

**Vagabond Players
General Meeting Summary
Bernie Legge Theatre
December 6, 2021 - 7:00 PM**

Executive Present: Valerie Lawlor, Isabel Mendenhall, Deb Tom, Al Zylstra, Craig Premack, George Edwards, Ted Draybk, Anya Chmielewski

Regrets: Warren Johnson

Recorded by: Anya Kaz Chmielewski

Meeting called to order at: 7:03 pm

1. **Welcome (Val):** Quorum - General Meeting

2. **Reading and Approval of Minutes (Val):**

MOTION - By Val to waive reading of the October 18, 2021 General Meeting Minutes. 2nd by Deb. **CARRIED**

3. **Correspondence (Val):**

- MLA's office sent information about the Arts Impact Grant applications and process. Grant is available through the BC Arts Council in response to feedback from arts and culture groups. Al looked at the information and grants appears to be focused on projects during this time of recovery, renewal, and change. Doesn't apply to capital projects like new stage and LEDs, or part-time staff at Box Office so unlikely we would qualify for one. <https://www.bcartscouncil.ca/program/arts-impact-grant/>

4. **President's Report (Val):**

- a. **Lease** - Have not heard from the City regarding addendum to lease
- b. **Insurance** - Switched to Cooperators Insurance local office in uptown, New West
- c. **Safety Issue - Slippery front steps** - City put some small metal strips on them.
- d. **SFU Students filming** - they finished on Nov. 23, doing 7 sessions in total. They sent us a copy of their final product and as you'll see from it, great credits for Vags at the end. Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/cOYFPWfF9rk>
- e. **Paranormal Investigation by Helter Spectre** - Ray Boulay will be doing this on Saturday, January 15, 2022. His website is helterspectre.com.
ACTION ITEM: Need a volunteer to oversee. Al volunteered & will liaise with Ray.
- f. **Arts Council request to borrow chairs** - They borrowed a couple of our chairs from green room for their AGM and have returned them. Said they were just right!
- g. **Request from New West Arts Council asking Vags to host a community event** - The ACNW has partnered with the New West Hospice Society and the New Media Gallery on an arts-based community development project. They asked Vags to host the presentation of a video/film to the community sometime in March. NW Hospice VP is Vags members Wendy Johnson, husband Karl is one of our builders. The board approved. For info: <https://artscouncilnew-west.org/compassionproject/>.
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Someone to volunteer as liaison and HM for event.
 - ii. **Note:** if we approve as a Board then we need to confirm someone steps up to support prior to approval.

- h. **PechaKucha New West Organizing Committee** - will be renting the theatre for their event on Saturday Feb. 12, 2022. Organization's website is <https://www.pechakucha.com/cities/new-westminster>
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Lobby and auditorium will have to be tidied and items put away. Hook needs to be made to pull screen down. Someone to volunteer to be HM for event.

5. Treasurer's Report (Deb):

- a. Available Cash: \$71,882.97
- b. Fixed Cash: \$205,786.33
- c. Main Chequing Account Current Balance: \$41,826.92
- d. Deposited 2 GST cheques (\$668, \$120 (SFU))
- e. \$5,000 Tax Receipt (Tony Antonias)

6. Membership/Recruitment (Val):

- a. Much discussion on our lack of volunteers and how we need to recruit and retain them in all areas for Vags to be sustainable.
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Val to call for a committee in New Year to analyze and evaluate our current practices and propose possible solutions.

7. House Management Report (George/Warren/Ted):

- a) The theatre has been used by a couple of groups over the last few weeks, notably by some students from SFU working on a film project and Stage 43, who are using the shop and stage to build set pieces for their upcoming production in January.
- b) Donation from Karen Abbott - cordless hand tools including two impact drivers, a jig saw, a skill saw and a radio.
- c) The city cleaned off the back stairs and cleared a down pipe.

8. Technical Director Report (Craig):

- a. Researching lighting – ETC lights; that's what is taught in schools so might be easier to get volunteers as can enhance their education and training
- b. On-going equipment inventory

9. Costume (Val/Angie):

- a) Deb contacted City of Burnaby to see if Burnaby Village Museum could use costumes for their staff. They declined.
- b) Potentially Union Gospel Mission (UGM) might take some of the costumes.
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** Alice to contact UGM
- c) Request from Al Pattison of Fraser Valley Stage to borrow 5 or 6 nuns costumes for their spring production of Nunsense. Angie will meet Al. Will allow them to borrow on condition they are returned after being cleaned.

10. Play Reading (Matt):

- a. "The Butler Did It" – play reading committee looking at it as one option
- b. Not much response to requests, need more submissions – use Google Forms to submit any show, any genre, any time slot
- c. Link reposted on FB

- d. Options to consider include performance schedule - matinees, days, dates, times, holdover - seating, audition dates, ... - all will need to be discussed and decided during the January 2022 meeting
 - i. **ACTION ITEM:** anyone with suggestion, send to Matt or via Val
 - ii. **ACTION ITEM:** Matt to present options at January meeting

11. Social/Events (Isabel):

- Pleasant celebration – decorations, munchies, conversations - was had by all.

12. Arts Commission (Ted):

- a. Not a committee but an appointed Board; no longer community-based

13. New Business

- Discussion:
 - a) need for volunteers, outreach program, recruitment drive, different demographics, community spirit, grants, direction:
 - R&D - what's going on in other parts of the country and how they are approaching above challenges;
 - perhaps hire someone, including part-time, co-op, general admin.

ACTION ITEM: Val to put out a call in January for volunteers to join a committee to explore and address above (*Matt, Al, Suzanne volunteered*)

All Other Depts/Topics - Nothing to report.

Motion to Adjourn - By Al, 2nd by Matt, **CARRIED**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at **8:07 pm.**

Next meeting: 17 January 2022

Minutes of all meetings can be found at:

<https://www.vagabondplayers.ca/members>

The password is: bernielegge