



**Board of Directors Meeting
May 13, 2021**

Present: Allison, J., Crowthers, C., Dintiman, R., Greene, H., Harrington, S., Hust, D., Kogut, J., Leamer, S., Luchsinger, J., Porter, K., Price, MS., Roth, J., Sable, K.

Executive Director: Shanberg, A.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, this meeting was held by Zoom internet communication.

The meeting began at 6:32pm.

1. Board Chair Opening Remarks

Sadly, Ari Mir-Pontier resigned. Both her parents are ill and she needs to devote her time to them. Marla P. wanted the Board to know that she has developed some health issues and will not be attending the meeting.

June is the annual public meeting with election of officers and approval of new budget.

2. Review of Minutes:

A motion was made by Ken S. and seconded by Steve L. to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion passed.

3. Executive Director's Report, highlights (complete report attached)

- a. Tina Spangler's last day is today, but she has agreed to remain active with the Big Eddy Film Festival.
Ariel will recruit for a combined position to include Communications Director and Grants Coordinator into a full time position. Health insurance options are still being considered. There will be a gap in employees and Ariel will seek interim staff to fill the void.
- b. Business sponsors have reached \$24,500 which exceeds our goal. An additional \$2,500 was pledged to the Big Eddy Film Festival.
- c. The County has approved the \$40,000 support request.
- d. We will be storing a Steinway piano and in return we will collaborate with the owner for performances.

4. Financial Report (attached for review)

- Not many changes in our financial status from last month. We continue to do well financially.
- Bank statements have been reconciled thru April.
- Several line items appear to be over budget, but they are linked to income which results in a neutral net gain/loss.
- Ariel is investigating the rules for applying for PPE benefits. Normally we would qualify but our balance sheet shows greater income due to the pass through of funds for Hurleyville Performing

Arts Centre. If we are given PPE funding we will place the funds in a “rainy day account” in case we need to pay back the funds.

- The new budget has not been completed but, we do know that the salary line will be going up. If we hire a full-time employee for the combined position, with health insurance, the salary related expenses will rise significantly.
- A decision needs to be made as to the hiring of a Development Associate which has never been in the budget. Additional funds will need to be raised to support these personnel changes.
- The budget will likely include a reserve account for capital equipment.

5. Committee Reports –

Executive Committee- met and developed a new slate of officers for 2012/2022 They are:

President – Dan Hust

Vice-President- Jean Kogut

Secretary – Jane Roth

Treasurer – Jeff Allison

The committee discussed staffing issues and recommends the combining of 2 vacant positions to one full-time position.

There is no rush to sell our building, if we decide that is what we want to do. We are not able to buy Town Hall and the Town is not selling at the moment.

Advocacy - nothing to report.

Board Development – A zoom meeting was held with Meagan Gallian, Jeff, Ariel and Jane L. to give her a greater understanding of DVAA. In addition to her legal expertise, she admits to being a successful grant writer. Of note was the fact that she has a 13 year old son who has an interest in art. She may be able provide advice on ways to increase youth involvement.

A zoom meeting was also held with Dwayne Brown. He believes he will bring to the organization plans to increase DVAA diversity.

We are still seeking a candidate with financial background who may serve as a future Treasurer. Jane L. will continue to try to reach Debbie Reimer, retired bank manager.

Fundraising – Events: *Young Japanese Garden – (Eat, Play, Love)* the goal is to have 100 guests at \$100/each. The committee wishes to make the event an “experience” rather than a stand-alone dinner. Several “stations” will be identified for various activities. Fire pits will be placed throughout the property and Plein Air painting will take place early in the event with display of work in the evening.

Narrowsburg Fine Wine and Spirits and Cohecton Fire Station have agreed to donate beverages for the event. Volunteers are needed.

Nantucket Raffle – A raffle for a stay the week of July 19 will be sold at \$100/ raffle.

Programming – nothing to report

Facilities – A conversation was had with Steve Breiman. He has a background of development and building maintenance. He will assist us to price out the windows and elevators. It may be more cost effective to re-caulk our current windows since a new window is extremely costly. He re-emphasized

the fact that if State and/or Federal funds are NOT being used for work on the building, then we do not have to follow historic building guidelines.

Sean met with Bill Busselli to discuss the air exchange in the Tusten Theater and develop a plan to make the theater compliant with Covid regulations.

Program – nothing to report

VII. Old Business

Nothing to report

VIII. New Business

Nothing to report

Adjournment: Motion made by Jane Luchsinger and seconded by Hester Greene to adjourn at 7:33 pm (not bad)

Submitted by:

Jane Luchsinger, Secretary