessier expressing concern about lack of support of the theatre community by The Desert Sun.

Palm Springs Life will now publish theater reviews.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next Board Meeting will be held on August 20, 2018, at 4 pm., at:

31276 Dunham Way  
Thousand Palms, California 92276

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

June August  
Secretary