

**MINUTES OF THE WOODSTOCK OPERA HOUSE
ADVISORY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, September 13, 2016**

The special meeting of the Advisory Commission of the City of Woodstock was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Tony Casalino on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 in the Woodstock Opera House Library. A roll call was taken.

Those present were: Tony Casalino, John Scharres, Kris Hall, Keith Johnson, John Puzzo, Elaine Riner, Karen Wells.

Absent: Brandon Pacyna, Roger Zawacki

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of April 19, 2016 was requested. John Puzzo motioned to approve the minutes, Kris Hall seconded. All ayes. The minutes of April 19th were approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

Tony Casalino – Chair

After 30 years on the Woodstock Opera House Advisory Commission, Tony has decided to step down from the commission. He will continue until his appointment expires in April, 2017.

Woodstock Opera House – John Scharres

John introduced Betsy Cosgray as the new Opera House Office Manager. The 132nd Season of the City Band was successful. Weather caused only one cancellation so 11 of the 12 concerts went on as scheduled. Friends of the Opera House paid to have a new drinking fountain installed in the dressing room area in July 2016. They also purchased a new 16 channel sound mixing counsel for Stage Left. This was to replace the 14-year old board that had, at one time, been hit by lightning. The old board will be kept to be used as a backup. With the passing of Ed Hall in March 2016 the Opera House will produce Ed Hall's Guitar Night. Jeff Frelander will assist. Three acts have already been booked and will perform along with Jeff Frelander. The Opera House is also bringing in Leo Kottke and taking over the producing that Ed Hall has done in the past. A letter has gone out to past and potential new participants for the Christmas Tree Walk and The Christmas Parade.

Brandon Pacyna – Member at Large - Absent, No Report

Karen Wells – Member at Large

She stated she has been involved with the Opera House since 1961 and has no plans on stopping.

Keith Johnson – Member at Large

OffSquare Music wants to thank the Friends of the Opera House for the new board. It works fantastic and creates a less stressful music experience.

Harvest Fest is September 18th from 10 am – 5 pm. This is the 21st Annual Fiddle Contest. They reduced the contests to just fiddles this year. There are also three highly-acclaimed Blue Grass Bands: Chicken Wire Empire – Milwaukee, All Star Blue Grass Pals – Chicago, Art Stevenson & High Water – Wisconsin. There is a Jeep Drive coming to the Fest around 1pm. There is a possibility of over 100 hundred Jeeps for this Veteran's Fundraiser.

Folk Festival went well. Weather looked like it might have been a problem so they scheduled a backup location. They did not need to use the venue but it helped ease the tension. This is something they plan on doing in the future.

Roger Zawacki – TownSquare Players - Absent, No Report

Kris Hall – Woodstock Fine Arts Association

53rd Season of the Fine Arts Creative Living Series begins on October 20th with Rick Guidotti. He is a renowned photographer with experience with Vogue. He has started focusing on people with a special beauty, working with people with albinism, downs syndrome, and scars. They will begin the show with a documentary that was made about his extraordinary work. On October 18th, the Children's Program will host Switchback for 3rd to 5th graders. They will share their Celtic Music. WFFA lost two important women, Darlene Fisk and Marjorie Sharp, this year and their contribution for the Opera House was tremendous. They will be missed.

Elaine Riner – Woodstock Musical Theatre Company

Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat runs from October 7th – October 23rd. Barry Norton is directing. They are currently selling ads to cut down costs of the playbill. They are having the cast party at Mixin' Mingle on the Square.

Auditions for *A Christmas Carol* is October 10, 11 and 12, 2016. Kathie Comella is directing.

Regina Belt has been hired to direct *9 to 5* in April 2017.

John Puzzo – Friends of the Opera House

Friends planned a five-part musical series to be held in Stage Left. These events will be fundraisers with a cost of \$25 including one (1) drink. They are looking for sponsors to help cover the cost of the bands. The dates and themes are:

October 1st Homecoming Sock Hop Featuring Hans and the Hormones
December 17th Christmas Joy Featuring Cassandra and Friends
March Chicago Birthday Bash featuring Delta Fireballs
April 8th Mountain Hoedown featuring Georgia Rae Band
July 1st Big Band 4th of July featuring Air Mail Express (tentatively)

They also voted to support the following monetarily: WMTC and TSP opening night receptions; Treasure Island children's production in January; Woodstock Community Choir concert in

2016 Advisory Commission Meeting dates: Jan 19, Feb. 16, Apr. 19, Aug.23, Oct. 18, Nov. 15.

February; Middle School Orchestra Concert in the spring; and Woodstock Children's Summer Theater program.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – None

The next meeting: October 18, 2016

Motion to adjourn. John Puzzo motioned and Elaine Riner seconded.
Special Meeting adjourned 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Cosgray