

Camden Opera House Committee

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December 6, 2011

Camden Opera House Committee

Minutes of Meeting

December 6, 2010

Attendees: Don White, Kerry Hadley, Hal Owen, Susan Dorr, Kate Bates, Bob Williams, Dave Morrison

Meeting called to order at 5:02 PM

Minutes of the November meetings were accepted as presented with no discussion. Unanimous approval.

A special recognition of Hal Owen's long time chairmanship of the OH committee was presented by Dave Morrison who wrote an extraordinary Sonnet for Hal, an Ode to Hal. **Put Ode in the minutes**

The committee acknowledged the participation and resignation of John Orlando who is leaving Camden and moving to Portland. The committee signed a letter to Orlando expressing our appreciation for his contribution to the committee over the past year or more and regret that he is leaving the committee.

Discussion of plans to look for grant funding sources for upcoming projects at the COH. Kate Bates presented some possibilities for funding the third floor upgrades. Plans were drawn in 2004 with some estimates, around \$200K but the project was never put out to bid. Committee discussed the value of putting out an RFP in order to get some current pricing for the project. \$35K is currently in the COH surplus account. Grant funders like to see a diversified funding stream and the potential for the grantee to raise some funds. Kerry said that the town has spent \$9K on the third floor space so far. It was the sense of the committee that we should ask the town to designate some surplus from COH to go into a designated fund for the 3rd floor project. Kerry gave us an explanation of how the budgeting process works and how we can work to get funds flowing into that fund.

A motion was made by Don that the COH budget surplus for FY 2011 be placed in a restricted capital account. Seconded by Susan, passed unanimously. This request will go directly to Roberta Smith.

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#### Managers/Facility Report

Dave: The COH has enjoyed significantly reduced energy costs due to winterization efforts made over the last couple of years. Kate suggested contacting Evergreen Energy Performance for an audit to outline future improvements that can be made.

#### Film project

Don reported that there are some films that we can use with a one-time use permit. The Camden Public Library contracts with 2 firms to license the use of films.

Susan reported that she has had conversations with representatives of the C/R Historical Society about a collaboration on a historical film event.

Chamber After Hours - Still in discussion with Natalie's and possibly Cellardoor Winery to supply refreshments.

No old business.

#### New business

Don White noted that during the Everyman Repertory Theatre performance the outside lights on **Main Street** weren't on but they should be on for safety. Discussion of the options for lighting **the Washington Street** that side of the building. It was concluded that the COH committee should recommend to Roberta Smith that we have more lighting on the **Washington Street side** of the building **for safety and** to showcase the architectural features of the building. Dave described some of the temporary fixes that are available for lighting the Washington Street side of the building. We also discussed the challenge presented by ice falling off the building in the winter.

#### 2012 Budget preparation

Some goals were presented:

- Concession presence at all COH events

- Full time COH manager position

- COH ticketing (discussion of a collaboration between COH and Bay Chamber being developed by Richard Anderson)

- 3rd Floor upgrades

Meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM

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Respectfully submitted, Susan Dorr