

Vagabond Players Executive Meeting

October 16, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:08

Regrets: Val Lawlor, Samantha Hussey

Meeting Chaired by: Dwayne Campbell

Recorded by: Isabel Mendenhall

Motion by Deb Tom and seconded by Al Zylstra to waive the reading of last executive meeting minutes. **Passed**

Treasurer report: Deb Tom - Written report submitted and attached.

Checking acct.\$10,7813.97, Plan 24, \$33,4258, gaming \$5,106.50, term deposits,\$156,000. Discussion on our internet connection for the printer and possibly another booster for the basement. Rezoning documentation has been submitted for rezoning of our building. We now wait for the City as they are the owners of the building. Need Samantha's personal history. We should have our liquor license by 2026.

Production: Dwayne Campbell- Dwayne had a production meeting for *Maltese Reindeer*. Making progress. We need two projectors but only have one. Miles will make another projector available for us for backup. The audience seemed to enjoy *Making a Killing*, but it was supposed to be a thriller and not a comedy. We need to include in the director's contract that extra costs must be approved by the production manager before purchasing.

Membership: Val Lawlor: 70 members, but not up to date as I am out of town.

Publicity: Sales going great for *Maltese Reindeer*. Sat. matinee is filling up almost as much as Sunday's. Posters will go out starting Oct. 25. Posting on online calendar will start this week. Patron email will go out next week. Samantha Hussey started great Instagram posts and is getting great traffic. Discussion on who will organize the meals between the Saturday shows, as there are two shows on Saturday. Al will talk to Stage Manager Cassidy about arranging that. Al would like to send a press release to the Chamber of Commerce and offer them a slight discount to see how effective they will be for us. **Motion** by Al Zylstra and seconded by Scott MacDonald to give the Chamber of Commerce a 1.00 per ticket discount or our group rate in order to see if it's worth our while to stay on as a member. **Passed** The cost is 250.00 a year for their membership.

House Manager: Cindy Dean - FRONT OF HOUSE

Process I understand that my process for signing up volunteers has come into question, the issue being that it may exclude new volunteers. I want to assure you that this is not the case. I first send out the link to all volunteers that have worked front of house for the last 4 shows. This number is approximately 50 and includes any new volunteers who signed up during the last show. This ensures that I get as many fully trained volunteers as possible. The link to the volunteer sheet is then posted to the general membership the following week. I can assure you that there are still dozens of volunteer opportunities when the link goes out to the membership. Additionally, any new members that are interested in volunteering are welcome to shadow any of the volunteers.

Update The volunteer sheet for *The Maltese Reindeer* was sent out to regular volunteers today (October 16th). We are still having trouble finding volunteers for Front of House Manager. Board members are encouraged to volunteer for this position. As most of the 'chores' take place well before the show, this position could be combined with one of the other volunteer positions.

BOX OFFICE: *The Maltese Reindeer* Tickets are selling well and we have already sold 434 of a possible 1,890 tickets which puts us at 23% capacity. The first Sunday already has 98 tickets sold which is 73% capacity. Dollar value of tickets is \$8,610. *Moon Over Buffalo* Tickets will go on sale the day *The Maltese Reindeer* opens.

Season Tickets: From time to time we do get questions about whether or not we have season tickets. My concern with offering season tickets would be the amount of additional work it would take to set up and then to make changes as the season progresses.

Technical Director: Scott MacDonald – Omar will do lighting design for MR as long as Scott mentors. Cassidy, the stage manager is a bit overwhelmed about the projectors. Right now, the projector is not showing the proper size we need to project on the back wall. Otherwise, things seem to be going well. We will be looking for a sound person, as Scott does not want to do it. Isabel will ask Manon Ducos.

Stage Manager: Al Zylstra - Cassidy is doing a great job. Will be taping out the stage on Sunday at 11:00am. Will talk to Cassidy about the projections as well. Auditions for *Moon Over Buffalo* will be set up for next month. Scott has added three days for tech rehearsal in Nov. Monday, Wed., Friday and a dry tech on Sat.

Playreading Committee: Deb Tom – We have had two meetings and have read Dwayne’s submissions *Murder Inn* and *Murder by Death*. At our Oct 11 meeting we read *Things My Mother Taught* me and ran through Red Rock Diner, a musical. As it was all songs, not much point in reading the script, but we all thought it would do well for us. We have had no submissions for the Xmas slot and we have no musical directors. Trying to get a copy of *Now And Then*. Doug Perry informed us of the TBC 2027 requirements. The playwrights must represent the global majority. (Playwrights who are of a different ethnicity other than white.) We do have four dramas that fit that requirement. It is just the writer and not the actors who have to fit the requirement. We can discuss whether or not we want to partake in TBC at our GM. Deb contacted Concord Theatre to try and get a copy of *Snoopy, the Musical*, and was told that you can no longer purchase a script or pdf unless you purchase the licensing. We can purchase a digital perusal copy that can be shared on the Concord viewing site, but not everyone on the playreading committee has a tablet or computer. Playscript is now owned by Concord but we got in through a back door and I have ordered the script *Now And Then*. The total cost will be 108.43, so we hope it’s worth reading. We have a Dale Kelly thriller and two scripts from Denise Brookson. For Christmas, we have Red Rock Diner which we can get at just 12% at the door, It’s local and everyone seemed to be keen on it. We talked about Charlie Brown and Snoopy, but the price of royalties is 12,064.00 to get the Snoopy script, plus we don’t have any artistic directors or musical directors. Snow White’s Christmas which is a Christmas comedy with music by Norm Foster has been ordered. *Christmas on the Air* we will read as well. Jada Grant submitted the musical 25th Annual Putman County Spelling Bee, but she’s not available until 2027. The plays that have been suggested but have no directors are being put at the bottom of the pile. Do we want to host the TBC festival? Do we want to do One Acts or put in a co-pro? One acts would have to be two plays in an evening. We are having problems by waiting too long to make our decisions on our season so it may be better to split up the season.

Motion by Deb Tom and seconded Al Zylstra that the fall and Christmas shows of our 2026/27 season be presented to membership by January, and the winter and spring shows be presented by April 2026, with the option of a summer production. **Passed**

Old Business: We are looking for nominations for the Cleo Awards. If you know of someone who you feel deserves recognition, let Dwayne know.

We need a fire arms permit for *Moon Over Buffalo*. **Motion** by Deb Tom and seconded by Scott MacDonald that Vagabond Players pay for a PAL License that Al Zylstra will acquire for *Moon Over Buffalo*. **Passed**

Rental Rates: New rental rates have been discussed and written up for approval. This is required in our lease agreement with the City. Discussed rates and staff fees. Heritage Society and any other groups we have rented to in the past will be grandfathered in to this new rate. Dwayne will make the changes that we have discussed and send out the updated copy. **Motion** by Al Zylstra and seconded by Scott MacDonald that we accept the changes Dwayne Campbell has made to the rental rates and that we send a copy to the City as an addendum with our lease agreement. **Passed.** Deb will make sure our rental rates and group names are legally correct for the City.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29pm