



Village Arts Coalition

VAC Meeting Date: January 6, 2011

Where: Home of Robert Schaedla

Board Attendees: Robert Schaedla, Chuck Palmer, Steward Hartman, Melba Shepard, Anne Vickery, Carla McKenna, Marshall Shapiro, Caroline Stepanek, Deborah Howard, Willard Crary, Carla McKenna, Susie Reisser. Hermine Higgins – Avalon Representative. Susan Smith, Stan Wilkes – Guests.

Meeting was called to order by Robert at 7:00. Quorum present.

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Approved.
2. **Proposed Bylaws Changes:** Robert turned the meeting over to Steward for discussion. Stan registered concerns with the first two proposed changes to the bylaws, at a time when he perceives there are too many undetermined changes to our structure. Robert suggested that Steward has laid an excellent foundation with his examination of bylaws issues, but Stan has brought concerns not thought of. The decision was made that we need further discussion of membership issues before the amendments are made. Steward was satisfied to not make changes one and two to the bylaws. The committee recommends not voting in Change number one, concerning Article IV, Board of Directors, Section 8 – Vacancies. The board voted unanimously not to make this change. Change number two, Article III Membership, Section 4, Special Meetings – the board voted unanimously not to make this change. Change number three – Add email as a possible notification for Amendments, Article XI. Steward - MOTION: The committee recommends we vote and pass change number three and that the committee will come up with an addition of how individual directors indicate how they will receive notification of amendment changes.” 9-in favor (one a proxy vote for Jane Bunin), 2 abstentions. Motion passes. Additionally Steward asked if any changes are desired for his Procedures. If not, he will put them in the form of standing procedures.
3. **Standing Reports** – meeting turned back to Robert.
 - a. **Stomp** — Caroline - no report except to give the number of responses to the request to receive the Stomp via e-mail instead of by postal mail. 5 out of 42 people responded. Robert suggested we continue to mail request form to everyone for the next couple of issues of Stomp.
 - b. **Website** – Database changes to accommodate multiple alerts are not in place yet. Marshall and Chuck need to meet to discuss. Marshall informed the group that the VAC now has a Facebook presence.
 - c. Marshall - changes have been made for a cleaner site. We have Facebook presence.
 - d. **International Festival** – Hermine – starting work on festival. Sent save the date email to exhibitors.
 - e. **Avalon** – Chuck – general maintenance has been made. Heater repairs, bids for ducting from the lobby to the church. A tenant will move into office space in February. Sound isolation treatment will be done. He is working on drawings for the stage for permit document. No closer on Sodal Hall. Chuck anticipates a capital call of \$200,000 for replacement of the roof. Hermine reports that the first half of the year is almost completely booked, largely with the dance community.

4. **Financial** – Stan presented financial statements covering nine months of the fiscal year. On the VAC Balance Sheet, as of November 30, 2010, we have a cash balance of \$67,000 and long term investments of \$250,000. On the VAC income statement, March through November, 2010, FDIG income is \$5,000 (up from \$3800). Avalon Ballroom rental is \$106,000 (up from \$79,000) and Avalon Expenses are almost \$81,000 (\$71,000) resulting in about \$25,000 net income from the Avalon. Festival remains the same. The VAC has overall net income of \$27,000 (up from \$2,100) for the first nine months of its fiscal year.
5. **Membership** – Marshall reported pros and cons on membership fees, regarding group and individual memberships, not raising fees substantially. We need to assess whether membership fees exist for revenue or just for belonging. We want people to want to join, should we offer incentives? Make membership a qualification for listing in Stomp and on the website? Robert requested the committee resolve these issues before further discussion. Stan is mailing the annual membership fee letter to members, and Melba suggested an alternative version of the letter, with a positive slant. MOTION: “I move that we consider Stan’s letter and Melba’s letter, and choose the one we favor.” Marshall seconds. 7 preferred Melba’s letter, 1 Stan’s letter. Robert will work with Melba to get an electronic version to Stan so he can mail it.
6. **Other** – Robert will move discussion of Robert’s Rules of Order to the agenda for the next meeting.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be February 3, 2011, 7:00PM at the Avalon. Robert will send notice to missing members of the new location.

Adjournment: Robert motioned; Willard seconded. Passed. 9:07PM

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Reisser, Secretary