

Minutes of June 5, 2007 Midcoast Youth Theater General Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Henry Eichman. In attendance were Juli Millett, Beverly Diller, Kathy Christensen, Carol Leach, and Jennifer Jacobs.

Regrets were received from Mike Millett and Pam Tondreau.

Agenda

- I. Approve Minutes
- II. Old Business
- III. Treasurer's Report
- IV. New Business

I. Approve Minutes

1. Kathy moved to accept the minutes of 4/24/07. Bev seconded; all in favor.

II. Old Business

1. Status of Grant Application

Henry reported that he met with representatives of the Town of Brunswick's Nathaniel Davis Fund regarding our request for a grant of \$1,000. Midcoast Youth Theater did not meet the criteria for the Fund's focus this year. We were encouraged to apply again next year.

2. Membership Dues

Henry noted that membership dues were due in May and that parents would be reminded.

3. Insurance

Henry indicated that MYT's insurance payment is due.

4. MEPAN Conference

Carol reported briefly on the 2007 Maine Performing Arts Network Conference, which she attended on behalf of MYT in May. She will provide more details on the conference at a future time. She also noted that she had obtained numerous suggestions regarding potential storage space (most of which it turned out Henry or others had already explored) but no concrete leads.

5. Facilities Group

Henry stated that the Facilities Group (Henry, Mike, Tracy, Kathy, Elaine, and Pam) had no news at this time but would report after its next gathering.

III. Treasurer's Report

Juli reported that participation fees were coming in very slowly for the Teen show, and we needed to come up with some mechanism for dealing with this issue.

IV. New Business

1. Yard Sale

A yard sale to benefit MYT---to be organized by Amy Sherwood and held at Bev Diller's house---is planned for this summer, probably in July, before the Teen show.

2. Sponsorship Solicitations

Pam Bowerman, Kathy Christensen, and Amy Sherwood will approach businesses regarding show sponsorship, with some help from Juli.

Amy is selling ads and soliciting raffle items (e.g., gift certificates) from businesses.

3. Raffles

There was a discussion about whether or not we should have advance raffle sales, which have been successful in the past. As far as anyone present could recall, we did not do advance sales last year, but Juli said she would ask Barbara Parker, who coordinated the Youth show's raffle last summer and will do it again this year.

4. Grantwriting

Henry reported that John Banta's mother is willing to help with grantwriting.

In regard to material and data needed for grant applications, we need to (a) write up staff bios and (b) develop a survey to use after this summer's productions (perhaps to be conducted by phone rather than on paper).

5. Volunteers

Bev will set up an informational easel at St. Paul's during the Youth show auditions to interest parents in volunteering.

A volunteer has already agreed to paint the sandwich boards advertising both summer shows.

6. Brunswick Rec Workshop

Henry will be conducting a summer theater workshop for kids age 7-12 through the Town of Brunswick's Parks and Recreation Department, at the Rec Center. The workshop meets twice a week for 3 weeks and culminates in a 7/14 performance of "Red Versus the Wolf." Henry noted that the Town's flyer states at the bottom that the workshop is "in collaboration with Midcoast Youth Theater" and includes our Web address. A motion was made by Bev, seconded by Carol, and approved by all that Henry present each workshop participant with a "Seussical, Jr." postcard indicating that they were entitled to free admission if accompanied by a paying adult.

7. Marketing

Kathy will promote "Crazy for You" at the same senior facilities where she marketed "Christmas Carol." She will also promote the idea of bringing kids to "Seussical, Jr."

8. Fundraising

Jennifer raised the idea that MYT might want to consider doing a Little Caesar's pizza and cookie dough fundraiser, which has proven to be extremely successful for other groups. The items need to be kept frozen, so logistics might be an issue unless Mt. Ararat lets us use their walk-in freezer. We will continue to look into this--if popular, it could be something we do annually. Information is available on the Little Caesar's website.

9. Next Meeting

The next general membership meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 11, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Mt. Ararat High School (room 120A).

At 8:02 p.m., Juli moved to adjourn the meeting, and Henry seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Leach (substituting for Tracy in her absence)

The mission of Midcoast Youth Theater is to empower youth through a safe, nurturing theater experience and to build life skills with teamwork, creative problem solving, public speaking, risk taking, and tolerance while enhancing self-awareness and self-esteem.