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Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting

Saturday, September 29, 2012

54 Bridge Street East, Campbellford, Ontario

Chair: Russ Christianson, President

Election Chair: Martha Murphy, Executive Director, Campbellford Seymour Community Foundation

Recording Secretary: Debbie Nightingale, Vice President

Co-operative Members Registered: Joan Sheppard, Rose Marie Milne-Woadden, Sandy Pinkerton, Doug Harpur, Bette Harpur, Shain Jaffe, Debbie Nightingale, Pamela Moran, Judy and Ron Retallick, Angie Nestoruk, Janice Mirabelli, Randall Head, Normande Lacoursiere, Tom Dafoe, Kathy Dafoe, Mark White, Keith Davis, Russell Christianson, Heidi Schaeffer, Ray Cousineau, Martha Murphy, Schelle Holmes, Freeman Holmes, Earl St.-Jean, Alan Appleby, Mike Anderson, Sheila Holmes

Note: The bylaws require a quorum of twenty (20) members at the AGM; attendees included twenty-eight (28) members, and some members of the public. Bob and Darlene Schroen from the Regent Theatre in Picton were special guests.

Russ Christianson welcomed everyone to the meeting and it was called to order at 7:06 p.m. Russ brought people's attention to the Proposed Agenda (copies were provided at the member registration desk) and it was approved.

Board members who have served over the past year (since the first AGM on September 18, 2012) were introduced or mentioned, including: Russ Christianson (President), Mark White (Secretary), Debbie Nightingale (Vice President), Jim Orr, Rosemary Milne-Woadden, Keith Davis, Randall Head, Howard Herscovici, and Dagmar Christianson.

Motion: Keith Davis moved that we approve the minutes from the 2011 AGM. Sandy Pinkerton seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion: Russ Christianson moved that Martha Murphy Chair the election process. Seconded by Heidi Schaeffer and approved unanimously.

Russ presented his President's Report (attached) reviewing the Aron Theatre Co-operative's accomplishments over the past twelve months. The most impressive accomplishment was aptly summarized by Russ when he said, "We're still open!"

As part of the President's Report, Russ summarized the financial results of the past two fiscal years.

Motion: Janice Mirabelli moved that we accept the financial report with no changes. Normande Lacousiere seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the plan for the replacement of the old seats. Randall Head, the lead organizer for the seat replacement, noted that the number of seats will be reduced from the current 178 to approximately 150. However, access to those seats will be much easier and there will be wheelchair access. Russ said that a 'sold out' show is usually around 150 people so that although we'd love to accommodate more, having a reduced number seats should be fine.

Rosemary Milne-Woadden noted that in the advertising she had seen for the Municipality of Trent Hills, where the town's important events and destinations are listed, the Aron is rarely mentioned. Russ asked Rosemary if she would please speak with Lynn Phillips, Community Development Officer for Trent Hills, to make sure that the Aron is included.

Motion: Doug Harpur moved that we approve the President's Report. Pam Moran seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Martha Murphy reviewed the responsibilities of Board members and the election process, indicating that there are four vacant positions to be filled. The Nominating Committee provided the names of three members who are willing to stand for nomination: Kirsten Ingram, Jim Orr, and Earl St. Jean. Martha Murphy called for nominations from the floor and Schelle Holmes nominated Joan Sheppard, who accepted the nomination. Martha Murphy called two more times for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Motion: Mark White made a motion to cease nominations. This was seconded by Sandy Pinkerton and was unanimously approved.

Martha invited the two nominees present (Earl St. Jean and Joan Sheppard) to say a few words regarding their plans for contributing to the Aron Board of Directors.

Because there were four nominees for four open Board positions, the nominees were acclaimed, and the election ballots were destroyed.

Russ presented the financial statements for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2011 (attached) and noted that we are currently close to breaking even. Russ thanked Mark Higgins (our volunteer accountant) for reviewing and filing the financial statements with Canada Revenue Agency. Mark's work, together with the Internal Audit Committee, saved an estimated three to four thousand dollars that a chartered accounting firm would cost.

Motion: Alan Stilwell moved that we accept the financial statements, as well as having Mark Higgins continue with the Internal Audit Committee until the Aron has more financial resources to hire an Auditor. Rosemary Milne-Woadden seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Randall Head took the floor and applauded the great work that Russ Christianson has done in spearheading an incredible year at the Aron. Shain seconded. ☺

The Chair, Russ Christianson, adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.