



VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

MINUTES

MAY 21, 2015

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 12:03 pm, in Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon.

PRESENT: Rob Haynes, Chair
Susan Adams, Deputy Chair
Christopher Ball
James Brown
Sabrina Cordeiro
Colin Doylend*
Wendy Soobis

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball, Council Liaison
Sandra Gajic, Director - Civic Theatres
Krista Edwardson, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Sandra Elliot, Audience Services Manager
Jason Gordon, Food & Beverage Manager
Peter Kendall, Booking & Sales Manager
Miles Muir, Technical Director

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Charlene Imai, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence during a portion of the meeting.

Leave of Absence Requests

None.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Christopher Ball
SECONDED by Wendy Soobis

THAT the Minutes of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board meeting held on April 23, 2015, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Colin Doylend absent for the vote)

1. Comments from Chair

Rob Haynes, Chair:

- advised today's agenda provides clarification of the members' role on the Board and why Civic Theatres senior staff attendance at the meetings is valued, noting the Board's role is to advise the Director
- explained the purpose of the business review and the need to look at and focus on the strategic goals
- invited staff, in future, to make presentations on their roles and responsibilities.

Colin Doylend arrived at 12:07 pm, during discussion of Item 1.

2. Board Roundtable Discussion

Each Board member commented on their experience(s) at recent performances they had attended at the Theatres, including:

- long concession line-ups
- photo taking, depending on the artist; occasions where photos have been confiscated, because the artist had requested no photos be taken
- issues with tweeting - a theatre in Washington has designated the last row as the "tweet" row
- crying babies during classical music performances
- making announcements about intermissions, which some shows have and others do not
- the helpfulness and courtesy of front-line staff
- the opportunity to have City of Vancouver engagement during shows at the Theatres
- long line-up at Box Office for VSO and VOA performances - suggested staff monitor the line
- staff to have identification on them - eg, name badge.

Ms. Gajic and staff responded to questions and addressed concerns. If the public have any complaints or concerns about the Civic Theatres and/or its performances, they should call 3-1-1, if they live in Vancouver, OR 604-873-7000, if they live outside Vancouver.

3. Business Review Discussion

Rob Haynes, Chair, provided the history and background of the Business Review, noting the City Manager had asked the Board to re-write the Review in a language more comprehensible to the entertainment industry and arts & culture organizations.

Mr. Haynes suggested a fifth goal be identified to address the City's aging theatres - preservation of the facilities.

Reference was made to the City of Vancouver Culture Plan and how the theatres fit into that Plan - are we presenting the best possible theatre experience?

Ms. Gajic responded to questions and advised she has been directed to lead a small committee, along with Richard Newirth, Managing Director - Cultural Services, and Danica Djurkovich, Director - Facilities Planning & Development, to conduct a needs study for the performing arts.

4. Director's Report

Sandra Gajic, Director - Civic Theatres, referred to her report, and commented on:

- the status of the VCT Revitalization Program
- staff update
- Performing Arts Centre (PAC) statistics - measuring ourselves against others
- presenting industry trends to the Board
- financial report for April 2015.

It was agreed Rob Haynes, Chair, along with Sue Adams, Deputy Chair, and Sandra Gajic, meet to talk about focused items for future VCTB agendas.

Ms. Gajic then responded to questions and addressed concerns regarding:

- parking
- the City's procurement process
- Downtown Post Office space
- where Council action is requested, items should be noted in the form of a motion in the minutes.

5. New Business

After attending the working session of the Arts and Culture Policy Council (ACPC) on May 19, 2015, Wendy Soobis provided a summary of the session:

- working session versus official - official meetings are clerked by a Meeting Coordinator who prepares minutes
- roundtable about why people wanted to be on ACPC and what they hoped to achieve
- ACPC role both reactive and proactive
- possible sub-committees and issues ACPC may want to take on
- Cultural Services update
- upcoming events: Arts Alliance: BC Creative Convergence, a series of cultural roundtables taking place around the province - in Vancouver, second session added on May 26, 2015, at Arts Alliance Board Room; May 27 - launch and consultation re False Creek Flats; June 23 (5-8pm) - False Creek Flats, workshop consultation on the arts, at National Works Yard; and June 18-19, 2015 - Alliance Arts Summit, at Roundhouse - early bird registration May 29. The goal is to have ACPC representation at all events.

At the ACPC working session, Ms. Soobis also provided updates on the activities of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board.

Adjournment

MOVED by Sabrina Cordeiro
SECONDED by Christopher Ball

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, June 18, 2015
TIME: 12:00 noon
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon

The Board adjourned at 1:24 pm.

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