



**CITY OF KINGSTON
GRAND THEATRE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING NO. 01-2012
MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2011
6:00 P.M. GRAND THEATRE, 218 PRINCESS STREET**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Jim Neill
Eva Barnes
Kathy Burke
Gavin Cosgrove
Lyle Merriam
Brian Osborne, Chair
Patricia Sullivan
Danielle van Dreunen
Patrick Vecchio
Nick Waterfield
Robert Wood

STAFF PRESENT

Ms. Jannette Amini, Committee Clerk
Ms. Elizabeth Cashman, Administrative
Assistant, Cultural Services
Mr. Brian McCurdy, Director of Cultural
Services
Mr. Colin Wiginton, Manager, Cultural
Services
Ms. Dianne Zemba, Manager, Grand
Theatre

OTHERS PRESENT

REGRETS

Linda Ann Daly
Walter Fenlon
John Lazarus
Ian Malcolm

THIS IS NOT A VERBATIM REPORT

MEETING TO ORDER

Ms. Amini called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair

Ms. Amini requested nominations for the Chair.

Moved by Mr. Vecchio
Seconded by Ms. Barnes

THAT Mr. Brian Osborne be nominated Chair of the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board for 2012.

CARRIED

There being no further nominations for the position of Chair, Mr. Osborne accepted the nomination and was elected Chair of the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board.

Vice-Chair

Mr. Osborne assumed the Chair and requested nominations for Vice-Chair.

Moved by Mr. Vecchio

Seconded by Ms. Barnes

THAT Mr. Nick Waterfield be nominated Vice-Chair of the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board for 2012.

CARRIED

There being no further nominations for the position of Vice-Chair, Mr. Waterfield accepted the nomination and was elected Vice-Chair of the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Moved by Ms. van Dreunen

Seconded by Mr. Waterfield

THAT the agenda for the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board meeting held December 19th, 2011 be amended to include Bar Services under Directors Report and an update on the Red Carpet Gala and as amended be confirmed.

CARRIED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by Ms. Barnes

Seconded by Ms. van Dreunen

THAT the minutes of the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board meeting No. 08-2011 held Monday, October 17th, 2011 be amended as follows:

- Page 2, 3rd paragraph, 3rd sentence, add the words, “which had a strong response” after the word “Groupon”; and
- Page 4, 4th paragraph, last sentence, replace “programming is structured” with “is programming-structured”; and
- Page 4, item c), 2nd paragraph, replace the word “chartered” with the word “focused”; and as amended be confirmed.

CARRIED

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None was declared.

DELEGATIONS

There were none.

BUSINESS

a) DIRECTORS REPORT

i) 2010/11 Annual Report

Mr. McCurdy provided members of the Board with a copy of the 2010/2011 City of Kingston Cultural Services Season Report. A copy is attached to the record in the Clerk's Office.

To Councillor Neill's question of if ticket sales revenue covers the Grand Theatres Operating budget, Mr. McCurdy noted a lot of the ticket sales revenue goes back to groups that use the theatre. To Mr. Vecchio's question of how much stays with the Grand Theatre, Mr. McCurdy noted the Grand Theatre is an entity. The Grand Theatre Presents is part of the Cultural Services Department and pays rent to the Grand Theatre like any other user group. The Grand Theatre does receive user charges on ticket sales and those who use the Theatre for services such as technical services so the box office does break even. He did note without the City support, rental rates would increase between 3 and 4 times what is currently charged.

ii) 2012/13 Season Program

Mr. McCurdy provided an overview of the preliminary season for 2012/2013.

Members expressed disappointment in the fact that the local paper does not provide reviews of what is being presented at the Grand Theatre. Mr. McCurdy noted the K-Rock Centre does not receive reviews either. He noted this lack of reviews by the local newspaper is not unique to Kingston. Councillor Neill noted the EMC or Kingston this Week would pick up articles and questioned if a Queen's student could write a review on behalf of the City for submission in exchange for a free ticket to a performance.

Mr. Waterfield questioned the possibility of a news letter put out by the Grand Theatre that could be delivered to large employers for distribution to their employees. Mr. McCurdy questioned if it is more viable to do online advertising or do people still want something in their hand.

Ms. Burke asked if there is an opportunity to collaborate with the arts community to come up with something. Mr. Wood suggested local community insights and proposals for action could be a topic for the next meeting.

The Committee discussed its advisory role with respect to programming. It was noted the Committees role is to provide overall strategic direction and not to advise on individual programs.

iii) Potential Partnerships with Theatre Kingston

Mr. McCurdy noted a possible partnership with Theatre Kingston for the 2012/2013 season.

iv) Bar Services

Ms. Zemba noted the bar service which was previously contracted out is now being done in house and will be taken over by the new Front of House Coordinator. This involves hiring part time bar tenders and students. The Grand Theatre currently has a liquor license to permit alcohol anywhere in the building. Ms. Zemba also noted staff will also be handling all catering and will involve issuing expressions of interest to numerous local establishments. Previously, catering was contracted out through one local establishment and by now having numerous establishments available to chose from, it will enable the Grand Theatre to open up to additional uses such as weddings.

b) BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

- i) Further Discussions on Ticket Sales for 2011/2012
This item was deferred to the next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Red Carpet Gala

Ms. Burke noted the Red Carpet Gala will take place on Sunday, February 26th. The event will include being dropped off at the entrance by limousine, having your photo taken when you arrive and being interviewed. There will be a reception gala in the main lobby followed by a performance by the Performing Arts students at St. Lawrence College Brockville and then the Red Carpet Gala Award presented by the Grand Theatre Community Foundation to someone in the community recognizing their contribution to the Foundation. After that the Oscar Awards will be broadcast in the Rosen Theatre as well as different themed parties in the various rooms.

Ms. Burke noted the Teaser Advertisements have gone out as well as the first round of invitations. This year discounted student rates and group rates are being offered with the focus of getting youth into the theatre. Last year's Red Carpet Gala raised \$20,000 and this year's goal is \$22,000.

Mr. Osborne noted in previous years someone from the Board was invited to provide advice on the recipient of the Gala Award and asked if this will also be done this year. Ms. Burke will look into this.

LINKS

- i. To follow the Grand Theatre on Twitter: www.twitter.com/Kingston_Grand
ii. To follow the Grand Theatre on Facebook: www.facebook.com/kingstongrandtheatre

- iii. For information updates, or to subscribe to the Grand Theatre newsletter:
www.kingstongrand.ca

CORRESPONDENCE / DOCUMENTS

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 16th, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Davies Lounge of the Grand Theatre.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Vecchio
Seconded by Ms. Burke

THAT the Grand Theatre Community Advisory Board meeting now be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

