

**Minutes of the Los Alamos Little Theatre  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Mar. 15, 2011**

**Present:** Pat Beck, Eric Bjorklund, Gracie Cainelli, Todd Graves, John Gustafson, Warren Houghteling, Kaki Kelly, Jim Sicilian, Roxanne Tapia

**Absent:** Bobbie Simpson

**Visitors:** Jillian Burgin, Ken Milder

Kaki called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

This was a special meeting to select plays for the 2011-12 season from among the proposals received, so regular agenda items such as minutes and treasurer's report were not discussed.

There were two additional agenda items presented.

*Budget for Moonlight and Magnolias participation in regionals*

Jillian Burgin presented information on budget needs and existing funding for M&M's trip to Lewisville, TX in April to participate in the AACTFest regional competition.

The additional expenses included:

Costumes (either rental or purchase)

- the adjudicators faulted Warren's suit, especially, as not being period

Programs (additional printing)

Royalties (for an additional performance)

Theatre registration (as LALT entry into the competition)

Transportation

Transportation options were discussed, including renting a truck (expensive), using Ken Milder's truck and trailer again (significant individual contribution), and looking for a loaner truck. Two possibilities for the latter option are the ReMax moving truck (Ann Revelle to pursue) and a truck from an organization called First Movement (Jim Sicilian to pursue).

Theatre New Mexico is providing \$1,000 to support M&M's participation.

The LALT Board also agreed to contribute \$1100 to M&M's participation, to be applied as \$850 for gas for Ken Milder's truck (assuming no other transportation option pans out) and up to \$250 for costumes, theater registration, royalty and other expenses.

Patti Stevenson-Brown celebration

Jim shared that 3 p.m. Saturday, March 26, would be the remembrance/celebration at LALT for Patti Stevenson-Brown.

Selection of plays for 2011-12 season

Todd had received input from individual Board members regarding their top picks for the 2011-12 season and melded them together in different ways for consideration. Jim also combined people's input and presented his compilation.

Todd noted that there were three plays that were on everyone's list: *8x10*, *An Inspector Calls*, and *A Thousand Clowns*. Most of the discussion, therefore, focused on the other proposals.

[sic] – Board members noted this was a very complicated play in terms of both staging and acting. There also were concerns about how the audience would respond to it.

*Cowboy Poet* – The director envisions conducting a workshop before casting. Since she is out of town, there would be some work done remotely followed by an intensive rehearsal period, some of it individual and some ensemble. Board members expressed some concern about the logistics and timing for rehearsals, but noted the play offered roles for older women, an often underrepresented theater demographic.

*The Giver* – There was some opposition to this proposal on the grounds that LALT should not be “children's” theater (since kids have other theater opportunities in town), but others noted that most of the roles are for adults. (Editorial note: Play was commissioned by the Oregon Children's Theatre and its stated target audience is young adults.) There also were stated concerns about pre-casting and some discussion about how this might be monitored. Further discussion considered the plot line, the “dark” theme and how well the book translates to the stage.

*A Class Act* – The Board had approved this show for the 2010-11 season but it was not to be. The Board still strongly supports the show, but had a preference for deferring it to the 2012-13 season, which would mean a final decision would be made by the next Board. (Director Patrick MacDonald had indicated the September 2012 slot would work for his production team.)

A strawman season proposal was made as follows:

September – *8x10*

November – *An Inspector Calls*

January – *A Thousand Clowns*

March – either *The Giver* or [sic]

May – *Cowboy Poet*

After final discussion, the Board approved The Giver for the March slot and put its stamp of approval on the season. (Eric moved to accept the proposed season, Jim seconded, vote was unanimous)

Kaki said she would get the production agreement out to the directors and ask them to return it signed before the April meeting or come to the April meeting to discuss the agreement, if needed. Liaisons will be assigned after the next Board is in place following the Annual Meeting.

After the directors/proposers have been notified Kaki will get out a note to the LALT e-mailing list.

### **Final Odds and Ends**

John G. had been liaison for A Class Act, and will serve as liaison for Five Women Wearing the Same Dress, which took over the May 2011 slot.

A question came up about copying scripts for play readings vs. ordering enough scripts to support the reading. Warren will discuss with Bobbie when it is OK to make copies, and when not, and get some standard language that he can provide to people proposing plays for readings.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday, April 5, 2010