

Notes from Minutes of SATS Meeting Monday 20th July 2009

Opened: 7:10pm

Present: Jim Sandford, Andrew Johnston, Rachel Levick, Mitchell Cox, Janet Sandford, Miranda Guillon, Debbie Walker, Bob Moore, Hugh Smith, Jenny Blake, Meg Bowman, Mark Smith, Kaylene Smith, Narelle Bintley.

Apologies: Darryl Taylor, Narelle Taylor, Audrey Almond, Michael Godschalk, Colleen Godschalk, Alison Doughty, Jon Doughty

Minutes of May meeting were presented and moved by Miranda and seconded by Jim.

Business Arising:

- Jenny and Brian Blake did not attend the Cultural Planning meeting after discovering it was for the management plan. It is understood the plan will be emailed to Jenny around 3rd August. There is mention of a performing arts centre.
- New lights worked well throughout Beauty and the Beast.
- New mics went alright. Lost one lapel mic due to damage and one is not working so good.
- Lost one channel on the mixing desk, so desk is now 23 channels. Jim does not believe the desk will last much longer.
- Two new speaker stands were purchased. Music stand bags worked well.
- NAA shed worked well as a storage/rehearsal space.
- Grand piano – still nothing formal received (in writing).
- Sub committee has been meeting for constitution revision.

Treasurer's Report:

The current cashbook balance is \$26,505.59 with unpresented cheques taking the bank statement balance to \$38,798.35. There is currently \$31.91 in the card account and the cash management account has a balance of \$13,231.33. Still waiting to receive payment of \$1,792 in ticket sales owing from Macquarie Generation.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and moved by Jenny Blake and seconded by Kaylene Smith.

Correspondence:

For the months of May, June and July until present incoming correspondence comprised of:

- Singleton Hi-Fi payment of Gold Sponsorship \$500
- Notice of a free workshop "*How to run a meeting and avoid the pitfalls*" on 23/6/09.
- Singleton Hi-Fi invoice for 3 UHF receivers 40 channel mipro \$1,437
- Gould Bros statement building materials for show \$569.72
- Custom Audio invoice 6 shure lapel mics, 2 speaker stands and stereo jack \$1,624
- Singleton Hi-Fi statement for microphone \$1,492

- Mission Australia payment of Silver Sponsorship \$250
- Rotary Club of Singleton Inc donation of \$750 for community involvement
- SHPS receipt for payment of hall hire
- SAMS Newsletter Volume 82 June 2009
- Singleton Hi-Fi refund 3 transmitters and invoice for new ones \$987
- Civic Centre Hire invoice \$7520
- Newcastle G&S flyer for Patience
- Stage Whispers Vol 18 No 4 magazine July/August 09
- Email from Arts Upper Hunter Inc including Artsbark magazine, expressions of interest for Shift Work play and Artists Information form.
- Singleton Hi-Fi statement \$1,017
- Gould Bros statement \$673.08
- Singleton RSC payment of Gold Sponsorship \$500
- Ink Spot statement for BatB tickets and programmes; \$2,065.25 which included the deduction of a \$506 donation.
- Mary Sweeney invitation to participate in focus groups to make cash.

For the same period outgoing correspondence comprised of:

- Letter to Wayne Paget thanking archers for use of shed space at NAA
- Receipt to Rotary for donation
- Receipt to Mission Australia for sponsorship

Bridget (?) from Arts Upper Hunter has expressed interest in attending a meeting to discuss further a joint project involving our club and Mats.

General Business:

Town Band Concert;

Debbie Walker reported the town band concert is scheduled for 14th November and SATS has been allocated 10 mins to perform. It was agreed that we will be available to perform.

Roller Door Remote Control;

Mark Smith would like to purchase a remote control roller door opener for the storage shed with two controls to replace the two keys. Cost is around \$400. It was decided to shop around for a quote.

Scholarship;

Mark Smith wants to set things in place for the SATS scholarship. Last year no applications were received and we're not sure why. Mark suggested having a weekend where local students in years 10-12 are invited to attend a workshop that would be conducted by a professional. From that point up to 12 students could be selected to interview for the scholarship.

Another problem is the cost of accommodation in Sydney for the recipient, as this is not covered by the scholarship. Mark suggested that NIDA country courses in Newcastle around Oct/Nov may be more suitable. Mark would like to research now so we can organise it at the next meeting, which is in September.

Post show report;

Jenny Blake reported that bump out for Beauty and the Beast was excellent and it was great to see so many people there.

Jenny had one concern about the show, which was the number of unsupervised children backstage running around. It was suggested we would have to rethink using children as Ushers in future productions.

Tony Fletcher is yet to be reimbursed for latex and makeup he purchased for the Beast character.

A total show profit of around \$24500 is expected.

We are yet to receive a bill for advertising on radio and Jenny will follow this up with Colleen Godschalk.

Slippery Floor;

Debbie Walker is concerned about the slippery floor in the auditorium. There was some discussion about liability for injury in relation to who is covered by our insurance policy and whether it is a SATS issue, or whether Council is liable.

DVD;

Rachel spoke on the matter of the DVD recording and how it may be improved in future. The point was raised that it's not very often the contract allows us to film a production due to copyright so we may not have to face this issue any time soon.

Constitution;

Points 10 out of a total 22 have been reviewed. Another meeting should be sufficient to complete the review.

Last year's AGM minutes discussed the possibility of separating show governance from SATS governance.

Miranda Guillon was asked to bring the previous AGM minutes to the next constitution meeting for further discussion.

Bob Moore pointed out that by-laws can be introduced that don't have to be incorporated into the constitution, which can then be changed by a majority of the organisation.

Mark Smith would like to complete this task and put the draft on the webpage prior to the AGM for interested members to review.

Show Sponsors;

Miranda Guillon will provide a list of show sponsors to Mark Smith to send out thank you cards.

Next year's production;

Mark Smith named "*A funny thing happened on the way to the forum*", "*The Wedding Singer*" and "*Fame*" as being shows of interest. *Fame* was considered unsuitable, as it requires a large chorus of young people, which SATS is unlikely to succeed in achieving. "*The Wedding Singer*" is a fairly recent production based on the movie of the same name. "*A funny thing happened on the way to the forum*" is a funny show with a varied cast.

Miranda Guillon spoke on behalf of Alison Doughty. Alison is keen to do "*Guys and Dolls*".

Discussion was had on what may be considered an appropriate show for SATS to do. Rachel Levick felt we needed something fun and upbeat to keep people interested.

Other suggestions made through the discussion included "*The Music Man*", "*Little Shop of Horrors*", "*Mame*", "*Singing in the Rain*", "*Hello Dolly*", "*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat*" (with an adult cast), "*Aladdin*", "*The Little Mermaid*".

Concerns were raised about losing audience numbers if we go back to old time shows.

Concerns were also raised about excluding people from our productions due to choice of show.

Andrew Johnston was keen to see the organisation move forward with well known high quality productions.

Hugh Smith stated we may have to take a step back and do something less familiar like "*The Wedding Singer*" to move forward.

Selection of next year's production was postponed until a special meeting on 10th August. Jenny Blake suggested that people go and look on the internet at shows, cast numbers and plot to become familiar with some of the ideas mentioned at this meeting.

Discussion on finances;

Jenny Blake suggested the transfer \$20,000 to the cash management account to build on our savings.

She believes that if we can come up with another "money maker" next year we may be well on the way to purchasing a shed (or applying for a grant) if we are able to acquire land. It is thought that we now have enough savings to have an incentive beyond simply replacing our equipment and that we should set this money aside with a specific goal.

A discussion took place on how SATS would obtain land, what a suitable location would be and the kind of shed we would require. Discussion covered ideas for locations, size of shed, type of lease arrangements etc.

It was suggested that now is a good time to re-send a letter, to the new Council General Manager, which had previously been sent to council.

Bob Moore stated that heritage land could be negotiated and thought that the NAA would be an ideal location. Bob will also talk to David Williams (Real Estate Agent) regarding two existing buildings that could be demolished to make space for another building.

Mark Smith will approach St Catherine's High School and Jenny Blake will send a letter to Singleton Council relating to these.

Thanks;

Mark Smith thanked Jenny and Rachel on behalf of SATS for their part in directing a great show in Beauty and the Beast.

Meeting closed: 9:10pm