



VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 22, 2012

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, November 22, 2012, at 12:04 pm, in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon.

PRESENT: Rob Haynes, Chair
Charles Arrata
Michael Noon
David Secunda
Karole Sutherland
Karen Wilson
Iris Woo

ALSO PRESENT: Todd Ayotte, Interim Director of Civic Theatres
Richard Newirth, Managing Director, Cultural Services

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Charlene Imai, Meeting Coordinator

Leave of Absence Requests

There were no Leaves of Absence requested.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by David Secunda
SECONDED by Karole Sutherland

THAT the Minutes of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board meeting held on October 25, 2012, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Chair's Comments

Rob Haynes, Chair, advised today was the last meeting of the 2012 Board, and thanked the three members - Charles Arrata, Michael Noon and David Secunda - whose terms expire on December 2, 2012, for all their input during their terms on the Board.

Mr. Haynes then provided the following comments:

- Mr. Haynes attended a concert by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in celebration of the Orpheum's 85th anniversary, which was well received. At the beginning of the concert, Mr. Haynes, on behalf of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board, was given the opportunity to speak about the Orpheum and its history.
- Global TV televised three five-minute segments with Red Robinson, featuring pieces on the Orpheum, BC Entertainment Hall of Fame Starwall Gallery and the Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Mr. Haynes thanked Global TV and Red Robinson.
- Mr. Haynes requested more interaction and questions from all Board members during meetings.

Highlights of the ensuing discussion included the marketing of the theatres, particularly the Orpheum Annex and Playhouse, how to improve the booking of the theatres, use of the Restaurant and actual cost of running the theatres.

2. Financial Update

Todd Ayotte, Interim Director of Civic Theatres, together with Karole Sutherland, reviewed the Quarter 3 and Year-to-Date Results, as well as the Full Year Forecast, noting some forecasted events did not come to fruition. In response to questions about details of the financial update, Mr. Ayotte advised he submits detailed financial information to the City's Financial Services group and they provide a summary of the data as presented today.

Following discussion, Mr. Ayotte and Ms. Sutherland responded to questions.

3. Licensee Relations

Karen Wilson commented on the following and discussion ensued:

- become pro-active and encourage organizations to use Civic Theatres facilities, to which Mr. Ayotte advised he has contacted a few organizations;
- Eric Wilson, Friends of Chamber Music, has been scheduled to the December meeting. To this end, Ms. Wilson requested Board members to let her know if they would like her to pursue other organizations to make presentations to the Board;
- staffing change at the Vancouver Opera;
- MusicFest;
- displacement of the Vancouver Recital Society and other arts organizations in that same building.

4. Vancouver Civic Theatres Board Feedback

Iris Woo provided comments regarding the inconsistent water temperature in the ladies washroom in the Orpheum, and Mr. Ayotte advised he will follow up with maintenance staff.

Mr. Ayotte responded to questions regarding re-seating at events held in the Civic Theatres.

Mr. Haynes congratulated staff at a recent Alice Cooper concert in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

5. Director's Report and Board Questions

Todd Ayotte provided the following updates:

- an RFP for the management of the parking garage has been issued;
- Mr. Ayotte will be meeting with, to date, 18 representatives of diverse dance communities, including Jay Hirabayashi of Kokoro Dance;
- Vancouver Christmas Market opens this weekend and runs from November 24 to December 24, 2012;
- Vancouver Opera is putting up a "The Pirates of Penzance" banner on the QET Fly Tower. The show opens December 1, 2012;
- Mr. Ayotte hosted a paranormal group in the Orpheum last night, November 21.

Mr. Ayotte and Richard Newirth, Managing Director, Cultural Services, provided a brief update on the status of the Strategic Plan, which is not likely to be considered by Council until some time in the new year.

Mr. Newirth responded to questions regarding the Arts and Culture Policy Council, which has met once since its establishment. The next meeting of the Policy Council is scheduled for January 15, 2013.

Concern was expressed that many people/organizations are unaware of the availability of the Orpheum Annex, as well as the Playhouse, and Mr. Ayotte mentioned the idea of an outreach program. Staff then reviewed and responded to questions regarding the grants in lieu of theatre rental application process.

6. New Business

There were no items of New Business.

7. Adjournment

MOVED by Karole Sutherland
SECONDED by Charles Arrata

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board adjourned at 1:31 pm.

* * * * *

Next Meeting

DATE: December 13, 2012
TIME: 12:00 noon
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon