

Community Players Monthly Meeting Agenda for April 3, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Call to Order

Approval of the Minutes

Treasurer's Report

President's Report

Committee Reports

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

Old Business

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike – Update
Harlem Renaissance – Update
Front Sign is re-installed
Bordeleau Chili Cook-Off – Final Report
Children's Summer Theatre Camp
Other

New Business

Scholarship Applications – Board Vote
Shows for 2024-25 – Board Vote
Other

Next Meeting – May 1 at 7:00 PM

Committee Reports for March 2024 Meeting

Facilities Management: TBA

Fundraising: Matt Bogdan reported as follows:

1. Movie Night was held on March 16. Although attendance was low, the audience and the crew had a great time. Thanks to David Allen, Brenda Allen, Tony Broadbent, Matt Bogdan, and Bonnie Nay for their time and effort in the fundraiser.
2. Thanks go to Matt Bogdan, Bonnie Nay, David Allen, Becky Mumford, Rusty Mumford, Robin Finley and Robin's grandson Max for helping to man the gate at Bordeleau Vineyards and Winery in Eden as part of the Chili Cook-off and Spring Festival on March 30. Also, we thank Bordeleau Vineyards and Winery for allowing Players to be the beneficiary of their gate, which totaled **\$710**.
3. Volunteers are needed to help with the April fundraiser, which is a 50/50 raffle at the Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike performances on April 12-13 and April 19-20.
4. The Harlem Renaissance: A Celebration of the Arts, to held April 26-28, is also an April fundraiser. It is coordinated by Matt Bogdan and sponsored by Ernie Matthews, in memory of his wife Elizabeth. We are seeking more sponsors and program advertisers.
5. The May fundraiser will be Movie Night on May 18 with the showing of Buster Keaton's "The General." It is a silent movie that Orson Welles called "the greatest comedy ever made, the greatest Civil War film ever made, and perhaps the greatest film ever made."
6. Sharon Benchoff has agreed to run Trivia Nights throughout the summer. Dates to be determined.
7. The June fundraiser will be the Guest Bartender fundraiser on June 6 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Brew River. The group with the highest sales will receive a \$2000 grand prize. Shelbie Thompson is the coordinator. Devin Bradley La Femina will provide entertainment, and we hope to promote *Kiss Me, Kate* during this fundraiser, perhaps with some songs from the show being sung at Brew River.
8. Another June fundraiser will be the 50/50 raffle at *Kiss Me, Kate* performances.
9. The July fundraiser will not be the New Directors' One-Act Play Showcase, coordinated by Rusty Mumford. Instead, Rusty is planning a Musical Review for late July.
10. The August fundraiser will be Movie Night on August 10 with the showing of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." It is a 1939 American romantic drama starring Charles Laughton and Maureen O'Hara.
11. The September fundraiser will be an Eastern Shore Heritage Festival to be held Sept. 13-15. Matt Bogdan is the coordinator. More details to follow.
12. The October fundraiser will be the 4th annual Poe show. Performances will be at Possum Point Players on Friday, October 18, from 7-9 p.m., at Snow Hill Firehouse on Saturday, October 19, from 7-9 p.m., and Poplar Hill Mansion on Saturday, October 26, from 7 to 9 p.m. Other venues and dates to follow.
13. The November fundraiser will be Giving Tuesday, coordinated by Sharon Benchoff.

14. The December fundraiser will be the radio play *It's a Wonderful Life*.

Grants: Matt Bogdan reported as follows:

1. **I attended the check presentation at Coastal Association of Realtors (CAR). We received a grant of \$500 that is to be applied to the Children's Theater workshop to be held this summer at Players. Charlie Linton, Players' treasurer, said that we have received the \$500 from CAR.**
2. **I submitted an application** for a 2024 CTFA Aurand Harris Theatre grant of \$3000. The grant is designed to benefit the field of theatre for children & youth, to provide growth opportunities for theatre artists developing work for the young, to support the mission and values of CTFA, and honor the intentions of Aurand Harris, who is one of this nation's most published and performed playwrights for children and youth.
3. I submitted an application for a \$10,000 grant from the GEICO Philanthropic Foundation to support five fundraisers we are having in 2024.
4. I submitted an application for a \$10,000 grant from State Farm Insurance to support Eastern Shore Heritage Festival in September 2024.
5. I continued to work on the Operating Grant for SWAC, which is due June 7, as well as the final report for our current SWAC grant, which is due June 30. I will be attending the SWAC luncheon in June. **We need to submit a 1-2 minute video by May 1. Help from the board on how to go about making this video would be appreciated.**
6. In regards to the grant application I wrote for the Beach to Bay Heritage Area to secure funds for the building renovation, the local grant review committee met and did not have any revisions to the grant I submitted. Lisa Challenger, the executive director, said that the main thing they realized after I was encouraged to and submitted the application is that Players is not within the boundaries of the heritage area. She said that somehow everyone missed this. She said that she is going to double check to confirm and that this doesn't have to be a deal breaker. They just need to rectify if they can make the case that this is a heritage tourism asset. The state grants review panel will be reviewing these over the first two weeks in June. I requested \$96,753 for renovations to our building.
7. I am still waiting to hear from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore regarding the grant request of \$10,000 for renovations to our building. I was told that the notification of acceptance will take place in April.
8. I am also still waiting to hear from the Maryland State Arts Council regarding the grant request of \$222,864 for renovations to our building. I was told that the notification of acceptance will take place in April.
9. In order to apply for a grant from the Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation, we need a Perdue associate to endorse the grant request. **Is there anyone on the board or a member of Players associated with Perdue?**
10. I have been invited to speak to Wicomico Women Who Care, an organization that Lynne Bratten made me aware of, on May 16 at 5:30 p.m. at SoBo's Wine Bistro. I will be making a pitch for Players, discussing our need for funds to help renovate our building. After the pitch, each individual in attendance decides on whether or not to donate \$100 to the

organization.

11.

Membership: Melissa Dasher reported as follows:

1. We currently have 200 members for the 2023-2024 season.
2. This includes:
 - a. 185 voting memberships
 - b. 102 Patrons
 - c. 43 Family
 - d. 40 Individual
3. And 15 non-voting (students under age 18) memberships.

Hospitality: TBA

Social Media: Kate Adkins reported as follows:

1. Continuing to post on Facebook and Instagram.
2. Posts about Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Cast and Crew are going out.
3. Kiss me, Kate auditions are posted. And events created for FB.
4. Special production updates are posted.
5. Working on creating an Advertisers special series as suggested at the last meeting.

Season Tickets/Box Office:

Darrell Mullins reported that as of April 1, 230 tickets for “Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike” have been sold.

Patrons: TBA

Historical: TBA

Concessions: TBA

Program/Program Advertising: TBA

Publicity: TBA

Nominating: Sharon Benchhoff reported as follows:

1. She has received 7 nominations so far for Board positions.
2. A provisional ballot will be handed out at the May meeting prior to accepting nominations from the floor.
3. No nominations will be accepted after the close of the May meeting.
4. Reminder-all nominees must be up to date members in good standing.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Nothing to Report

House: Betsy Metzger reported as follows:

1. She is accepting any and all offers to usher, except for the April 12 show, for “Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike.”
2. She is getting some new faces and hopes they will become members.

Production: TBA

Scholarship: Lynne Bratten reported as follows:

1. We have received two scholarship applications.
2. Scholarship applications have been sent to the Board for consideration

Newsletter: Rusty Mumford reminded us that the deadline newsletter content is the 15th of the month.

Children’s Theatre Summer Workshop: Matt Bogdan reported as follows:

1. The job application and job description for the position of camp counselor are now available at the Players’ website. Deadline to submit the application is April 15.
2. The registration form to participate in the summer camp is also available at the Players’ website.
3. Deadline is June 15.
4. The next meeting is April 17 at 7 p.m.