

Lawton Community Theatre
Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting
January 20, 2025, at 5:30 PM
John Denney Playhouse
1316 NW Bell Avenue
Lawton, Oklahoma

1. **Call to Order:** 5:30 PM
2. **Members Present:** Bannon, Bear, Beck, Diley, Harris, Hatch, Hofmann, Jolly, Magrath, Oates, C. Tate, Tibbs, Underwood, Williams.
3. **Members Absent:** Klein (excused absence), Ortner.
4. **Staff Members Present:** McCartney, Thomas.
5. **Ex-Officio Members:** Jason Poudrier (City of Lawton/present), Ben Williams (Cameron University/absent).
6. **Minutes:** Harris moved that the minutes be approved. Oates seconded the motion. The motion carried. The minutes will be filed.

7. **Financial Report:**

December Financial Report:

City National Bank (Children’s Account):	\$12,282.77
Arvest Savings:	\$50,153.49
Arvest Building Fund:	\$25,204.23
<i>BancFirst</i> General Operating (12/31/2024)	\$83,154.51
Cash in Drawer:	\$250.00
Total Checking/Savings:	\$171,045.00

Total Deposits for December, 2024: \$3,063.41,

Total Withdrawals for December, 2024: \$10,568/12 --- (*BancFirst* General Operating Account)

Barbara Bannon has agreed to serve as Acting Treasurer while Martha McCartney is serving as Acting-Co-Managing Director. Oates moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Thomas seconded the motion. The report will be filed for audit.

(No response to Jolly's question concerning a *Public Forum*.)

8. **President's Report:**

- **Managing Director:** Kristoffer Pendergraft has resigned the position of Managing Director. The Executive Committee is hopeful that a new Managing Director can be hired in the next 90 days. In the meantime, Martha McCartney and Marsha Thomas have agreed to serve in a voluntary capacity until the position is filled.
- **Treasurer's Position:** Refer to the Treasurer's Report.
- **Parking Lot Update:** Max Sasseen has asked the City Manager to provide a new parking lot at the City's expense. Oates inquired about the possibility of increasing the size of the parking lot. Discussion ensued.
- Jolly congratulated Dan Tibbs and Cassie Magrath on their state-wide theatrical awards.

9. **Managing Director's Report:**

- **LCT Benefit:** McCartney distributed personalized envelopes to board members, each with ten numbered tickets inside, asking members to sell the tickets to friends and community members. At this time, McCartney and Thomas are unaware of the status of LCT to sell wine and beer for the Benefit.
- ***Batboy*:** Auditions are scheduled for Sunday, January 26 and Monday, January 27 at the John Denney Playhouse from 6:00 --- 10:00 PM. Addam Tate is directing.
- **OCTA:** Considering the transition of management and certain budgetary constraints, the Executive Committee has recommended that LCT does not attend OCTA in March, 2025. Discussion ensued. Harris moved that LCT does not represent OCTA with ***One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*** in March, 2025. He also moved that the budget of \$8000, which had been allotted for the production and for the trip to OCTA 2025, be transferred to LCT's budget. C. Tate seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- **Status of Grants:**

McCartney and Thomas are looking into verifying that Hotel/Motel Funds will be spent to market the LCT Benefit and ***Batboy***.

McCartney and Thomas have sent an email to ARPA. LCT has not submitted the needed documentation for the request in funds. The funds generally distributed in January will consequently not be available this January. Jason Poudrier will meet with the Managing Directors on Wednesday to help with the ARPA funding request.
- The directors thanked Scott Hofmann for his writing of the Vacancy Announcements for the posts of Managing Director and Technical Director. He asked the Board of Directors to review the documents before they are made public.
- A House Manager's Workshop will be held on February 15, 2025 at 10:00 AM at the John Denney Playhouse. McCartney encouraged all board members to attend.

10. Committee Reports:

Fundraising: Dan Tibbs of the Marketing Committee will be filming a commercial for the February Benefit tonight after the Board Meeting. Oates reported that LCT's Musical Benefit --- "Love Me or Leave Me! A Valentine's Cabaret" will be presented on February 6, 7, 8, at 7:30 PM at the John Denney Playhouse.

Marketing: Discussion ensued concerning the wisdom of paying for the services of an independent social media company when there seems to be a vacuum in the coverage. Jolly advised waiting for 30 days before making a decision.

Play Selection: The committee is meeting on Tuesday, January 21 at the John Denney Playhouse. The committee has seriously considered over twenty musicals and plays.

Building and Grounds: Diley advised keeping faucets dripping during this cold weather.

Outreach: Ronda Norrell and Martha McCartney have discussed the possibility of bringing the students involved in the LPS/Arts for All/Summer Outreach Program directly to the John Denney Playhouse. Possible activities include presenting excerpts from a Children's Show and Lighting and Sound Demonstrations. Furthermore, the committee is conducting audition workshops at local secondary schools and is looking into bringing Outreach to local Assisted Living Centers.

Arts for All: The Festival Committee will meet tomorrow at 5:00 PM. The AFA Festival will be held during the weekend of May 10, 11, 12 (Mother's Day Weekend).

Cameron University Theatre will present *I Love You Because – The Musical* on February 20, 21, 22 at 7:30 PM and February 23 at 2:00 PM.

Cameron University: Refer to the Arts for All report.

Blue Moon: The plans are to produce *Church Basement Ladies* in the spring.

11. **Old Business:** Scott Hofmann and Dave Bear have mounted the display screens, and they will be ready as soon as they have content.

12. **New Business:** The business concerning the hiring of a grant writer has been moved to the next meeting.

13. Announcements:

- Poudrier reported that the McMahon Auditorium Authority's performance schedule will most likely be pushed back through 2025.
- Stephanie Moseley-Harris is now serving as President of the LFSAC.

13. **Adjournment:** 6:26 PM

