

**Town of Camden Opera House Committee**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
*March 5, 2012*  
**Tucker Room**  
**5PM**

**Present:** Susan Dorr, Chair; Kerry Hadley, Manager; Kate Bates, Aimee Phelen-Deconnick, Maryanne Shanahan; Don White, Select Board Liaison; Bob Williams; Katherine Young

**Absent:** Raymond Brunyanski, Dave Morrison, Hal Owen

Meeting called to order by Susan Dorr at 5:06 PM.

**Minutes** from the special meeting held on January 31 were approved as amended (two minor typo errors have been corrected for the record).

**Budget Discussion**

1. Kerry Hadley reported that 2/3s into the current budget year, revenue is at 90% of projections, which anticipates an overage of close to \$7K by end of fiscal year. In addition, expenses are under budget year to date.
2. Don White noted the uncollected balances in the budget report and strongly recommended that contracts and policies be eminently clear regarding payment, particularly if the client expects to produce other events—ie, no future events will be scheduled unless and until all previous monies are paid in full. Kerry assured Don that contracts so stipulate as do policies and procedures.
3. Don expressed concern that in the budget for next fiscal year, the proportion of Dave Morrison's time spent on municipal/town services continues in the budget at 80/20, which affects the Opera House (OH) bottom line and perception of fiscal success. Kerry advised that she is comfortable with the conservative approach being taken and with working toward change in ensuing budgets, based on data that she is collecting to demonstrate the impact of municipal duties on OH time and budget. Advances have been made in the next budget in regard to recognition of the need for administrative assistance and that is progress that she appreciates.
4. The budget hearing is scheduled for March 15, and the OH budget should get to the table by approximately 8PM. Committee members are asked to attend. Kerry will contact you on Friday or Monday of next week with an outline of her strategy for that evening.
5. The committee accepted the proposed budget unanimously and moved to recommend the budget to the Budget Committee for approval.

**Third Floor Plan**

In Dave Morrison's absence due to illness, Kerry presented the final architectural rendering of proposed reconstruction of the third floor. The Committee was pleased and enthusiastic about the

final plans and commended staff for its work. With time of the essence, Don strongly recommended that a request for the \$25K to complete the construction documents be sought from CEDAC at its upcoming meeting on March 12. Kerry will speak with Pat Finnegan to make certain it is on the agenda and presented by one or both of them. The Committee unanimously approved the motion to accept the concept plan for the third floor renovation and unanimously recommended that the Opera House Manager request that CEDAC provide TIFF funds in the amount of \$25K to complete the construction documents.

### **Mission and Vision Statement**

The committee unanimously approved the revised mission and vision statement as presented, based on Kerry's belief that the statement meets the needs of the Opera House.

### **Upcoming Events**

Members of the committee offered to help at several upcoming events, including Nabucco (Opera in HD) on March 11 and Danu (Bay Chamber Event) on March 12. Staff will have a busy week with events (including a presentation on March 13) and the Budget Committee meeting on March 15. A brief discussion occurred about Maine ProMusica's proposal for a New Year's Eve concert and all agreed the projected costs are too expensive and need to be reconsidered by Maine ProMusica for the event to work.

Susan Dorr adjourned the meeting at 6:29PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Maryanne Shanahan