



Village Arts Coalition

Minutes – Annual Meeting – October 16, 2011

Location: Anne Vickery's Home

Present: Marshall Shapiro, Nancy Ellinghaus, Larry Utter, Barbara Roach, Carla McKenna, Arnold Guminski, Melba Shepard, Susan Smith, Willard Crary, Anne Vickery, Steward Hartman, Deborah Howard, Caroline Stepanek, Robert Schaedla, Susie Pringle, Hilton Fitt-Peaster, Jim X. Borzym, Otto Verdoner, Margie Shapiro, Rick Thompson, Susan Reisser. Avalon Representative: Hermine Higgins

1. **Welcome & Intro:** President Robert Schaedla called the meeting to order at 6:15PM, welcoming all present and giving a general introduction to the agenda.
2. **Reports:**
 - a. **VAC International Festival:** Melba stated the festival was held in June and was successful, with credit to Hermine's coordination. Investment was made in t-shirts for volunteers. Special recognition goes to Bev Baker, Willard Crary, Stan Wilkes, the Stepaneks, Deborah Howard and Otto Verdoner. Challenges included: a date conflict with Balkan Camp, limiting the musicians available; fewer vendors and no food. The t-shirts contributed to a funding deficit, rent increased for the tent, the grant amount was reduced, and vendor income was down. Difficult to sign up volunteers, particularly in advance. The loss was small. Next year's dates of June 21-22 again conflict with camps. The fund application has been sent in. Bev will again schedule performances. New vendors are interested. Melba asked, "Should we continue?" and solicited ideas. It was suggested to create postcards to hand out, listing participating member groups. The majority want it to continue.
 - b. **Stomp:** Caroline reported that we publish 6 issues/year, 600 copies/issue.
 - c. **Website:** Marshall reported that the site has been mostly static in the past year, growing steadily. He presented Google analytics. Member groups maintain their own sections. Changes to the site cost. Rick suggested vetted members pay to have links to their businesses and the website have organic leads on Facebook versus the paid leads to improve visibility. Marshall also maintains a Facebook page, and has been working with ads to draw new dancers in. So far the cost per "like" has been approximately \$6.
 - d. **Avalon:** Steward presented the highlights of the build out and plans for the future. The Sept. 17 work party was successful, toward beginning efforts in Sodal Hall. The roof has been replaced, as well as the windows, increasing energy conservation. A hefty rebate made the windows an excellent investment. We are adding locking storage cabinets. Stage improvements move along, with dry wall coming. The N.E. corner of the building has been absent a tenant. The Church of the Rock is renting the S. E. corner. The build out plans include: restroom

expansion; the work will be contracted out. Volunteers are needed. Sodal Hall construction and ballroom completion is anticipated to take approximately three years, with plans, approval and permitting. Once constructed, groups will be moved from the large ballroom to Sodal Hall, so that work can be completed on the ballroom – sound isolation, a sound wall, HVAC and entrances. Ceiling work will require a professional plumber. The VAC pays 6% of the capital costs, Boulder Dance the rest. Once the two ballrooms are complete, the Alex Wilson Dance Studio, which is partially complete, will be tackled. Last will be finishing details on the stage.

- e. **Financials:** Robert presented for Stan Wilkes with Deborah. Robert noted that our financial year and our political year are not in synch. The financial year is presented from February, 2011. We have had a good year with \$33,000 of net income from the Avalon. Our savings account then held \$61,000, which was used to buy shares of Boulder Dance and to provide for capital calls. \$339,000 = total assets. \$120,000 = FDIG (Pearl Street Studio). \$136,000 = Boulder Dance LLC. Liabilities = \$1,000. The VAC income statement, the Avalon Income Statement showed a net income of \$26,000. Deborah commented that currently accounts are tight until the FDIG money comes in.
3. **Other Business:** Robert noted the disconnect between the fiscal year and the annual meeting. He suggests we move the annual meeting to be in synch with the fiscal year.
4. **Voting:** Robert explained the process, noting we have a quorum of 26 member groups out of 44, plus 1 individual representative for the individual member group. The nominating committee nominated: Jim X. Borzym, Carla McKenna, Chuck Palmer, and Willard Crary. Those nominated on site included: Anne Vickery, Susan Smith and Rick Thompson. Robert read a letter from Chuck Palmer, stating that he recommended Anne not be elected. **MOTION:** Willard – “I move we accept the slate of nominations.” Melba seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **ELECTION RESULTS:** Elected: Jim X. Borzym, Carla McKenna, Chuck Palmer, Willard Crary, Susan Smith, Rick Thompson. Not elected: Anne Vickery.
5. **Next Meeting:** Robert announced his retirement from the board and as president. He noted difficulties encountered during the past year, with a “model” approach toward reorganization. He recommends we instead implement incremental approaches, one at a time. He hopes to continue to help in his role as CPA.

The next board meeting, which will be conducted by Steward, will be November 3, 7-9PM, at the Avalon. The meeting adjourned at 9:07PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Reisser

Secretary