

## **GHS THEATRE BOOSTERS' MEETING MINUTES:**

**NOVEMBER 9, 2017**

**Website:** [www.genevatheatreboosters.org](http://www.genevatheatreboosters.org)

**Twitter:** gtboosters

**Facebook:** "Geneva High School Theatre Boosters"

Lisa Dinning called the meeting to order at 7pm.

### **In Attendance**

Lisa Dinning, President; Annie Styrna, Vice President; Christina Vrba, Secretary; Kate Smith, Treasurer; Letty Ebel, Amber Miller-Judson, Laura Webb, Phil Walker, and Cathy Ostergard.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Phil Walker made a motion to approve the minutes with a correction to a typo in the "Treasurer Report." The word "budget" should be replaced with "balance". Kate Smith seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer Report**

Kate Smith reported that our current balance is the same as last month's. (Reported) After all of the latest activity with the fall play, she will make deposits and check disbursements and will have an updated balance update at our next meeting.

### **Membership**

Annie Styrna reported that our current membership is at 37 members. Kristin Lesniak became our newest member. Thank you Kristin!

### **Old Business**

- Mr. Rogers stopped in on his way to the jazz concert and reported that Kate Woodruff asked him for approval to change the dates for the One Acts to Thursday, 1/18, and Friday, 1/19, instead of Friday, 1/19, and Saturday, 1/20, in order to appeal to more students. All present were in favor of this change.
- Mr. Rogers reported that he would like the school to help us "spice up" the Front of House to make it more inviting to our guests. All present agreed that this upgrade is long overdue

and well needed. Brainstorming discussions will take place at our next meeting, but Mr. Rogers initially suggested the possibility of a spotlight and curtains to separate our auditorium space from the cafeteria. It was discussed how to get us out of the corner in order for us to utilize the bigger space.

- Kate Smith reported that she has the cash box and will bring it in to the school office. She reported that it contains \$5,808 in cash and checks from fall play ticket sales. This is a substantial increase over last year's fall play sales (\$2,520). The group discussed that this positive outcome was due to the increase in ticket prices, increase in cast members, wider appeal with the type of show choice, and increase in publicity.
- The group discussed a general dislike for the orientation of how the fall play banner was printed as well as where and how it was displayed on our building.
- Kate Smith reported that we made \$495.50 in concessions and \$321 in fan-o-gram sales.
- Kate Smith reported that sorting out the small waters vs. large waters was again a total time waster, and she kindly asked that we please scratch the small waters from our list for future donation requests.
- Laura Webb suggested that we sell carnations and small cards in lieu of or maybe in addition to the fan-o-gram candy. The group was quite receptive to her ideas and discussed rolling it out in the near future.
- Lisa Dinning reported that Ms. T was injured on the Sunday of the strike. She will be out for 3 weeks. She can't work, but she can possibly direct. Phil Walker volunteered to be the liaison with Mr. Rogers and with Ms. T to figure out a plan moving forward so as to not get too far behind for the "Into the Woods" set build. Phil also agreed to discuss the booster group's disapproval of how the techies drew extra attention to themselves by playing "Benny Hill" music and wearing silly clothes and hats. The group discussed feeling that there were some technical issues with the new microphones as well as just a "loss of control" and a general lack of direction of how the

techies worked with the actors/actresses during strike as well as throughout the play season. Without Ms. T in attendance, it was requested by Christina Vrba to table this discussion until she returns and until after Phil has had a chance to talk to her.

- The group discussed purchasing cards and plants for Mrs. Curtis and Ms. T when they are well enough to return to the school. Kate Smith kindly reminded us to be mindful of our budget.
- Lisa Dinning reminded everyone that the spring musical auditions are from 7-10pm on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday after Thanksgiving break. Lisa also reminded us that we need to decide about our 2018-2019 board commitments by our April meeting.
- Amber Miller-Judson, as well as most of the group who has had the opportunity to visit back stage, suggested that the backstage area be cleaned. The space is small anyway, but with the disorganization, garbage, and general clutter, it could be a safety hazard and it just isn't a nice way for our cast and crew to have to "live" during show seasons. The group also discussed the non-working backstage bathrooms being a quintessential task to be done ASAP.
- Lisa Dinning reported that she bought 6 **11x17 frames** for our show posters. 4 for this year and 2 to get us started out strong next year. We are documenting this here and now so in case we forget when Lisa leaves us next year!

## **New Business**

### **Committee Reports**

- **PHOTOGRAPHY:** Cathy Ostergard did a fantastic job taking the photographs for our fall play. Everyone in the group is thankful that she was able to take on this task as well as stick around for our next few shows! Thank you Cathy! Cathy discussed sharing the photos on Shutterfly or some other app where Cathy as well as our kids can upload and then share photos for free or for much less than \$10 for a flash drive. This was discussed as a good idea for kids who are only in one scene or just don't have a lot of pictures on the flash drive, or

for families who have already spent their allotted money on tee shirts, tickets, and shout outs. It was also discussed that the idea of being able to make mugs, tee shirts and calendars directly from the Shutterfly site may be a convenience some of our families might like. Whatever happens moving forward, it was discussed that someone would have to spearhead this in order to make sure the content being uploaded and shared was appropriate and tasteful. The group discussed the fact that we have 110 flash drives in inventory and possibly rolling this out next year. The group was open to the idea of not charging for photos as in the past when they were up in a gallery on our website and were free to download. Cathy discussed that it was nice that Kate does photography and that having other perspectives and a help made the job a lot more doable. Phil Walker reported that he is in communication with Megan Kelly about the possibility of engaging and enlisting the help of her photography students in our tireless efforts to capture our actors/actresses and techies hard at work on their craft.

- **PUBLICITY:** Christina Vrba reported that she felt like there was a good amount of publicity for the fall play. She will continue to email Lisa Stone with regard to publicizing our future shows and fundraisers to the GHS families via 304 Connects, and the GHS social media outlets as well as an email to Laura Sprague to the 304 District Families through 304 Connects Backpack emails, Board of Education for the Record emails, and all District social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Lisa Dinning is going to ask Darcy Carberry if we are supposed to post up publicity posters around town for One Acts like we did for the fall play. No one in attendance could remember proper protocol for One Acts since it was a disaster last year without a sponsor until the last minute.
- **WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA/AD SALES:** Phil Walker reported that total ad sales thus far are at \$4540. It is down from last school year due to so much turnover with businesses as well as the businesses being hit by so many others asking the same from them and budgets are tight and set already. He will continue to make this an all-year process. He will be touching base with Kilwin's as well as a few others on his list as the year progresses. Phil is considering the idea of getting an Instagram

account for us in order to upload videos of pics of what we all do behind the scenes to support the kids and directors. Smile ladies. :O)

- FRONT OF HOUSE/DISPLAY CASE: No committee report. Mr. Rogers' had some notes in Old Business.
- CAST AND CREW BOARD: Annie Styrna did an outstanding job, and everyone was thrilled with how it turned out. Thank you Annie!
- FANAGRAMS: Letty Ebel reported that some guests wanted to purchase fan-o-gram sized candy for themselves instead of purchasing the concessions candy. The group decided that since the concessions is \$1.00 for everything that we should ask for smaller candy for that purpose and save the bigger candy for fan-o-gram sales only. She reported that she has 20 boxes left and will use them for our next show.
- BANQUET: Amber Miller-Judson and Kate Smith discussed the date and time is set for May 6, 2018 from 6-8pm. They are going to send out a SAVE THE DATE email to all the directors and to the kids who were in the fall play ASAP.
- CAST APPRECIATION/PINS: Lisa reminded Letty and Christina that we don't have this committee for One Acts. Letty and Christina reported that they are waiting to place the order for the newly designed 2017-2018 pins until they have a firm cast and crew count for One Acts and "Into the Woods." Any student who is NOT in One Acts or "Into the Woods" but was in the fall play will receive the new pin since the pin handed out for the fall play was our old pin from last year (leftover pins) due to the fact that 2018 standard pin could not be made by Crown in time for the Oct 30<sup>th</sup> delivery date to students.
- TEE SHIRTS: Kris and Jediah Nims did a great job distributing shirts to directors, cast and crew. Enough shirts were ordered plus extras just in case. Two extras were sold and four were given to the 4 kids that were in the production. One lonely medium still available.

- BIOS and SHOUT OUTS: Lisa reminded Christina that there are no bios or shout outs in the One Acts' playbill.

**Next Meeting****January 11, 2018 at 7pm**

Lisa Dinning motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:45pm, and Phil Walker seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Vrba