



VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

MINUTES

JANUARY 26, 2012

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, January 26, 2012, at 12:08 pm, in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon.

PRESENT: Rob Haynes, Chair
Harbir Batra
Barbara McLean
Michael Noon
Karole Sutherland
Karen Wilson
Iris Woo*

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Elizabeth Ball
Rae Ackerman, Director, Civic Theatres
Todd Ayotte, Deputy Director, Civic Theatres
Richard Newirth, Managing Director, Cultural Services

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Charlene Imai, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Rae Ackerman distributed to Board members copies of the 2011 Year-End Pollstar Worldwide results and responded to questions.

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Karole Sutherland
SECONDED by Michael Noon

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on December 15, 2011, be approved, following clarification sought by Ms. Wilson on Item 9(d).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Vary Order of Agenda

The Chair varied the order of the agenda to consider Item 2 first, in order to accommodate the presenter, Ms. Woo, who had to leave the meeting early.

2. Vancouver Civic Theatres Board Feedback on Facilities

Iris Woo submitted comments on lighting issues in the Orpheum, which were noted by Mr. Ackerman.

Board members commented on the air conditioning in the Orpheum Annex and Mr. Ackerman responded to their concerns.

Todd Ayotte responded to questions and provided updates on the liquor license application for the Annex and the marquee outside the Annex.

1. Resident Companies - Guest: Vancouver Opera

On December 15, 2011, the Board and staff agreed to invite civic theatres users (licensees) to future meetings to introduce themselves and provide updates.

Accordingly, Karen Wilson, VCTB liaison to the licensees, introduced Jim Wright, General Director, and Doug Tuck, Director of Marketing and Community Programs, Vancouver Opera (VO), who provided an overview, including the current status, of the VO.

Mr. Haynes thanked Messrs. Wright and Tuck for their presentation and the delegation left the meeting.

3. Financial Update

Rae Ackerman advised the financial report is in progress and not available at this time. It was noted Karole Sutherland is familiarizing herself with the financial reporting process and that she will represent the Board in this capacity.

4. Licensee Relations

Mr. Ackerman responded to concerns and questions regarding complimentary tickets issued by the various licensees and ticket surcharge fees on "comp" tickets.

Iris Woo left the meeting at 12:53 pm.

Mr. Ackerman then reviewed the history of the theatre rental grants process.

5. Arts and Culture Committee

Richard Newirth, Managing Director, Cultural Services, informed the Board of two public workshops held on January 13 and 16, 2012, in which the City is seeking input on the recently established Arts and Culture Advisory Committee.

Board members provided feedback on their attendance at the workshop.

6. **BC Entertainment Hall of Fame Update**
7. **Vancouver Civic Theatres Marketing - Georgia Straight Negotiation**

Rob Haynes referred to the 2011 Annual Report which included the history of the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame, noting he and Michael Noon currently sit on the BCEHF Board. Mr. Haynes then provided an update on the BCEHF. Mr. Haynes also noted that although the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame stands alone as an organization it works in concert with the VCT. Its history and activities such as the Orpheum tours, Starwalk, Starwall and other events are designed to benefit the cultural community, cultural tourism and the City.

Mr. Haynes also updated Board members on negotiations with the Georgia Straight newspaper regarding the marketing/advertising of the Vancouver Civic Theatres. By involving the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame in the negotiations, the Georgia Straight tripled its value to Vancouver Civic Theatres by increasing advertising frequency and size. This was at no cost to VCT.

8. **Strategic Plan Update**

Todd Ayotte provided an update on the Strategic Plan process, noting the RFP closed early this month with five firms submitting proposals. He then went on to explain the next steps in the process.

9. **New Business**

None.

MOVED by Karen Wilson
SECONDED by Karole Sutherland

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting

DATE: Thursday, February 23, 2012
TIME: 12:00 noon
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon

The Board adjourned at 1:33 pm.

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