

**Williamsburg Players**  
**Annual Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**August 10, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by President Hugh Siggins at 2:02 PM at the James-York Playhouse.

**Board members present:** Marsha Allen, Connie Granger, Neil Hollands, Becky Krantz, Debbie Noonan, Steve Olson, Amy Payne, Hugh Siggins, Tony Spunzo, Michael Westenberger

**Board members absent:** Miguel Girona

Approximately 45 members were in attendance.

1. Peter Natale moved and Tony Spunzo seconded the approval of last year's annual meeting minutes. This passed.
2. Hugh Siggins noted that his president's report was in the packet of material that was passed out. Some highlights include that we have hopefully addressed most of the issues concerning sightlines, hearing (including the installation of the T-loop system) and HVAC. We will continue to monitor these systems to make sure they are working properly. In addition he thanked Brandon Lyles and the cast of *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* for taking their show on the road to Magruder Elementary School to show young people what live theater is all about. Our Children's Theatre has been attended reasonably well with the Christmas performances being the most popular. We've opened up our final dress rehearsals to ARC of Greater Williamsburg as a new form of community outreach. We are also reaching out to the community in order to find those that might need to use a facility like ours. Recently we've contracted with a local church to use the building on Sunday mornings giving us \$7500 per year in extra income. Hugh stressed that if we are to continue, we depend upon our volunteers and the generous donations of our patrons. Our budget is approximately \$330,000 which cannot be reach with ticket sales alone. Finally he thanked all those in attendance today and hoped for a great 58<sup>th</sup> season.
3. Neil Hollands explained line-by-line the budget report from last year. Though the totals for the year were very close to being right on target, the individual line items were often off by a great deal. The total expenses for the year were \$318,128.30 and the total income was \$328,420.61 for a net income of \$10,292.31.
4. Scholarship – Betsy Jo Spence reported that 28 schools were sent information about applying for our scholarship. 8 applicants were given auditions and interviews. The judges were Joan Gavalier, Bill Weldon, Michael Schiller and Amy Lyles. The winner of the 2014 scholarship was Dallis Seeker from Bruton High School.
5. Elections – Hugh noted that there were 5 resignations during the previous year: Peter Natale, Carol Moff, Nina Costello, Kelsey Helmick and Marsha Allen (at the end of today's proceedings). Debbie Noonan has completed her term and has decided not to run for re-election. Amy Payne has completed her second term and Tony Spunzo has completed his first term and they are both running for re-election. There were 2 appointments made during the year to fill empty spots: Michael Westenberger and Neil Hollands. They are up for their first official election. The Board has nominated Guy Bordelon, Rani Wachter and Kathleen Walden to fill the remaining empty seats. Hugh asked for nominations from the floor. Sally Holzbach nominated Peter Natale. David Cunningham seconded. Tony Spunzo moved to close the nominations. Guy Bordelon seconded. This passed. At this time ballots were passed out and

everyone was asked to vote during a ten-minute break. After the break the results were announced. Amy, Tony, Michael, and Neil were re-elected to the Board. Guy, Rani and Kathleen were elected to their first terms.

6. Lynn Schumann announced to the membership that our dear friend and oldest member, Mollie Robbins, has been moved to an assisted living facility – Spring Arbor.

7. Neil Hollands went over the proposed budget for the coming year. It includes \$328,500 in income and expenses. Tony Spunzo moved and Michael Westenberger seconded the approval of the budget. This passed.

8. An update was given on the HVAC system. When the building opened the HVAC was incredibly loud in the auditorium and the lobby, so loud you could barely hear when it was running. Changes were made in the HVAC system during construction to supposedly save us \$30,000. This change is what caused the noisy fans. The company that originally put in the HVAC has since gone out of business so we contracted with Cox-Powell who said they could fix the problem for \$15,000. This has been done. We now have variable speed fans which are much quieter. We had not paid the original HVAC company because the work was unacceptable. We did pay them \$5,000 to close their account. So we did save \$10,000 overall.

What is still left to do? There are problems with the old part of the theater. It needs HVAC work as well. It is currently running on oil which is very expensive. We are working on a proposal this year to convert it to gas or electricity. We need to close in the ceiling in the scene shop as well to help save energy.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

1. Ken Krantz mentioned there have been some Tweets (on Twitter) on our account that are inappropriate. We think this problem has been resolved but if you see anything like this in the future, please let us know.

2. Christina Westenberger mentioned that we need to remember that we are a community theatre and make sure we involve as many people as possible, that we bring we many new people in as possible, that we try to get new ticket buyers, etc.

3. Amy Lyles would like volunteers on shows to be more recognized. The Board members should acknowledge and thank those volunteers as often as possible.

4. Les Waldron thanked Neil Hollands for all his diligent work on the budgets.

Tony Spunzo moved and Amy Payne seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Noonan, Secretary