

# Community Players Monthly Meeting Agenda for September 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Call to Order

Approval of the Minutes

Treasurer's Report

President's Report

## **Committee Reports**

Facilities Management	Ken Johnson
Building	Joe Benamati
Grants	Matt Bogdan
Membership	Melissa Dasher
Hospitality	Rusty Mumford
Social Media	Kate Adkins
Season Tickets	Darrell Mullins & Rusty Mumford
Box Office	Darrell Mullins & Rusty Mumford
Patrons	Kel Nagel
Historical	Bonnie Bosies
Concessions	Brenda Allen
Program	Tom Robinson
Program Advertising	Tom Robinson
Publicity	Debby Nagel
Nominating	Sharon Benchoff
House	Betsy Metzger
Production	Matt Bogdan
Scholarship	Lynne Bratten
Lifetime Achievement Awards	Pete Cuesta

## **Old Business**

*Paths to Freedom*

*Edgar Allen Poe*

*Pippin*

Anniversary Dinner Final Update

Farmers Bank Loan

Parking Lot

Other

## **New Business**

Next Meeting – October 4

Other

## CPOS Committee Reports for September 2023 Meeting

### Facilities Management, Ken Johnson:

- Floors completed in Main room
- Electrical work is finished in the Warehouse.
- Goal was to get warehouse back in shape before Pippin Construction started. Didn't happen.
- Clean Up got put at a stand still due to moving things for the electricians. Plans are to work on it during Labor Day. Will update at meeting.
- Cleaning Crew has begun working on monthly clean up. Great job so far. Might need to consider bumping that up to twice a month with rehearsals starting.
- Faucet in Kitchen needs to be replaced. Sammie Barnes and I are working on it. Hopefully fixed before meeting.
- While warehouse is in disarray – would like to get a dumpster for a week and do a purge of some of the larger pieces in the back. Specifically furniture and broken/non-working tools. Will look into prices before meeting.

### Building, Joe Benamati: TBA

### Grants, Matt Bogdan:

Applied for grant for \$2500 from Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore (CFES) so that we can purchase six microphones.

2. Received update on the Maryland State Arts Council on August 21 regarding Maryland Arts Capital Grant Program.

A. Annual appropriation of \$3 million for five years, beginning in 2024 and ending in 2029.

B. We can continue to seek other MSAC grants while applying for this capital grant.

C. Not more than \$1 million per organization with a single fiscal year.

D. Presently MSAC is in the listening/research phase, which ends Sept. 2023

E. The drafting and editing program guidelines will occur between Sept. 2023 and Dec. 2023.

F. Guidelines will be published in January 2024.

G. Applications will occur between February and March 2024.

H. Notification of grant award will occur in June 2024.

I. The types of capital projects/expenses must have at least a 15-year life span, which may include property acquisition, design costs, new construction, and demolition, renovation, and rehabilitation of existing facilities.

J. We will need to provide the following: Project plan and budget; Description of the geographic

area or neighborhood where the project will be located; Letter of support from the local governing body representing the areas where the project is located; Letter of support from a State Senator or Delegate representing the area where the project is located; and Organizational documents.

3. In order to apply for the above grant, as well as others, I need a list of renovations we want to make, how much each renovation will be, and when will the renovation occur. Therefore, I developed a form that indicates each of these items and sent to board members and other interested parties.

4. Wrote letter of inquiry to Pepsi Cola Ventures.

5. Wrote letter of inquiry to Coca-Cola Foundation.

6. Wrote a letter of inquiry to Chesapeake Gateways.

7. Wrote a letter of inquiry to Henson Foundation. In the reply to my request, Stacey McMichael, executive director, mentioned that she had already spoken to Kel. She asked if we had a design, general contractor and budget for our project. She also made it clear that Henson Foundation requires all work to be completed by licensed individuals and the appropriate permits be acquired, if the Henson Foundation were to provide any funding to this project.

8. Began application for a grant from the Perdue Foundation. We need a Perdue associate to support us in the cause. Does anyone know of a Perdue associate who will endorse our grant request? If so, then I can move forward with the application. This is worth pursuing since their average grant is \$10K.

9. Told by someone at the Guerreri Foundation that they do not give grants (which I found to be odd).

10. Wrote a letter of inquiry to Mountaire Farms.

11. Attended Outcomes Thinking - The Metrics that Matter! workshop at CFES on August 23. Focus was on grant writing tips.

12. Signed up for grant writing class at Wor-Wic, starting on 9/13.

13. Began application for a grant from Choptank Electric Trust, Inc. Two estimates are needed directly related to the request.

14. Wrote a letter of inquiry for a grant from American Theater Wing.

15. Wrote a letter of inquiry for a grant from the Chisholm Foundation.

Membership, Melissa Dasher:

Our 2023-2024 season officially began September 1<sup>st</sup>. Our Constitution states that due “shall be considered delinquent if not paid by October 31.” Board members, committee chairmen and committee members in particular should take note of this “grace period” and aim to turn in their membership form and dues asap.

Pete and Kate have been encouraged to forward an e-mail out to the cast & crew of *Pippin* to let new folks know of the offer to waive the membership fee for 1<sup>st</sup> time members.

Hospitality, Rusty Mumford: TBA

Social Media, Kate Adkins:

Our post about the cast list for Pippin reached 4,000 people. That is not our usual often we don't even reach 1,000 people. The more interaction the more people can attract. I am still learning the intricacies of the best times to post for interactions and how those interactions effect our “people reached”.

Season Tickets, Rusty Mumford and Darrell Mullins

Season Ticket forms have been sent out.

Box Office, Rusty Mumford, Darrell Mullins

Reserved seating for “Pippin” has been activated and the site is visible to the public.

Patrons, Kel Nagel: Kel send the following to Patrons:

Dear Patrons,

Welcome to the 87<sup>th</sup> season of Community Players. It promises to be a very entertaining one, featuring four different style productions. We will produce the shows while continuing our efforts to transform what is currently our rehearsal room and support areas into an actual theater of our own.

First the season. We begin with “Pippin,” a rollicking musical in the style of director/choreographer Bob Fosse. Our director, Pete Cuesta and choreographer Katie Oakley promise to bring a lot of excitement to the Wi Hi stage on November 10 to 12<sup>th</sup>.

Our winter show will be the Neil Simon comedy, "Rumors," directed by Sherri Hynes. Of course, it's funny. For me, it represents the only time I have played a doctor. On stage, that is. I did play a doctor for 36 years at PRMC. This time, I expect to be in the front of the house, being an usher.

The spring show will be "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike," directed by Sharon Benchoff. This quirky dramatic comedy, or funny drama, won the 2013 Tony Award for best play.

The season will conclude with the classic Cole Porter musical, "Kiss Me Kate," directed by Kel Nagel. This show won the first ever Tony for best Musical in 1949. The 1999 revival won the Tony for best musical revival, while the 2019 revival was Tony nominated but did not win. "Kate" will play at Wi Hi from June 21 to 23.

Regarding the building project, we are still in the planning phase, and have not started formal fundraising yet. We have received a few large gifts so far, totaling \$100,000. We have also raised some money with special productions, raffles, etc. If you wish to donate now, please let me know, otherwise we will ask you later.

We have enclosed a membership form for the coming year. Please fill out the Patron portion and include your check. All patron donations go to our operating budget, which includes production costs and the costs of doing business. Any building fund donations go to a separate account. Please remember that your patron donations help keep our ticket prices as affordable as possible.

Regarding the special productions, I would encourage everyone to attend, although admission is not covered by your patron donation, which includes tickets to the main stage shows. I especially want to note Matt Bogdan's production of "Paths to Freedom, The Underground Railroad on Maryland's Eastern Shore and Uncle Tom's Cabin." Matt wrote an original narration of Underground Railroad history and edited excerpts from Harriet Beecher Stow's Uncle Tom's Cabin. The script is excellent, and we are pleased to have several new actors join in the production. The show will be presented at various locations. Please go to [www.sbyplayers.org](http://www.sbyplayers.org) for the schedule.

Thank you again for your support of Community Players. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

Kel Nagel, Patron Chairman 410-726-0670 [kelnagel@yahoo.com](mailto:kelnagel@yahoo.com)

Historical, Bonnie Bosies: TBA

Concessions, Brenda Allen: TBA

Program, Tom Robinson: TBA

Program Advertising, Tom Robinson: Letters have been sent to all last year's advertisers and to perspective advertisers. If you know of a possible advertiser please let me know and I will send them the information

Publicity, Debby Nagel: TBA

Nominating, Sharon Benchoff: Nothing to Report

House, Betsy Metzger:

Comments/Questions about how the "reserved seating" is going to work:

If we selling by a specific seat, is scanning the tickets necessary? If so, why?

How do we handle latecomers? There is no need to be early if guaranteed a seat so tardy folks need to be considered and how to handle those.

What will on-line tickets look like once they are printed out?

Production, Matt Bogdan: TBA

Scholarship, Lynne Bratten: Nothing to Report

Lifetime Achievement Awards: TBA