

**Minutes of the Washington Area Theatre Community Honors  
W.A.T.C.H.**

**Board Meeting, May 6, 2001, 4:00 pm  
Reston, VA**

Attending: John Monnett (TAP), Chair  
Bob Bartlett (HBP), Treasurer  
Sue Pinkman (RCP), Secretary  
Don Wilson (PWL), Adjudication Coordinator  
Todd Huse (ESP)  
Judy Mayer (MP)  
Mary-Anne Sullivan (CR)  
Suzanne Fehl, Port Tobacco

Guest: Seth Ghitelman, Rockville Little Theatre

Missing: LTA, Silver Spring, St. Marks, Great Falls, Tapestry

The meeting was called to order by John Monnett, Chair, at 4:15pm.

Mary Anne Sullivan moved to approve the minutes of 2/11/01. Todd Huse seconded the motion; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bob Bartlett reported that the 501(c)3 status (non-profit) had been approved. There was one more form to fill out, but he would follow-up and expected it would be completed within 90 day. (Since the meeting, Bob reported that the non-profit status has been instituted).

There is \$1571.90 in the checking account. LTA and Port Tobacco still have dues outstanding.

Don Wilson made a motion to approve reimbursement to Todd Huse for items he purchased for the awards event (envelops, etc.). Sue Pinkman seconded; motion carried.

#### **ADJUDICATION COORDINATOR**

Don Wilson reported that the "system" seemed to be working well, and Margaret Binning was very task-oriented, in that she will be sending out frequent reports to Don when she becomes aware of missing ballots. Being as the process was only one-month old, he was still confident that it would continue to run smoothly.

#### **BALLOTING ISSUES**

A discussion followed regarding the circumstance of an actor playing multiple roles. It was determined that the instructions and orientation clearly stated that the actor should receive his/her vote based on the way he/she is listed in the program, but the adjudicator should score every "named" character. If characters are **grouped** in a program, score with 1 number for all those characters (**as a group**). Let the tabulator fix the problem if there is one. Encourage judges to follow what is listed in program, and refer to the written criteria for any further clarification.

It was also noted that the categories of "featured actor / actress" include a huge number of candidates, and will be even larger as WATCH grows in the future. It was suggested that a "supporting" category with very specific criteria be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

### **TABULATION OF BALLOTS**

A discussion followed regarding the tabulation of votes in January 2002. Margaret Binning is currently using the template created by John Monnett last year, but it was that consensus that in order to have the nominations ready for a mid-January "announcement", an independent certification or "spot check" would be the most desirable way to go. Each WATCH rep is encouraged to seek (an objective) volunteer who would be willing to help.

### **FEEDBACK from AWARDS NIGHT**

It was the general consensus that the Birchmere was an excellent venue, and we will continue using it until further notice. Next year's Awards Party is reserved for Sunday, March 3, 2002. The Birchmere will require a minimum of \$3,000. There was also general positive feedback about the production of the entire evening as a whole.

A few negative issues were mentioned and brought to the group by individual reps:

It was suggested that the PSA's were too long and too commercial.

The evening ran a little too late for a Sunday evening.

It was suggested the names of the nominees be printed on the cards.

An objection was voiced by a member of the Castaways (through Mary Anne Sullivan) regarding the category of costumes design, and brief discussion followed.

Next board meeting will be 4:00pm, at RCP, July 15, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Pinkman  
Secretary