

WASHINGTON AREA THEATRE COMMUNITY HONORS
Minutes from February 13, 2000 Board of Directors Meeting

In attendance were:

Roland Gomez, for Al Edick, Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA)
Todd Huse, Elden Street Players ~SP)
Judy Mayer, Montgomery Players (MP)
John Monnett, The Arlington Players (TAP)
Sue Pinkman, Reston Community Players ~CP)
Mary-Anne Sullivan, Castaways Repertory Theatre (CRT)
Eleanore Tapscott, Tapestry Theatre Company (TTC)
Don Wilson, Prince William Little Theatre (PWLT)

Not present: Bob Bartlett, Hard Bargain Players (HBP) and Brain Moore, Port Tobacco Players (PTP)

Meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm by board chair, John Monnett. Approval of the minutes from the November 21, 1999 and December 9, 1999 meetings were tabled until submission of those minutes at a future meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report was not available, but board members were **in** agreement that expenditures needed to be tracked. It was estimated that expenditures to date were around \$150 (postage expenses). Board members also concurred that in-kind donations (e.g., stationery, graphics supplies, etc.) from participating member companies and other groups/individuals needed to be tracked.

Adjudication Update

Don Wilson reported that all January shows had been adjudicated prior to their closings. Don noted no receipt from Ken Cavanaugh, Deloitte Touche, for Hard Bargain Player's production. Don noted that clarification was needed as to whom adjudicators should call when there is a change in judges. Don also noted that some alternates had called to make reservations for a show without verifying that they were WATCH adjudicators. After discussion, it was agreed the Adjudicator Coordinators needs to be alerted of any changes in adjudication assignments. Board members also agreed that a member company's WATCH representative could serve as an adjudicator in an emergency. Don also noted that he had not received complete contact information for some company's adjudicators and that this information be given to him as soon as possible. Don also requested that production programs be sent to him before or shortly after each production has closed.

Adjudication Ballot Issues:

Board members reported that there had been feedback regarding the adjudication ballot. Program

listings that did not match production/artistic categories on the ballot and confusion about what information to place on the overall production line were of critical concern to adjudicators. After discussion, board members agreed that the name of the production is the appropriate/correct information to place on the overall production line and not the name of individual(s) [e.g., production's producer(s)]. Board members concurred that overall production award would be addressed to the company of the winning production and that it would be up to that company to determine which individuals would accept the award.

In instances where program listings do not match ballot categories, judges would be advised to score those category elements that are visible. The committee agreed that judges should mark categories as "n/a" if specific production elements were not a component of the production.

Mary Anne Sullivan recommended that the participating groups standardize their program entries of technical components to match ballot.

Adjudication Eligibility Issues

The committee discussed the feasibility of amending the bylaws regarding eligibility of one-act evenings. Specifically, Tapestry Theatre Company's upcoming production comprises an original one-act and excerpt from a full-length play. According to the bylaws, evenings comprising one-acts are eligible for adjudication only if they were originally published to be presented that way. After much discussion, the committee agreed that the bylaws should not be amended and that TTC should be informed that this production, which would be accounted as one of the three productions for eligibility in WATCH, would not be eligible for adjudication. WATCH representatives would alert their adjudicators about judging of the TTC one-act production.

Awards Program Planning

March 4, 2001 was the date selected for the awards ceremony. It was noted that formation of committees was needed. Todd Huse agreed to chair the Program Planning Committee. Sue Pinkinan and Mary-Anne Sullivan agreed to provide timeline and planning objectives.

2001 Membership Applications

Implementation of WATCH has sparked interest from several groups. Todd Huse recommended that the membership form be placed on the WATCH website. Board members were requested to refer interested groups to the website where they can obtain information about WATCH and download the membership form.

PR/Marketing Update

Roland Gomez presented Al Edick's report, which noted that work needed to start on securing a hotel for the awards ceremony next winter. Member companies were asked to mention their WATCH affiliation and the upcoming awards event in their press materials. However, John Monnett recommended that members check with Al to determine what press has been done so far. John also stated that he would provide board members with a letter written for TAP's newsletter that explains WATCH.

Old Business

Don reported that PWLT had agreed to provide comp tickets for guest of WATCH adjudicators.

New Business

No new business was offered for discussion.

Next Meeting

May 21, 2000 at RCP's rehearsal studio. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30. Respecttully submitted by

Eleanore Tapscott

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