



## Village Arts Coalition

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Annual VAC Meeting  
2009

Date: October 25,

Location: Anne Vickery Home

Board Attendees: Caroline Stepanek, Deborah Howard, Jane Bunin, Marshall Shapiro, Melba Shepard, Robert Schaedla, Chuck Palmer, Anne Vickery, Willard Crary, Susan Reisser.

Guests and Representatives of Member Groups: Donna Shonle, Mario Escobar, Steve Ruby, Ilana Bar-or, Ray Sundby, Christy Barden, Hermine Higgins, Otto Verdoner, Joe Stepanek, Ingvar Sodal, Kurt Reisser, Sabine Schaffner, Jeff Pontillo.

Meeting was called to order by Melba at 5:41 PM.

1. **Financial:** Robert gave a financial report of Avalon, in place of Stan Wilkes. He presented the current statement, from March 1-August 31. Computer and web expenses are up. Festival income was up, but expenses were, too. Avalon income is down from last year. The Festival is no longer a major income earner. Robert also presented statistics from the fiscal year ending 2.28.09. The biggest expense of the year was the purchase of the FDIG share. Donations have increased. Another expense was the Sodal party.
2. **International Festival:** Hermine reported the 2010 festival will be June 12,13. Recommendations are to start the festival one half hour later in the day, and run a half hour later. Scheduling for performers will not be on a first come/first served basis. They will prepare a handout on the VAC. Anne suggested strongly to increase publicity.
3. **Web Site/Portal:** Marshall, using Google analytics, reported 1,960 visits to the site in September/October, with approximately 50-100 hits/day. Avalonevents.org is the biggest channel to send our traffic. 265 hits came from there, and 417 from Google. Use ramped up prior to the extravaganza. About half the hits bounce, and one quarter are new to the site. Modifications to the site include enhanced calendaring. Hermine suggested work on that area, with the mouse roll-over, as she is still getting numerous phone calls. Marshall suggested groups use the YouTube feature.
4. **Stomp:** Caroline discussed how expenses have risen in the past year. The printer we've used for the past 18 months is out of business. The last issue cost \$50 more to print. We have decreased copies from 1000 to 800, and still have left-overs. She is looking for a cheaper printer, and into decreasing the copy numbers.

- Everyone agreed that we still need this hard copy format. Lay-out could be done by a volunteer with graphic arts skills.
5. **Avalon:** Within the last year we have received county approval, contingent, in the way that allows commercial use and dance activities in the same building, plus any other light industrial uses that are allowed. Contingencies include: satisfying the transportation department. He has filled cracks and had the parking lot striped. He must submit building permits for work already done. Regarding the building code, safety issues must be addressed, including egress and ADA requirements. To comply with the latter, we must add railings to both sides of the stage staircases, and either put a ramp in place or a lift. Our trailer, holding the old wooden floor, was stolen. Chuck has purchased one to carry debris. The east hall is open for rental. Chuck could use volunteer help with many tasks, long and short range. Steve Ruby initiated a discussion of the policy of bumping groups from their scheduled times.
  6. **VAC Library:** Melba reported that Alex Wilson has donated various materials that Lavinia Ycas will organize into a VAC library.
  7. **Election of Board:** Jane reported that these current board members have agreed to another term: Marshall Shapiro, Dave Sanders, Robert Schaedla and Steward Hartman, Caroline Stepanek. Jeff Pontillo has agreed to join the board. Betty England will retire. Robert reported that a representative council of votes, per the bylaws, would require a quorum of 19 from the 35 member groups. We do not have the quorum. Motion: Deborah – “I move we suspend the rules regarding a quorum for this election. Anne seconded. 15 in favor, one opposed. Motion: Robert – “I move we have an up or down vote on the slate of six nominees by dance groups and individual members.” Chuck seconded. Carried unanimously. Robert will consider the concerns regarding the bylaws in a future board meeting, with amendment ideas. Motion three: Chuck - “I move we elect the slate recommended by the Nominating Committee.” Deborah seconded. Carried unanimously.

The next regular board meeting is November 16, 7PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM, upon the motion by Ingvar.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Reisser,  
Secretary

