

Aron Theatre Co-operative Inc.
First Annual General Meeting

Minutes

Sunday, September 18, 2011 (2:00 to 3:00 p.m.)

Location: Aron Theatre, 54 Bridge Street East, Campbellford, Ontario

In Attendance: 25 members present, thereby meeting the bylaw quorum requirement (20 members).

Board Members Present: Russ Christianson (President), Howard Herscovici (Secretary), Debbie Nightingale, Rosemarie Milne Woadden

Recording Secretary: Kathy Smit

1. **Member Registration**

Co-op Members signed in and were provided meeting materials, name tag and voting card.

2. **Welcome and Call to Order**

Russ Christianson welcomed Co-op members and interested members of the public. Russ reviewed the Proposed Agenda and asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion to approve: Paul Stewart

Second: Richard Goldthorp

Vote: Unanimous

3. **President's Report** (see attached report for full details)

Russ Christianson reviewed the co-op's vision, mission, purpose and values. He outlined the co-ops vision for the future, and the positive impact of keeping the theatre open in a small rural community.

Financial Results (please review the attached handout provided at the meeting).

Achievements:

- Membership has doubled and we will continue to increase membership and active volunteers.
- Secured a grant and assistance from the Municipality of Trent Hills for façade improvements.
- Social networks continue to grow, with a website and Facebook page.

Board Members were introduced and thanked for their efforts to save the Aron, as well as the Imperial family, staff and volunteers.

The Future: Double membership to 1,000 and support and encourage members to organize theme nights, etc.

Questions: There were no questions regarding President's Report

Motion to approve President's Report: Howard Herscovici

Second: Doug Harpur

Vote: Unanimous

4. **Election of Directors**

Motion approving Board's recommendation of Heidi Schaeffer as Election Chair: Richard Goldthorp

Second: Kira Mees

Vote: Unanimous

- a) Heidi reviewed responsibilities of Directors and indicated that because it is the co-op's first AGM, all seven board positions are open.

Four existing Board members put forth their desire to return and three new nominations for Board members were accepted from the Nomination Committee. Heidi called (three times) for nominations from the floor, and none were received.

Introduction of each nominee and what they hope to bring to the Board:

- 1) Mark White – interest in theatre and marketing
- 2) Jim Orr – wants to keep theatre open, cultural centre
- 3) Debbie Nightingale – see theatre fixed up, help with marketing, promotion
- 4) Howard Herscovici– different films, TIFF, special film weekends
- 5) Rosemary Milne Woadden – volunteer, active member returning to Board
- 6) Dagmar Christianson – youth representation
- 7) Russ Christianson – continue to revitalize the theatre and revenue sources

Motion to cease nominations and accept acclaimed nominees: Bette Harpur

Second: Kira Mees

Vote: Unanimous

Congratulations offered to the acclaimed Board Members.

5. Bylaws

The current bylaws were reviewed and Russ Christianson suggested the following amendments:

- a) Page 2; Section 2.1 *Qualifications for Membership* – last line to be deleted “No services shall be provided...”
- b) Page 4 Section 3.4 “Shareholders” should read “bondholders”
- c) Page 4 Section 3.7 “Family membership \$40 is a nuclear family – 2 votes only. Must be two different people within the family” i.e. Two family members from nuclear family who hold Aron family membership have 1 vote each representing that family.
- d) Page 5 Section 4.3 Terms of Board – add 2 year and 1 year position
- e) Page 6 Notice of meetings – “can also happen by email”
- f) Page 10 Year end was October 31 originally from Paul Imperial. “Our year end is yet to be determined”
- g) Page 11 Auditors – instead of contracting a Chartered Account, Russ Christianson is recommending that the co-op members appoint an Internal Audit Committee (as a sub-committee of the Finance Committee) to save costs. Mark Higgins agreed to review books. Pam Moran is the Aron Bookkeeper.

Question was brought forth who was on the existing Finance Committee. Russ stated himself, Martha Murphy, and Earl St Jean.

Motion put forward approving changes in existing Bylaws: Debbie Nightingale

Second: Rosemarie Milne Woadden.

Vote: Unanimous

Motion approving Internal Audit Committee: Heidi Schaffer

Second: Mark White

Vote: Unanimous

6. Volunteer Pledge Forms

Russ encouraged all in attendance to volunteer and pledge time or skills to help with revitalization of theatre. Without volunteer members learning skills (like volunteer projectionists) or providing labour when renovations start, the theatre will not be successful.

Names of volunteers were forwarded to Kathy Smit to add to the master membership list.

7. Final Comments & Adjourn

All members in attendance were encouraged to involve themselves with the Co-operative and get other community members involved.

Russ was asked about his role as President. He stated that he is a volunteer.

There were no further announcements other than an invitation to stay for the free movie “Mrs. Doubtfire.”

The meeting was adjourned by Russ Christianson at approximately 3 pm.