

Minutes of the Whangarei Theatre Club Company held at the Riverbank Centre, Rayburn House Lane, Whangarei, on Monday 20th August 2007

The meeting commenced at 6.55pm.

PRESENT: Thelma MacMillan, Richard Bryham, Peter Clark, Sue Fordyce, Caron Harrison, Nigel Harrison, Eilean Rawson, Jason Riggir, Wade Rowsell, Alison Thomson, David Thomson

APOLOGIES: Ian Page (present for 'Cats' discussion) Melanie Thomas, Barbara Trimmer, Duncan Brown, Debi Walters, Faye McMillan.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Sue reported that the balance was good but the car park still needed resurfacing. Wade said that only if we get sufficient grants for 'Cats' can we go ahead with the car park. He also requested a financial breakdown for 'Cabaret' by the next Executive meeting.

MOTION: Wade moved and Caron seconded that the August cheques from 207783 to 207817 plus three direct debits totalling \$12,208.79 be passed for payment. – Carried.

There was a total balance on accounts as at 31.07.07 of \$119,607.33.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved that they be accepted as a true and correct record.

MATTERS ARISING: no matters arising.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sutherland Security had left half a dozen notes after finding the building not secured after rehearsals. Caron had written a note on the whiteboard to ask everyone to be more careful.

Wade informed us that that the booking by the Northern Jazz Society in October has been cancelled.

It was resolved that the inwards and outwards correspondence be received and the outwards approved.

REPORTS

Forward Planning – Thelma said that several comedies had been read, but only 'Table Manners' was of interest so far. More plays needed to be read. Wade and Eilean both pointed out the advisability of choosing the play before the director. The need to source and encourage other directors to come forward was discussed and Thelma asked that a request be put in the next newsletter that interested directors for 2008 should phone her.

Peter requested that perusal copies of 'Seussical the Musical' and 'Hairspray' be obtained.

Lighting and Sound – Jason requested a haze machine as we have had to hire one several times.

Wade moved and Richard seconded that we buy a haze machine for \$3100. Carried.

Building – Richard hopes to seal the leaking roof.

Front of House – Peter informed us that the cleaner, Joe Orr will resign after 'Aladdin' and will donate the floor buffer to WTC. Peter will arrange for 2 complimentary tickets to 'Aladdin' for Joe. Peter has contacted Anton's mother who may be interested to take over as cleaner.

Publicity – nil

Props – nil.

Wardrobe – nil.

Make-up – nil

Junior Theatre – nil

PRODUCTION REPORTS

‘Aladdin’ – Peter said there had been quite a few problems and that only 20 seats had been sold so far for the opening night, although the first matinee was nearly sold out. The caterers were Blairs from Frings. They would be buying all the food in themselves and receiving \$14 a head, leaving \$8 a head for WTC. Peter is buying food for afternoon tea for the matinees at \$0.43 a head.

‘Buddy’ – Alison said that there had been some unnecessary re-arranging of rehearsals, which are proceeding on the main stage while ‘Aladdin’ is on, and remarked she would have liked more cooperation between the two shows. Gayle would like to be informed of theatre bookings between now and the start of the show, and needs Friday October 12th free.

‘Cats’ – Wade presented his revised budget, based now on 16 rather than 12 shows. He hopes to obtain sponsorship from ten to twelve sources up to \$50,000. Forum North has given us three days extra use at no extra cost, so it is now available from 5th May to 15th June. The show can now open on 24th May instead of the 30th. Eilean and Thelma both expressed concern about local demand for more performances and the need to encourage people to come during the first week. Richard said that the demand had certainly been there for the relatively unknown show, ‘Jekyll and Hyde’.

MOTION: Wade moved and Richard seconded that we adopt the revised ‘Cats’ budget. The motion was carried but with three abstentions.

Eilean wished it recorded that she had been unhappy with the initial decision to hire the set and costumes. It was established that until the contract with Christchurch is signed we still have the option to create our own. Jason was concerned about the state of repair of the costumes by the time they reached us. Ian suggested we needed to be careful to define ‘good condition’ in the contract.

MOTION: Wade moved and Jason seconded that we apply to the ASB Charitable Trust for \$30,000 to cover some of the costs relating to the hireage of the ‘Cats’ set, costumes and properties from NZMT CATS Consortium. Motion carried.

MOTION: Wade moved and Caron seconded that we apply to Whangarei District Council Performing Arts fund for \$15,000 to cover the hireage of Forum North. Motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 1 Registration with Charities Commission** - MOTION: Wade moved and Caron seconded that the WTC remains an Incorporated Society but registers with the Charities Commission. Motion carried.
- 2 NAPTA Concert** – Peter said we will be hosting the NAPTA winners concert on 13th October. If we wish to provide food and charge for it we can. Wade suggested we donate our 25% share of ticket sales to NAPTA. Peter also mentioned that Sport Northland wish to hire our premises on 12th or 13th December, and that the NAPTA nominations would be on 9th December at Harlequin.
- 3 State of the Office** – Thelma asked that people would keep the office tidier.
- 4 Jekyll and Hyde set** – Richard had received a request from Rotorua to hire the remains of the ‘Jekyll and Hyde’ set. It was suggested it was easier to sell it for \$1500 and they pay freight.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm. The next meeting is on Monday 17th September at the Riverbank Centre.