

Theatre Workshop of Nantucket

Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 29, 2020

(Via Zoom)

Directors present: Beth English, Jane Forman, Ellie Gottwald, Susan Lucier, Chris Mortenson, Maria Roach, Linda Mason, Terry Schubach, Lisa Soeder, Kay Bernon, Jean Doyen de Montailou, Will Steele

Council members present: Victoria Girvan, Jeff Lucier, Kathy Garre-Ayars

Staff present (ex-officio): Justin Cerne, Bethany Oliver

Welcome and Call to Order: Board President Susan Lucier called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

Approval of Minutes of the March 11, 2020 board meeting: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

President's Remarks: Susan Lucier

- Susan officially welcomed Will Steele to the Board.
- Susan thanked Justin and Bethany, the Board and the EC for their commitment and extra time during these challenging times of COVID-19.
- Susan noted the TWN Strategic Plan is on hold but not forgotten.
- A small group of board and staff members from the Dreamland and TWN met to discuss the Dreamland's preliminary concept for a cultural collaborative effort for the arts on Nantucket, specifically, looking at 2025 and what they hoped the arts would look like. In attendance from TWN were Chris Mortenson, Terry Schubach, Lisa Soeder, Susan Lucier, Justin Cerne and Bethany Oliver. Everyone agreed that these preliminary discussions are worthy of continued exploration, and a second meeting with a smaller group will be scheduled. Susan asked the board to keep this information confidential for the time being since the concept is still in its infancy.

Artistic Director and Managing Director's report: Justin Cerne and Bethany Oliver

- Justin thanked Susan and Bethany for powering through a difficult cancellation of our live season.
- Justin and Bethany have been working on the following virtual events to replace our live performances:
 - ◇ TWN's main event: the July 26th Telethon Benefit, *On With the Show: Spotlight on the Future*.
 - ◇ *Love and Information*, by Carol Churchill with 10 other theatres and 3 universities. It will have a virtual release date of June 26 with four viewings (per licensing restrictions). No admission fee but donation buttons available.
 - ◇ *Together (Apart)*, a musical theatre review, produced with McCaden Theatre (Chatham, NY) and their artistic director, John Saunders. Mid-July: a series of duets presented in a documentary style with interviews, musical numbers, choreography, etc.
 - ◇ Bethany said we received the Payroll Protection loan to cover our payroll and rent.
 - ◇ A pilot program involving educational workshops is being planned in mid-July to mid-

August, to include: writing and composition for musical theatre; dance study; scene study; monologue coaching. Bethany noted the Education budget for the above events will go before the EC.

- ◇ Other possible events are being discussed if live (outdoor) events become possible, but we will need to have a clear plan before proceeding. Bethany will meet soon with the health inspector to discuss possibilities and restrictions.

Development & Benefit report: Kay Bernon

- Reviewed money received for annual fund, grants and the upcoming benefit.
- Kay & Maria reviewed details for the July 26 Telethon:
 - ◇ Kay reported a Host Committee Kick-Off Party will be June 18th from 6-7pm.
 - ◇ Justin noted NCTV is producing our Benefit, July 26th from 6-8pm, with a live component based at Bennett Hall. Details are still being worked out and will include live entertainment, pre-recorded entertainment, interviews, “commercials” for sponsors, possibly a bank of phones for donations, etc. Justin will host.
 - ◇ Details for accepting donations are still being worked out.
 - ◇ The three levels of advance sponsorship sales for the Benefit and the goals are as follows: 50 sponsors at \$2,500, 30 sponsors at \$1,000 and 30 sponsors at \$500.

Treasurer’s report: Chris Mortenson

Chris reported after reviewing actual and projected budget activity, TWN has a strong cash position, but our benefit will need to generate substantial donations (\$300k+) to finish out the year in good shape.

New business

Bethany reviewed the budget revisions through August 2020, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the 2020 budget revisions were approved by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellie Gottwald, Clerk