

SIoux EMPIRE ARTS COUNCIL HORSE BARN ARTS CENTER

February 21, 2008

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

ATTENDING:

Board Members: Robert Amundson, Ceca Cooper, Ann Davis, David Merhib, Judith Peterson, Bernie Schramm

Regrets: Teri Ellis-Schmidt, Jason Herrboldt

Executive Director: Deb Klebanoff

AGENDA:

1. Call to order / Agenda Review
2. Minutes
3. Financial Report
4. Liaison Reports
5. 2008 Planning
6. ED Report
7. Adjournment

CALL TO ORDER / AGENDA REVIEW

Meeting called to order by President: Ann Davis.

MINUTES

Since there was no quorum at the beginning of the meeting, approval of December and January minutes was deferred until the March meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT/FUNDRAISING STATUS

Deb handed out financials for January 08. She explained that the shortfall was due to a couple of items not arriving until early February – for example, the \$1,000 the Empire Mall paid for holiday entertainment. Individual donations are slowing; but staff is trying a couple of things to elicit more donations from Barn visitors – the dollar People's Choice voting, and having Tara ask customers to consider a gift to the Arts Council when they are making a Gift Shop purchase.

As all BOD members were now in attendance, a motion was made to approve the January Financial Report; and it was seconded and approved.

LIAISON REPORTS

- Orpheum Theatre: Currently working on a mission statement.
- First Night: Russ not in attendance, so this report was not made.

2008 PLANNING

Ann explained that the approved 2008 budget included an increase in hours and wages for Steve, as well as increases in wages for Tara and Deb. Steve's increased hours will allow Deb to get out of the Barn more and make fundraising calls. The goal is two per week. A systematic approach is being developed by Deb; she will send out pre-call letters; then follow up by setting an appointment with companies. A Board member will accompany on all meetings as asks for money should be coming from volunteers, not staff. In this way, the fundraising job will

not be put off until September and then not get done. Fundraising will become a year-round activity.

Ann said that as a teacher, the Board would now have assignments. Deb will be sending mid-month reminders about upcoming Board meetings and assignments. For the March meeting, Ann has asked for:

- * One goal for SEAC in 2008
- * Why do you want to participate on the SEAC Board?
- * Where would you like to see the Arts Council go?

Also, email to Ann a couple of possible board members – we are two members short. Suggestions included Heather Boysen, Tom Braithwaite, Ivy Oland, David Xenakis, Lindsay Twa... We will also check the paid member list for possible members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ceca reported that she has formed an Education Committee with Kevin Cole, professor at USF, along with Ivy Oland, Judith, and Sarah Scherschligt. They are working on ways to get art educators in the hospitals. Her husband used to line up musicians in the Sanford lobby, but just can't do that anymore. Perhaps that is something the Arts Council could take on – including art teachers or students. Deb reported that she had had a call just that morning from someone at Aseracare Hospice looking for art educators to incorporate into their programs.

OTHER PROJECT POSSIBILITIES

Ceca and Kevin Cole have been collaborating on written works for a Liz Bashore show. She would like to see an Upper Midwest show for artists and writers working together that might include the Washington Pavilion, Sioux Falls schools – possibly even writing a curriculum. Many questions – who would be in charge, for example... Funding could not come from SEAC, but SEAC could help facilitate.

David felt that it was a good project for the Arts Council and that there might be funding with the SD Humanities Council, especially with the school component.

Bernie would like to see something like the Midwest Watercolor Society show that is held twice annually in Wisconsin. Other items mentioned were an Arts Mardi Gras; grad student coffees; photo contests – things to add visibility where people feel they are getting something for their money.

ED REPORT

The Fine Arts Trolley Tour group has formed a collaboration with Downtown Sioux Falls to have First Fridays, beginning with the Friday, March 7, 2008 Trolley Tour. Each First Friday there will be art, music, food, wine, retail shopping downtown and at the 8th & Railroad Center – always something different. The Horse Barn has re-scheduled many of the artist receptions to correspond to the First Fridays.

Student Mentoring: Special Projects has started.

New Board Manuals were distributed. They contain updated board listing and meeting dates.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Klebanoff