

**Mississippi Theatre Association
Board Meeting
June 15, 2013
Vicksburg Theatre Guild
Vicksburg, MS**

Present:

Stephen Cunetto, Tom Hardy, Suzanne Oakley, Paula Mabry, Ian Tubman, Stewart Hawley, Tim Matheny, Amy Melton (VTG Representative), Lexus Killingsworth (MTA Intern), Suzanne Allmon, Carol Byrnes, Janice Weaver

Welcome: Tom & Stephen

Introductions

Minutes: Motion made and passed to dispense with reading of the minutes.

Treasurers Report:

Cunetto distributed copies of the Treasurer's report showing MTA's checking account balance being \$31,734.41 as of June 13, 2013. Reports included the Summary Balance Sheet as of June 13, 2013, Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January – December 2013 and Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January – December 2012.

Cunetto also distributed copies of the CREATE Foundation report. Report shows MTA currently has \$10,140.66 in the CREATE Foundation Fund. Goal for this fund is to reach \$25,000. Once reached, it will provide the revenue needed for the MTA Scholarship.

Cunetto also reported that the Treasurer keeps the MTA Checkbook and reviews the reconciled bank statement reports which includes all supporting materials (receipts, deposits, etc.). Cunetto reconciles the statements and keeps the books.

Board Orientation: Tom & Stephen

Executive Director Report:

- Reviewed Account With Create Foundation
- Signature Card For New Selected Officers Is Complete. Hardy, Cunetto, and Wooten are on the signature card.
- 2013 Mississippi Arts Commission Grant Final Report Has Been Completed and the final payment has been Received
- Non-Profit Filing Has Been Submitted In Starkville – T.E. Lott Company Assisting Stephen With IRS Paperwork - Make Sure Your Local Organization Is Doing This Yearly
- Stephen Is Currently Working W/Amy in Vicksburg On 2014 MTA Festival
- Playwriting Website Is Updated For 2014 – Deadline to Submit Is Mid-October
- Festival Page On Website Is Being Updated Currently – Historical Record Of MTA Locations Updated Back to 1998 – Suz Allmon Has More Dates/Locations and Will Get them to Stephen
- Stephen Is Working With Julie Shedd at MSU Library On Redesigning MTA Website

- Past Presidents' Archives to MSU Libraries Repository: Stored, Protected, Made Available For Public Use
- Lexus Killingsworth From MUW Serving As Stephen's Intern For the Year
- Putting together Database Of MTA Winners
- Insurance For MTA – Currently Comparing Prices
- MS Humanities Council Grant to Be Applied For - Deadline Is September – to Fund Speaker For Playwriting and Final Adjudication
- Reviewed 2013 Festival Report
- Discussed Opportunities to Expand Ad Sales – Amy Will Assist With Local Sales – Suzanne Will Work On Tactics to Recruit Other Sales Statewide Through Local theatres
- Stephen Collected Missing Info For Board Contact Sheet – Will Send Out An Updated One
- Need Adult Playwriting Vice-Chair

Old Business

Handbook Updates:

- Tom Encourages Everyone to Review Handbooks for their Divisions and Submit Needed Changes ASAP
- Secretary Will Maintain the Handbook and Keep It Updated
- Stephen Will Review the Handbook before Turning It Over to the Secretary to Take Out Defunct Forms, Etc
- Tom Will Add New Sections to the Handbook about Scholarships and Silent Auction Once JORT Has Moved Buildings

South Festival Report

- USM PAC Suffered tornado Damage – It Will Not Be Ready for Use by Time for South Festival – Carey Will Host Instead
 - November 22-23 Dates For Festival – Later Date Due to Coordination W/USM and Carey
 - Tom Will Find Out Whether the PAC Will Be Ready For the 2014 Festival – Carey Will Plan to Host 2014 (Dec 6 & 7) Just In Case – Let Tim Know Early Spring Whether Carey Will Also Be Needed For Fall 2014
- Complaints About the Extra 10 Minutes For Walk Through Because It Made the Festival Take So Long (5 Minutes Were Given At South; 15 Minutes Were Given At North)
 - 15 Minutes Will Be Given At North & South and Everyone Will Be Notified Well In Advance For People to Plan For Accurate Performance Times
 - Tom Will Get Show Directors' Contact Numbers For Tim In Case Of Last Minute Schedule Changes
 - Tom Will Release List Of Schools and What Shows they're Performing At South Before Day Of Festival

Break

2014 Festival

- City Auditorium Has No Doors Between Lobby and Auditorium, But they Have Agreed to Add Some
- There Is No theatrical Lighting At City Auditorium – Stephen Is Working With Contractors to Get Quotes For Rental Lighting – Some Could Be Traded As “Sponsorship”
- Talking W/Rusty @ 4-Wall (Formerly TLS) ... If they Don’t Pan Out, Possibly Mainstage
- \$4K Rental For City Auditorium & Convention Center Facilities Plus Lighting
- Theatre For Youth Location Dependent Upon Possible Audiences – Would Be More Likely to Have Audiences If Students Didn’t Have to Bus In to VTG – Amy Will Discuss the Possibility Of Using A School Location Once the New Superintendent Is Hired
- Cut Down Workshops Schedule to Saturday Only to Save Money Because We Only Have the Convention Center Sat & Sun
- Locale Options For Individual Events Festival Include Schools & Churches
- Silent Auction – Possibly In the Kitchen At City Auditorium
- Hotels – Amy Has Worked With A Local Rep Who Will Block Off Rooms Through Lynn Foley With the Southern Hospitality Services Group Acquire Special Rates and A Rebate towards Rent At the Convention Center (\$7.50 Per Room Per Night)
- VTG, Westside theatre Foundation, & Vicksburg Convention Center to Be Listed As Partners In Sponsoring MTA 2014

Lunch Break

Long Range Planning: Community

- Suspend Community Workshops In October, But Welcome Community Reps to Attend Secondary
- Host Roundtable Discussion Type Summit At Dinner On Friday During MTA
- Expand MTA News Contacts Beyond One Person Per theatre (Boards, Volunteers, Directors, Officers, Etc.)

Long Range Planning: Secondary

- Continue First Goal (“Work Directly W/MDE...”)
- Strike “Solicit & Review Lesson Plans” Due to Common Core
- Strike “How to” Video – Done
- For “Develop A Mentoring Program”, Actually Assign Mentors to New Teachers
- For “Work W/ Colleges/Universities...”, Adjust Goal to Reflect What Colleges Want the Students to Know – Focus Teacher Ed On Secondary Workshops Day

Long Range Planning: College/University

- Continue First Four Goals As Is
- Expand Fifth Goal to Include Each Educator/Practitioners Specialty In the Database –
- Further Expand Fifth Goal to Add “How to” Videos From Said Educators/Practitioners On the MTA Website

Long Range Planning: Professional

- No Changes

Long Range Planning: Playwriting

- Change Phase I Deadline Dates On First Goal/Strategy to “April to October”
- Change Phase II Deadline Dates On First Goal/Strategy to “October-November”
- Add A Goal to Publish Anthology Of Winners and Possibly Make them Available For Purchase (Stephen to Investigate)
- Jonathan Dorff Or Allen Haehmel – Possible Adjudicators/Keynote Speakers For Playwriting

Youth Community theatre Division

- Create New Division For Groups Like Union County Schools and Just Over the Rainbow (Youth Shows Not Affiliated With A Single School)
 - o Motion to Create the New Division – Paula Mabry
Second – Tim Matheny
 - o Committee to Organize the Addition: Ian, Suz, tonya Hayes, Lavonne Bruckner
 - o Committee to Report By July 10

New Business

Scholarship Committee & Silent Auction

- Chris Wooten as the Treasurer will chair the Scholarship Committee and oversee the Silent Auction. Janice agreed to continue on the committee.

Theatre Workshop

- No Community Workshops, Secondary Only (In October)
- Date TBA – Possibly Moved to Late September

2015 Festival

- The University Of Mississippi Has Placed A Bid
- No Objections From the Board For Moving Away From the N-C-S Rotation

Theatre For Youth

- Add Rule That Each Participating Show Should Receive An All-Star Cast Award
 - Motion – Suz Allmon
 - Second – Paula Mabry

Division Reports

Playwriting Committee: No New News

College/University: No New News

SETC State Auditions

- Motion Made to Change SETC Auditions Fee to \$50 Flat Rate
 - Motion – Stewart Hawley
 - Second – Tim Matheny

- Nov 16 & 17: New Dates For SETC Auditions
 - Motion – Stewart Hawley
 - Second – Tim Matheny

Community theatre: No New News

Professional Division: Absent

Individual Events Festival: Absent

Theatre For Youth: Absent

Secondary: Absent

- 10 Minute Festival: No New News

Tour Of Facilities

Respectively submitted,

Suzanne Oakley
MTA Secretary