

Vagabond Players General Meeting

September 22, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm 18 members present

Chaired by: Dwayne Campbell

Recorded by: Isabel Mendenhall

Motion to waive the reading of the minutes

Correspondence: Isabel M. Elks Club would like us to donate some tickets for a future performance for their Xmas raffle. Contact Sandy Hemsley 778-887-1225 Address: Elks Club 680 Clarkson St. New West. V3M1A8 **Motion** by Val Lawlor to donate two sets of tickets for *Moon Over Buffalo* to the Elks Club Christmas raffle. Seconded by Al Zylstra. Passed.

Jordan Mindbender, a magician/mentalists, would like to bring "The Experience" to our venue in 2026. Call him at 647-780-9901 to see if we can make it happen. I will ask him to fill in our form so we know a bit more about what he's looking for.

Cynthia Rose or Ely want to rent our space for three days for a Canadian LGBTQ + Indie feature film titled "The Way You Dance". Would like an estimate including the use of a tech. Will pass this on to Craig Premack. We need more info to formalize.

Treasurer: Deb Tom - Written report submitted - Total assets in Prospera = 385,823.29

Production Report: Dwayne Campbell - Not much to report. Shows are doing well. The audiences seem to love it and the cast is having a great time.

Membership: Val Lawlor – We have 63 current members including 6 lifetime members. Some of our regular volunteers still need to renew if they plan to continue to participate.

Publicity: Val Lawlor – *Making A Killing* marketing will consist of some FB posts plus Samantha's stories on FB and IG. Posters are printed for *Maltese Reindeer* and will be distributed at the end of October. Samatha will start her social media Oct. 5. Val will list the show on online calendars and websites during October. Val and Samantha are working together so as to not overlap posts.

We were contacted by the Arts Council of Surrey & Newton Cultural Centre, asking for submissions for their November edition of their Spotlight on the Arts magazine. I will continue to send our show information to them for our other shows which will be great exposure in their market.

House Manager Report: Cindy Dean – We have a large number of dedicated volunteers to run the front of house, and we continue to add new volunteers on a regular basis. All are welcome to join our fun volunteer team – just look for the link to the signup sheet on our

website. Volunteering for *Making a Killing* is complete with the exception of two positions on October 4th. The volunteer signup sheet for *The Maltese Reindeer* will be posted the last week of October.

Prop room has been tidied but we still need to do a purge this year. It would be helpful if we could have wider shelving in the back of the room as current shelving is very narrow. Suggestion made to host another orientation so more people could learn how to work FOH.
* A reminder to props people to put away all props in their proper place. **Do Not** leave them in a pile on the prop room tables or in a box on the floor.

Box Office: Box office results for the previous year: *Ladies Foursome*, 70% capacity, *The Revolutionists*, 56% capacity, *A Nice Indian Boy*, 85% capacity, *Tick Tick Boom*, 68% capacity, *Mauritius*, 55% capacity. *Making A Killing* is at 45%, but we're only a third way through. *Maltese Reindeer* has already sold 8% before we have advertised.

Technical Director Report: Scott MacDonald – Not much to report. Was here for all the technical rehearsals for *Making A Killing*, and everything seems to be working. Can't fix a problem if it doesn't show up when I'm here. Sounded like the sound problem was a power cable.

Stage Manager: Al Zylstra – *Ladies Foursome* was a great success. Technically, it was a very easy show to put on. Miles Lavlucich, our director, was able to secure astroturf for the golf course and recruited Zuzanna Liniewski to help design the sound and lighting. Miles was also able to secure a couple of additional projectors for the background scenery. Running the show was easy as there were only image cues to be changed and lights at the end of each act. Ran smoothly with very little technical issues. *Making a Killing* opened last week and the Saturday opening gala was well attended. We have a very well laid out set. Congratulations to the construction crew, set designers, set deco crew and props for making a great set. The show runs quick and the cast are very well suited for their roles. Kudos to first time director, Ryan Johnson, for assembling a talented cast. As I was not able to assist /mentor our stage manager due to illness, Cheryl Minns did an incredible job and everyone should congratulate her on a job well done. *The Maltese Reindeer* have just begun their rehearsals. We have another new Stage Manager – Cassidy Flyman. I have met with her a couple of times and we have been discussing protocols and procedures for the Stage Manager. She appears to have everything well in hand. Should she require further assistance, I will make myself available. *Moon Over Buffalo* auditions are scheduled for November.

Play Reading: Deb Tom – Written report submitted. I have my committee. It consists of former play reading members and new people as well. We want to provide opportunities for people to move beyond their normal volunteering at our club. Our first meeting will be at

noon on Saturday, Sept. 27th, where we will be reviewing our policy with Dwayne Campbell, who has been working very hard on updates. We will look at the schedule and discuss it. We will ask Dwayne to speak on his submission of *Murder To Death* and his last year's submission of *Murder Inn*, and we will be reading *Murder To Death*. It will be a long meeting. Did a report about audience attendance view that went back to 2018 and up to Ladies Foursome and it ranked audience attendance including the year it was written, to give us an idea if more modern plays were better received. The Marvelous Wonderettes kicked ass. There's nothing that could even touch it. It was at Christmas. It was a musical. 1719. Rumors came in at 1476, Haunting of Hillhouse came in at 1436, and Laughter at 1427. Obviously, Neil Simon sells. A Nice Indian Boy ranked number 5 at 1391. It's interesting that all the dramas ranked at the bottom. This just shows us that the audience gravitates toward comedy. That's why we have always done a thriller, comedy, musical, and drama.

We are obligated to read 15 shows but we have more than that. Cutoff for submissions is Sept 30th. We are still working on the submissions. There will be diversity, and there will be inclusion. Val will put out one more blast for play submissions.

Old Business: none discussed

New Business: none discussed

Motion by Daryl Lynn Olding and seconded by Al Zylstra to adjourn at 8:09. Passed

Next General Meeting will be October 20, 2025 at 7:00pm

***Minutes of all meetings can be found at <https://www.vagabondplayers.ca/members>**

Password is bernielegge