

**MINUTES OF THE WOODSTOCK OPERA HOUSE
ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, January 19, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Advisory Commission of the City of Woodstock was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Tony Casalino on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 in the Woodstock Opera House Library. A roll call was taken.

Those present were: Tony Casalino, John Scharres, Keith Johnson, John Puzzo, Kris Hall, Karen Wells, Mark Schiffer, Spencer White for TSP, and new Advisory member Brandon Pacyna.

Absent: Elaine Riner

Approval of Minutes

John Puzzo motion to approve the minutes of November 17th, Kris Hall second. All ayes. The minutes of November 17th were approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Tony Casalino – Chair - Tony read the resolution for Ed Hall that was presented to him by John Scharres on December 23rd. John presented him with a plaque backstage before his Christmas Guitar Night program. Tony will also feature Brandon Pacyna in his upcoming column in the Woodstock Independent.

Woodstock Opera House – John Scharres

John reported the 2015 holiday season was our best to date. Nutcracker added two more shows which were well attended. White Christmas did very well with record attendance for TSP. Guitar Night program was sold out. Office renovation is completed with minor touch ups. We are currently working on City budget. There is an added program from the Rotary over Groundhog weekend. A holocaust survivor will be the focus. Program will be Saturday, January 30th at 1:00 p.m. We are currently working on building projects.

Note: with regards to Ed Hall's Christmas Guitar Night - Ed agreed the Opera House would take over producing Leo Kottke program in September and Guitar Night in December. The Opera House will be working with Ed's longtime friend and colleague, Jeff Freelander to co-produce this program.

Keith Johnson – Member at Large

Reported they are not having an Open Mic the second Friday in December as it is Christmas. Off Square Music is having a New Year's Eve Party on December 31st.

Mark Schiffer – Woodstock Mozart Festival

After 29 years, Mozart will be closing its doors. Grant support and Arts council is lacking. McArthur Foundation has decided that McHenry County is not in the Chicago region. Large donations have dropped. We thank all of those who have supported the Mozart Festival in past years. John Scharres thanked Mark for all his participation on the Advisory Committee

2016 Advisory Commission Meeting dates: Jan 19, Feb. 16, Apr. 19, Aug. 16, Oct. 18, Nov. 15.

Scott White reported for – TownSquare Players

We are currently working on Mary Poppins. Ticket sales are going well. The “Tea with Mary” is also selling well. It will be fun. The “Tea with Mary” will take place Sunday afternoon, March 13th.

Kris Hall – Woodstock Fine Arts Association

We have our Creative Living speaker coming Thursday. The author of “River of Doubt” Libby Summers. Next month we will feature Paul Gehl, custodian of the John M. Wing Foundation on the History of Printing from the Newberry Library in Chicago.

Elaine Riner – Woodstock Musical Theatre Company – Absent, No report

John Puzzo – Friends of the Opera House – The reception for the Lighting of the Square was well attended. Everyone seemed to have a good time. The 50/50 raffle was successful and the winner was announced at the Lighting of the Square. A local Woodstock resident received over \$2000. The Friends was given a donation of \$100,000 dollars this year and we budgeted to spend \$10,000 per year. So far we have spent \$8,500 to date for Madrigals, TSP, WMTC and the Treasure Island program. D200 is putting on a program including middle school students in May. The Friends welcome two new members Pam Djordjevich and Maggie Amis. This year we would like to increase volunteers for “That’s Amore” program. Volunteers would have a free ticket to the program. Contact myself, John Puzzo for more information.

OLD BUSINESS - End of Year Business Reports

Reports have been turned in from: *Tony Casalino* for Advisory Commission, *Kris Hall* for Woodstock Fine Arts Association, *Roger Zawacki* for TownSquare Players and *Mark Schiffer* for Woodstock Mozart Festival.

NEW BUSINESS – Elect new Vice Chair to vacancy

Motion to elect Keith Johnson for Vice Chair. Puzzo motioned and Karen Wells seconded.

Motion to accept Keith Johnson as the new Advisory Vice Chair. All ayes – no nays. Keith Johnson accepted.

The next meetings for 2016 are as follows: February 16th, April 19th, August 23rd, October 18th, and November 15th.

Motion to adjourn. John Puzzo motioned and Kris Hall seconded.

Meeting adjourned 5:20 p.m.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 16th, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Steinkamp, Advisory Secretary

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