



VANCOUVER CIVIC THEATRES BOARD

MINUTES

APRIL 26, 2012

A meeting of the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board was held on Thursday, April 26, 2012, at 12:03 pm, in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon.

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

ABSENT: Charles Arrata

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

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Michael Noon
SECONDED by Karole Sutherland

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on March 22, 2012, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Resident Companies: April Guest

Rob Haynes, Chair, welcomed Jeff Alexander, President and CEO, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

Following a roundtable introduction of Vancouver Civic Theatres Board members, Mr. Alexander provided an overview, including the history and current status, of the VSO.

Mr. Alexander then responded to questions.

Mr. Haynes, on behalf of the Board, thanked Mr. Alexander for his presentation, and Mr. Alexander left the meeting.

2. Vancouver Civic Theatres Board Feedback on Facilities

Iris Woo submitted comments on technical and line-up issues regarding performances in the Orpheum and Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

Rae Ackerman, Director of Civic Theatres, then responded to the concerns raised by Board members.

Councillor Ball commended Civic Theatres staff for their kindness and accommodation of theatre patrons, especially seniors, and this was echoed by Board members. Mr. Ackerman cited situations where patron accommodation took place, and agreed to convey the kudos to his staff.

3. Licensee Relations

Karen Wilson reported she has not heard from any of the resident companies.

Also, Ms. Wilson advised she will be scheduling another of the Theatres' resident companies to make its presentation to the Board.

4. Strategic Plan Update

Todd Ayotte, Deputy Director of Civic Theatres, announced Karole Sutherland will now be sitting on the Working Committee instead of the Steering Committee, in order for her to be more involved with the Strategic Plan process.

Mr. Ayotte provided an update on the current status of the Strategic Plan process, noting the Working Committee will be meeting on May 3rd, and the Steering Committee on May 11th.

5. Rental Rate Increases and Discussion

Todd Ayotte distributed the rental rates for September 2012 to August 2013, noting staff was proposing a 2% increase. Mr. Ayotte also distributed a rental rate review of the QET, Orpheum and Vancouver Playhouse in comparison to similar venues across Canada and in Washington and Oregon.

Messrs. Ayotte and Ackerman then responded to questions.

MOVED by Michael Noon
SECONDED by Karole Sutherland

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board approves the rental rate increases for the period September 1, 2012 to August 31, 2013.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. "God of Carnage" report

Rae Ackerman reviewed the status of ticket sales for "God of Carnage".

Following discussion, Mr. Ackerman responded to questions.

Board members commended and thanked Mr. Ackerman for taking on the task of presenting "God of Carnage".

7. Orpheum 85th Anniversary

Rob Haynes advised he had met with Karen Wilson and Jeff Alexander, VSO, and proposed the idea of the VSO, in conjunction with the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame, to present headliners at a concert with the VSO, as part of the Orpheum 85th Anniversary celebration.

8. New Business

- (a) Councillor Ball provided an update on the potential sponsorship for the Orpheum 85th Anniversary, noting she will arrange a meeting between representatives of the Mel Zajac Foundation and Developmental Disabilities Association, and Rob Haynes, Rae Ackerman and herself.
- (b) Karen Wilson enquired about Culture Days, and Richard Newirth, Manager, Cultural Services, advised Culture Days will not be launched in Vancouver this year. It was launched last year as part of Vancouver's 125th Anniversary celebration, and included tours of the Orpheum.
- (c) Rae Ackerman provided a brief financial report for the first quarter.

MOVED by Karen Wilson
SECONDED by Karole Sutherland

THAT the Vancouver Civic Theatres Board meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting

DATE: Thursday, May 24, 2012
TIME: 12:00 noon
PLACE: Queen Elizabeth Theatre Salon

The Board adjourned at 1:31 pm.

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