

# SIOUX EMPIRE ARTS COUNCIL HORSE BARN ARTS CENTER

May 15, 2008

## Minutes of Regular Board Meeting

### ATTENDING:

**Board Members:** Ann Davis, David Merhib, Ceca Cooper, Bernie Schramm, Teri Ellis-Schmidt

**Regrets:** Debra Kroger, Jason Herrboldt, Judith Peterson

**Guests:** Ivy Oland, Janek Liebethuth, Andrew Erickson

**Executive Director:** Deb Klebanoff

### AGENDA:

1. Call to order / Agenda Review
2. Minutes
3. Financial Report
4. Bühnenkunst Theatre
5. Follow-Up to April Meeting
6. ED Report
7. Adjournment

### CALL TO ORDER / AGENDA REVIEW

Meeting called to order by Ann Davis.

### MINUTES

Motion was made and seconded to approve April minutes.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

- Financials were reviewed. There was discussion about needing to raise about \$21,000 to complete the high school youth mosaic wall by September of '08. Perhaps a list could be put together of potential donors and emailed to Board for their help. Also the money that we raise from the Canaries Doubles promotion has not been budgeted, so maybe that could go to the wall project.
- Motion was made and seconded to approve April financials.

### BUHNENKUNST THEATRE

- Janek and Andrew introduced themselves – they both studied at Augie, and Janek wants to put his Theater Studies and experience with Potsdam Theater to work on a theatre company in Sioux Falls. He wants to highlight contemporary German work.
- The first production will be Brecht's "*Spring Awakening*" in July of this year. They have an agreement with Augie to use space, but Augie will not sponsor them. So they are requesting a fiscal sponsorship relationship until they achieve their own 501(c)3 status. They also want to reach out to more adult actors.
- There is some alternative theatre in Sioux Falls – Bare Bodkins, Ephemeral Productions – but nothing that puts on consistent performances. Another goal of this company is to keep theatre people here. They would like to be a role model for other companies so that actors and other theatre people can make a living here.

- In discussion it was noted that there has been no broad-based theatre group in Sioux Falls for many years, and that a population of 150,000 should be large enough to sustain such theatre. There are other programs in small towns – Freeman has many highly educated Mennonites who love music and art; and SDSU has a very ambitious program (Prairie Repertory Theatre) with performances in Brookings and Brandon.
- The fiscal sponsorship relationship has been discussed with Janek and Andrew, and they have agreed to 3% of income as their fee.
- David moved to approve this sponsorship; Ceca seconded and the motion was approved.

#### **APRIL MEETING FOLLOW-UP**

- It was decided that Ann would research shirts for SEAC with our logo for Board members to wear while they're at events or out in the community.
- First Friday – The idea was brought up at last meeting to have Board members go to different First Friday locations (with Board shirts on!) to increase visibility of SEAC. David will call Larry Rehfeld about attending their reception on June 6 at 5:30.
- Discussion on recruiting Board members will be held in June.

#### **ED REPORT**

- SEAC is running a promotion with the SF Canaries to raise money and awareness of the Arts Council. Board members and others will solicit pledges for each home game double hit by a Canary this season. Lithia Dodge has stepped forward to pay these pledges at the end of the season. To highlight the promotion, SEAC will arrange for 48 kids, ages 6-12, to paint a second base at the Horse Barn that will be used in an actual game.
- SEAC just received word this morning that Artfalls has been cancelled for 2008. There was much discussion on things the Arts Council could do to help. Ann will contact Suzanne Willadsen, the ED of Artfalls, to see what help they might accept. Perhaps the festival could be scaled back – we need to find out how many artists applied; how much money they have; how many volunteers would be needed. Ann will call Suzanne tonight; those interested in helping will meet tomorrow, Friday, May 16 at 9:00 am in the Horse Barn.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Klebanoff