

Barnesville State Theatre
Meeting Location: Barrel House, 137 E. Main Street
Barnesville, OH 43713
Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2022

Attendees

Roger Johnson	Sally Johnson	Judy Hutchison	Alice Hunkler
Bill Knox	Scott Gallagher	Sherry McClellan	Scott Whitacre
Denny Hunkler	Jan Chambers	Molly West	Peggy Hickenbottom
Greg Batts	Quettie Stephen	Susan Hallstrom	Tom Johnson
Jimmy Gear	Luke Johnson	Curt Hallstrom	Jeff Wise
Paula Gear	David Ralston	Rose Gear	Kathy Batts
Beth Secrest	Lynn Cline	Ron Hunkler	
Kristal Hunkler	Helen Carpenter	Donnis Hunkler	

Meeting was called to order at 4:09 pm by Roger Johnson.

Review of previous meeting minutes dated July 21, 2022, read by Kathy Batts.

Agenda Item: Grants/Legal/Funding/Accounting

Bill announced that the 501c3 was submitted, and our legal foundation has been accomplished. As well our bank account and P.O. box has also been established. Copies of the legal documents were given to Kathy and Quettie, along with the P.O. box key, and the checkbook was given to Quettie.

A motion was made by Roger to allow Bill online access to view the bank account in order to monitor it. The motion was seconded by Quettie.

Bill spoke about establishing bylaws in order to have a policy in place for bank signatures, etc.

He also spoke about the importance of fundraising and the need for cash in the short term. He mentioned sustaining memberships and has spoken to a few people who have agreed to a monthly donation.

Jan spoke about the ARC and that the guidelines still have not been released. She explained that we would have a stronger project if we collaborated with other entities in the community who would utilize the theater, for example, schools and the dance theater. We need to begin identifying other groups.

Bill mentioned the need for an architect soon. This will give us real numbers for each aspect of the project.

Quettie suggested a 'goal thermometer' to show where we are and also let the community see the goals and the progress.

Jan indicated that small fundraisers could be a positive at this time and would help to establish relationships for ownership in the project.

Peggy spoke about the Cares Act, which could be an additional source of funds.

Agenda Item: Demolition/Construction

Jimmy and Denny spoke about the work party today and the cleanout progress that was made.

Curt Hallstrom was recognized for his expertise and hard work at today's work party and what it took to get his equipment in the building and out of the building. Literally taking the wheels off and dragging the equipment in and out, and removing headers to get through. Because of that, it was a huge cleanout day.

Jimmy estimated that filling another 5-6 dumpsters would take care of the remaining debris.

He also said that he has not heard back from the HVAC contractor yet. Denny will be contacting Erwin Byler.

Beth praised the workers today and recognized Mike Gibson as well. He has consistently been on-site working alongside the crew.

Roger introduced Jeff Wise. Jeff is the owner/inspector at Cornerstone Home Inspection Services, LLC. He is a great addition to the group and will help us to move along appropriately with his expertise in this specific specialty.

Jimmy also indicated that in speaking with the village council that they are on board with allowing us to put materials for the roof in the school parking lot behind the building.

Jimmy announced there will be another work party for the core group on Thursday, August 4th, at 9 am.

Agenda Item: Events/Public Relations

Roger started a discussion by asking if we should perhaps form committees in different categories to begin the process of narrowing down how we will approach fundraising, events, venue design, etc. There was a consensus that we do need to begin these committees as soon as possible. Some of these committees were formed at the end of today's meeting. The events group will meet this Friday with the focus being on Pumpkin Festival ideas and a schedule. The committees will begin reporting information at the next meeting.

Committees are as follows, and more may be formed as needed:

Media/Social Network – Quettie

Fundraising – Jan, Quettie, Lynn, Beth, Susan, Kathy, Judy

Events – Sally, Paula, Kathy, Leah, Beth, Lynn, Molly

Venue Design – Luke, Scott Whitacre, Larry, Kathy, Enrico Amato, Alice, Rose, Susan, Paula, Denny, Beth, Judy

Quettie shared that she has already begun a spreadsheet and is collecting information as it comes through FB and also what members are forwarding to her. At this time, she noted that we now have 543 Likes and 623 Following on FB and asked that we invite others.

Quettie also mentioned that she has a video contact who can assist us with videography.

Roger spoke with Mick Schumacher recently, who shared that The Monroe Theatre is offering public and private group ghost investigations as part of their ongoing fundraising.

Quettie discussed the pumpkin tab and if we should get a half-page or full-page ad. The consensus was a half-page ad which will be submitted soon. There would be a discount for the ad at half price. As well we will be adding the dates and times we will be at the theater during the pumpkin festival for tours and to sell logo items and food. We will also appear on the map within the tab.

Since there are no open food trucks typically on Wednesday's weigh-in, it was discussed that we could have the theater open that night and sell food items.

Roger asked if there was a possibility for the food trucks who will be parked in front of the theater to leave a gap so that we can be seen and accessed. Quettie said she would discuss it with the pumpkin festival committee.

Roger will attend and speak about the theater at the Barnesville Rotary Club on August 9th.

Agenda Item: Invitees/Guests/Volunteers/Open Forum

Roger invited all guests and invitees to speak in an open forum. He also acknowledged all of the volunteers from last week's work party who worked non-stop. Their hard work to move and carry out debris created more space to continue the cleanout.

Paula brought literature from the LHAT meeting for members and visitors to take and read.

The Chamber of Commerce will be putting the theater on the 2022 Christmas ornament this year. We are in search of an original photo of the theater.

Bill received a flyer in the mail for the Pumpkin Parade and thought this could be an opportunity to raise interest in the theater, even if it were just signs that were carried in the parade with information.

Sally and Luke both mentioned bands that may be interested in performing at the theater venue when it's available.

Luke also suggested the possibility of having musicians play outside to interest the community so that we could speak to them about the project and getting the venue ready to have these events inside. This could be a donation opportunity.

Luke asked if the goal was to bring the theater back to its former glory. Roger indicated that it would not be the exact era because there will be things that cannot be recreated but that it will be up to date with technology for events.

Jan suggested that we not go the route of historical preservation because that could lock us into strict guidelines. However, we can honor parts of the historical aspect.

She also said it would be important to have a clear idea and goal of what the theater will be so people know where their money is going and how it will be used.

Scott spoke about the importance of the acoustics for different events.

Denny suggested that we use Erwin Byler's estimated completion of the roof in October as our deadline to determine what kind of theater we want.

A request was made to change the time of our meetings to 5 pm which was approved. As well we will meet every two weeks through the end of the year. Locations may change, and all of this information will be included in emails when sending out agendas.

Roger closed the meeting by noting that the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 5 pm. This meeting will be held in the Library Annex located at 611 N. Chestnut Street.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 pm.