

**Minutes of the Whangarei Theatre Club Company held at the Riverbank Centre, Reyburn House Lane, Whangarei, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

**PRESENT:** Thelma MacMillan, Caron Harrison, Ian Page, Eilean Rawson, Jason Riggir, Wade Rowsell, Alison Thomson, David Thomson, Barbara Trimmer.

**APOLOGIES:** Richard Bryham, Debi Walters, Peter Clark, Sue Fordyce.

**FINANCIAL REPORT: MOTION:** Wade moved and Alison seconded that the November cheques from 207876 to 207904 plus three direct debits totalling \$11237.44 be passed for payment. – Carried.

There was a total balance on accounts as at 31.10.07 of \$79325.20.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Ian moved and Thelma seconded that they be accepted as a true and correct record – carried with the proviso that the spelling of Lila Lusher's name be corrected and the closing date for the August/September 2008 show be amended to September 6th. Eilean wished to point out it was not her who had enquired about the bar drinks issue.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

1. General Business – dress code for waiting staff. Polo shirts sizes 8-18 are now available for waiting staff.
2. Photocopier – Richard has obtained three quotes for a replacement ranging in price from \$3-8000. Ian to look over and discuss at the next meeting.
3. Arts Promotion Trust – Ian had not managed to attend the meeting.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Wade moved and David seconded that the inwards and outwards correspondence be received and the outwards approved. Carried.

**REPORTS**

**Forward Planning** – Thelma reported that the committee had chosen 'I'll Be Back Before Midnight', although some members of the committee had not had the chance yet to read 'The Wyrld Sisters' so it would be put on hold to be discussed again. Thelma felt there needed to be a restriction on numbers in the committee for decisions to be made and copies to circulate, although Ian pointed out that a wide range of views was useful. The copy of 'Table Manners' left on the pie-warmer has gone missing and needs to be found.

**Lighting and Sound – Motion:** Wade moved and Jason seconded that the Whangarei Theatre Company applies to the Oxford Sports Trust incorporated for a grant of \$6,000 to go towards the purchase of six SURE SLX24-14 Body Pack Systems and Ansr Headset Microphones which are valued at \$8,000 plus GST. Carried.

**Building** – There had been insufficient rain recently to see if the roof was still leaking. The sewerage system had blocked twice, partly caused by tree roots, and partly by paper towels being put down the drains. The grease trap has been cleaned twice.

**Front of House** – Eilean said a patron had noisily complained about the cost of the meal for 'Buddy' and felt it was poor value. Other people had complained about the quantity of food. Ian to ask Peter to request that the caterers provide larger portions.

**Publicity** – The message is getting out well. Wade asked if hoardings for 'Cats' would be out before Christmas, but Ian felt that was too soon. Debi is looking into sites for the hoardings.

**Props** – nil.

**Wardrobe** – nil

**Make-up** – nil

**Junior Theatre** – There is great enthusiasm from the 14 regulars. Last session this term is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December, with theatre sports evening from 4-5.15 for parents and other members.

## **PRODUCTION REPORTS**

**‘Buddy’** – Alison reported huge booking sales but matinees slower. The decision for the extra Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> will be made this Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>. The critic had been thrilled with the show. Whangarei Suit Hire has a list of stand-by people for the extra night. Eilean said WSH should ask vegetarians who book the meal whether they eat fish. There has been a lock-up rosta put into effect for the show, but trying to avoid having solo women late at night.

Thelma voiced great concern that a video had been made of the penultimate dress rehearsal when Alison was not present, even though Alison had expressly forbidden videoing. The licence makes this point very clearly. Ian to write an appropriate letter to the Director.

Motion: Thelma proposed and Ian seconded that video cameras should not be permitted in the auditorium. Carried.

**‘Cats’** – A panel of 8/9 was all set for the auditions. It should be cast by Christmas. We have been verbally told by WDC that a grant of \$15,000 will be forthcoming. We now have \$33,000 in confirmed sponsorship. There are four other grant applications still in at the moment. Thelma is still in negotiations for the contract so we can organise containers for early February.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 1. Achievement Award:** Thelma wished to nominate George or Faye for the MTNZ Achievement Award but we need to find out how many can be nominated to discuss at the next meeting. Caron to find out and inform Exec.
- 2. Double bass contribution:** Alison had been in correspondence with the school who lent a double bass for ‘Buddy’ which accidentally got broken. The school had asked for only a ‘contribution’, as the instrument had not been in a playable condition anyway. Alison is still trying to find out what is a suitable contribution. Jason pointed out there had been no consultation about borrowing the double bass from the school.
- 3. Water-cooler:** Peter has been given the use of a water-cooler for the Green Room with the option to buy it for \$300. Alison said we could do with a cheap microwave too so the cast can heat meals. Motion: Wade moved and Alison seconded that Peter be given the authority to purchase a water-cooler for \$300. Carried.
- 4. NAPTA nominations:** Peter is travelling to Auckland on 9<sup>th</sup> December and has room in his car if anyone wished to go. The Zone 1 meeting is at North Shore on 25<sup>th</sup> November.
- 5. Emerald Green Dress:** A NAPTA Concert participant lost a satin emerald green dress here in the dressing room. Thelma will ring Alison Sargent to see if she had put it away with other wardrobe items.

**The meeting closed at 8.33pm. The next meeting is on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December AND WILL BE A POT-LUCK SUPPER AT ALISON’S HOUSE. START TIME OF 6.30PM. PLEASE INFORM EXEC. MEMBERS YOU KNOW WHO MIGHT NOT LOOK AT THEIR EMAILS!**