

## Vagabond Players General Meeting

March 16, 2026

**Meeting called to order at 7:06**

**Chaired by:** Dwayne Campbell

**Recorded by:** Isabel Mendenhall

17 members present. Regrets: Val Lawlor, Samantha Hussey

Moved by Al Zylstra to waive the reading of last months meeting, and seconded by Cindy Dean. Passed.

**Correspondence:** Isabel Mendenhall -email form Luke Gallo who would like to get involved with us. He would like to help out as an acting coach or just get involved in the creative community in New West. Douglas College of Performing Arts have offered us 2 comp tickets to Concord Floral on Mar. 13-20<sup>th</sup> and Silence, Mar. 20-27<sup>th</sup>. Use promo code DCVIP to reserve.

**Treasurers Report:** Deb Tom- written report attached.

**Membership:** Val Lawlor- Currently, we have 98 members.

**Publicity:** - Val Lawlor- Posters are printed, distribution will start end of month for *Birds and Bees*. FB postings and social media by Samantha are underway. Posted on various online calendars and event sites. Patron email blast will go out at the end of the month. Cross promoting with RCMT, they will include *Birds and Bees* in their email blast to 10,000 people and we'll include their presentation of *Shrek, the Musical* in our email blast.

**Production Report:** Cindy Dean-*Moon Over Buffalo*, best production crew ever!

**House Manager:** Cindy Dean-Volunteer sign up sheet will go out next week.

Last Monday George came in to let the fire inspectors in for their regular review. The inspection report goes to the city but they told George there were no deficiencies except for a couple of 'out of date' fire extinguishers. This was corrected on Monday. There is a new requirement to have the Fire Department Connection (FDC) tested every five years. The city is contracted with Elite to do this and George is just waiting for them to arrange an appointment.

On Monday night the furnace must have started to fail as the rehearsal people noticed it was fairly cold at the end of rehearsal. Ainsworth was scheduled to come in on Monday to complete the HVAC ductwork that needed to be remediated. When the furnace was turned back on after the work was completed it briefly started up and then failed. It was determined the issue was with a valve but Ainsworth could not complete the project without approval from the city as the city is responsible for the building. Ainsworth

contacted the city to get approval but did not receive confirmation for a few days despite them and George contacting the city. Approval was finally received on Friday and the repair was made. The furnace is up and running so we did not need to cancel a number of activities that were scheduled to take place over the weekend.

A big shoutout to George who had to come into the theatre so many times last week to deal with issues. Fire inspection, furnace, calling the city for

Save On has not been able to pick up our blue recycle bin as it is contaminated with garbage. We are working with them and the city to come up with a solution.

**Motion** by Deb Tom and seconded by Ted Drabyk that we give George Edwards a \$50.00 gift card to Starbucks as a thank you for all the theatre issues he takes care of.

**Box Office:** *Moon Over Buffalo* – We sold a total of 1,134 tickets which is 70% of our seating capacity. Total box office was \$21,486 before ticketing fees. Our audience consisted of 58% Seniors, 40% Adults and 2% Students.

*Birds & Bees* – So far, we have sold 348 tickets for a total of \$6,684 before ticketing fees.

Currently 74% of those tickets are for seniors, but they are just more likely to buy early so they can get good seats near the front.

**Costumes:** We have had a number of theatres ask to borrow costumes. All borrowers have completed a form outlining the requirements for return and I will follow up with each to make sure the costumes are returned in a timely manner. It's good to build relationships with other community theatres to enable us to borrow items from each other. This saves time and money.

**Technical Report:** Scott MacDonald-Research into wireless headsets. Looking into wireless systems. The cost is around \$3,000. Wireless system we are looking at covers 1000 sq. feet, so would suit our needs. Sound is good. Six headsets, one being the base. All sets would go through the base. System comes with extra battery and a charger station. Warranty for one year. Six weeks to receive. Discussion ensued and we will check to see what some other theatres are using. Scott will move forward with this.

**Motion** by Deb Tom and seconded by Ted Drabyk that we purchase a new wireless headset for approximately 4,000.00. Passed. Scott will book a time for replacing the stage this summer with Great Northern Way.

**Stage Manager:** Al Zylstra-A successful production of *Moon Over Buffalo*. We had three new volunteers to work back stage, Frederick Popowich, James Christopherson, Peter Godman. Another volunteer, Susan Jeffrey, helped fill in on a few performances where stage crew were not available. The crew were great. We had a new lighting person, Hailey Gil who Miles recruited. We also had the privilege of getting Manon Ducos as our sound tech and booth operator. She was able to produce the sounds that Miles needed to make the show work effectively. We had to secure a Personal Arms License which I (Al) got, so we can now use for any other productions where a firearm is required to be used. Production

has begun on *The Birds and the Bees*. Rehearsals seem to be proceeding well. Frederick is our stage manager and has been attending rehearsals and will be working with Sam to keep the process going.

**Play Reading:** Deb Tom- Written report attached. *Clue* will be our number one choice, but if we don't get the rights, number two is *Murder to Death*, both directed by Dwayne Campbell. For spring and festival entry, we reviewed two choices. First is *Time Piece*, directed by Dale Kelly, and second *Some Day*, directed by Samantha Hussey. We will put this forward to the membership in April.

**New Business:** 50/50 will now have its own float of \$15. It was brought up to have cup holders on the seats. Discussion ensued on how to put them on our seats and how costly they would be. Also, who would be cleaning them out each night? Cindy will look into it.

**Motion** by Ted Drabyk and seconded by Jason Harris to adjourn at 7:59.

Minutes can be found on our website at [www.vagabondplayers.ca/members](http://www.vagabondplayers.ca/members)  
Password is bernielegge