



VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

MINUTES

OCTOBER 17, 2013

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, October 17, 2013, at 12:04 pm, in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon.

PRESENT: Rob Haynes, Chair
Michael Noon
Karen Wilson
Iris Woo

ABSENT: Susan Adams (Leave of Absence)
Wendy Soobis (Sick Leave)
Karole Sutherland, Vice-Chair (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball
Todd Ayotte, Interim Director, Vancouver Civic Theatres
Richard Newirth, Managing Director, Cultural Services

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Charlene Imai, Meeting Coordinator

Leave of Absence Requests

None.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Karen Wilson
SECONDED by Iris Woo

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on September 19, 2013, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Chair's Comments

Rob Haynes, Chair, introduced and welcomed Margaret Genovese, Senior Partner with Genovese Vanderhoof & Associates, who has been retained by the City to assist with an international search for a new Director of Vancouver Civic Theatres.

At this time Mr. Haynes and Board members took the opportunity to thank Todd Ayotte for the commendable job he has done in the interim following Rae Ackerman's retirement last summer.

2. Financial Update

Todd Ayotte, Interim Director, reviewed the Q2 projection to year end for Civic Theatres, including event-related revenues and expenditures, overhead, parking and bar/concession.

Board members offered and discussed suggestions on how to increase revenues. Mr. Ayotte then responded to questions.

3. Director's Report

Todd Ayotte, Interim Director, provided information on the following:

- attendance comparisons between Warhorse and Billy Elliot musicals;
- progress of Cambie Street construction and its impact on the theatres;
- staff de-brief following the issues arising from "The Weeknds" concerts. Mr. Ayotte provided information to the Board regarding risk assessment protocols and articulated some of the recommendations that came forward from staff.

4. VCT Director search discussion

Following introduction by Richard Newirth, Managing Director, Cultural Services, Margaret Genovese advised Board members of her process in the international search for a new Director, including Board input, job posting and timeline.

It was agreed Board members email their comments regarding the job description to Richard Newirth.

5. Resident Companies Report

Karen Wilson provided information regarding:

- Vancouver Opera - audience move to different date (from Tuesday to Thursday) and ticket sales;
- possible parking issues due to the Vancouver Recital Society/Silk Road Ensemble performances at the Playhouse on November 1st;
- Vancouver International Film Festival series at the Playhouse - audio and screening issues.

6. Business Review meeting follow-up discussion

Rob Haynes, Chair, provided a follow-up on the meeting with Board members and senior City staff regarding the Business Review.

Following discussion, it was agreed Board members only would hold a preliminary session to work on the Business Review, followed by a formal session with staff. Todd Ayotte will provide paper copies of background information for consideration at these sessions.

7. New Business

None.

8. Adjournment

MOVED by Michael Noon
SECONDED by Iris Woo

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting

DATE: Thursday, November 14, 2013
TIME: 12:00 noon
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon

The Board adjourned at 1:35 pm.

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