

ICTA May 2009

The Board of Directors met in Ames at the Actors Theatre's conference room, May 30, 2009.

Present: President Donna Smithson, Secretary Peg Brown, Carol Bellairs, Helen Beneke, Ann Blankenship, Molly Ketchum, Luanne Krabbe, Connie Loeschen, Kathy Schnell, John Stuff, Brian Kessler and Cheryl Zieringer. Introductions were made.

President Donna called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The minutes of the March 6, 2009 board minutes were read by Secretary Brown. They will stand as read.

Gerard had e-mailed a financial report which reveals a current checking account balance of \$6,148.94, Boutin checking balance of \$183.84 and investment balance of \$33,178.38. One Boutin Award has not been sent due to the project not being completed.

Gerard also reported that three theatres have applied for awards in excellence to date. Assignments have been made for the June 5-7 production in Ottumwa.

Brian Kessler of Lakes Area Theatre was present and gave a detailed report of the 2009 Festival. There are festival guidelines available on-line, but many details are absent. Brian was most appreciative of the Newton theatre people for their guidance. Discussion was held about the National Representative and who pays those expenses. It was assumed AACT paid those; they did not. Brian reported that Lakes Area had not received the \$250 from ICTA to aid in expense to the Regional Festival. Two coupons had been turned in at an expense of \$63. Brian stated he had spent approximately \$200 personally for various office items, due to unforeseen problems. Lakes Area had a final net of \$51.09. Many food items had been donated by family and friends of the theatre in addition to Hy Vee donating 148 bags of individual servings of chips. Helen made a motion, second by Anne that Lakes Area be paid \$500 (\$250 to proceed to Regional, \$63 for 2 attendee coupons and \$227 to Brian for personal expense reimbursement). Upon vote, the motion carried.

Brian reported that Spencer is in the process of remodeling their theatre and it will be very nice. They are interested in hosting festival after the project is completed. He also stated Lakes Area would be interested in hosting again. Discussion was held about holding festival and Convention at a different time of year if held at Lakes Area in order for attendees to enjoy the area.

Connie was able to obtain the soft ware to continue with the newsletter for \$205 through Tech Soup. It is registered through Newton Community Theatre using their name and address. There is a code number and question was raised if this number should be filed with the secretary and treasurer. It was also felt the program should be downloaded into another computer for safety purposes.

Conversation was held about the board of director's role and how we could help member theatres. It was reported that Nebraska's board of directors is responsible for their state festival. The board agreed perhaps they might be able to provide assistance with publicity; the board is representative of many areas of the state and could feed information to area newspapers.

Discussion was held about the number of adjudicators needed for festival and if it is appropriate for them to be from instate.

Conversation was held about the time of year to hold festival to avoid winter weather conditions. The board will discuss this further later on.

Anne asked about ICTA having their own web site. She stated her husband, Larry, would be happy to investigate a domain, registration costs and design a page for review. Concern was shared that Newton was developing a page for ICTA. Discussion revealed that individuals looking for happenings in Iowa would tend to look under Iowa, rather than Newton. Luanne made a motion to proceed to establish a Web page for an amount up to \$500 for all costs, Connie gave a second and the motion carried upon

vote.

Donna explained the coupon project to John. Discussion included it is not appropriate for the board to offer discount prices to festival or convention in order to gain new members. The board will put forth effort to increase board attendance at convention. Molly made a motion, second by Kathy, that coupons will be held for festival attendance only. The motion carried.

Connie reported on attendance at a Spencer production and completing the Awards for Excellence form. She felt comfortable with the process and the form being used. Kathy reported on her experience at the Newton Theatre, she, too, felt comfortable with the process. Board members assigned to attend a production in Ottumwa are Helen, Donna, Scott and Peggy. They will attend the production at different times.

Anne stated Webster City will be doing the production Oklahoma July 17, 2010 and they wish to plan convention around that. All were in agreement. Anne asked for educational topics; they can be e-mailed to her.

Donna questioned if there needed to be changes in the Boutin Grant Application rules. There were no suggestions.

Clarinda wishes to host the next board meeting. The date is set August 1.

Luanne made a motion, second by Helen, to adjourn. The meeting was closed at 4:00 p.m.

Peggy Brown, Secretary