

MINUTES of Scarborough Players ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

August 20, 2020 7:30 pm (via Zoom)

PRESENT	Jennifer Bakker (JB); Linda Brent (LB); Bodene Corbitt (BC); Ciara Crozier (CC); Ian Fox (IF); Tony Jones (TJ); Malorie Mandolidis (MM); Greg Nowlan (GN); Darlene Thomas (DT); Chip Thompson (CT); Katherine Turner (KT); Emma Wakelin (EW); Carolyn Williamson (CW)
REGRETS	Jeff Burke, Erin Jones, Jacob Klick
MEMBERS	Danelle Abbott, Sidnei Auler, Hedy Baker-Graf, Teresa Bakker, Tom Bakker, Norma Baptista, Andra Bradish, Jerry Chadwick, Janice Hansen, Len Henderson, Diane Henson, Jeremy Henson, Lynette Hines, Andrew Horbatuik, Kris-John Kucharik, Clive Lacey, Maureen Lukie, Alan Maynes, Jessica McQueen, Wendy Miller, John Pirker, Gary Prudence, Pierre Rivard, Dot Routledge, David Rudat, Susan Sanders, Rhoda Silzer, Drew Smylie, Joseph van Veen, Brian Whitmore, Laura Wilde
GUESTS	Catherine Lenihan

#	ITEM	ACTIONS
1.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convened at 7:40, land acknowledgment was read. 	•
2.	ZOOM Protocols <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CC reviewed procedures and methods 	•
3.	Approval of Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed agenda. Moved by LB, seconded by MM, unanimously approved. 	•
4.	Review Minutes of Previous Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed minutes. There was some confusion about Sidnei Auler being named as a guest at the previous year's AGM as he signed up for membership at the meeting but he was not a member for the previous season, so it was unclear whether he should have been noted as a member or a guest. 	•
5.	Accept Minutes of Previous Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved by JB, seconded BY CT, unanimously approved. 	•
6.	Business Arising from Previous Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. 	•
7.	The 2019-2020 Season – Report – The Actions of Your Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's hard to believe that just before this pandemic began the biggest problem we were facing was a possible strike by City workers. Pride and Prejudice closed halfway through its run and The Government Inspector was cancelled. The proposed 2020/21 season is now postponed – brochures had been printed but they are now irrelevant as we do not know what we may be able to stage, or when. The upcoming season will be subscription-free and we will make decisions about shows when we get the go-ahead that we are able to stage them. We have continued to pay full price for our theatre despite not being allowed to set foot in it and we are hopeful that we can get an abatement in the near future. Our rehearsal unit landlord offered only a deferment but not an abatement; we declined and have been paying full price on our regular schedule (the logic being that we didn't want to agree to an arrangement that won't benefit us financially and agreeing to something now may prevent us from participating in future 	•

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	<p>arrangements that could be better for us.) Between the theatre and the rehearsal unit, we are spending a lot of money on things we can't use. Many thanks to those who offered to donate the value of their unused tickets, and thanks to the Theatre Scarborough volunteers who meet to discuss our future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The play reading committee continues to meet and are focusing not only on the 2021/22 season but also potential replacements for the current season: we're looking out for shows that are low cost, with small casts, and are simple to stage. The Out Louds are being held on Zoom and have been going well – many thanks to John Pirker and the entire committee. There have been six Out Louds so far, two of which were for Christmas shows.• The director hiring committee worked very hard to select the directors for the shows in the (now uncertain) upcoming season. The interviews were interrupted by the pandemic and the season has been upended, but the directors selected have been attached to those shows for whenever they do get staged. Thanks to Malorie Mandolidis, Chip Thompson and the committee.• The board also thanks all the volunteers who contributed to Front of House, Box Office, refreshments, and 50/50. As well, a big thank you to the dedicated group of volunteers who called each and every one of the 1200 or so ticket holders whose experience was interrupted.• The wine and cheese receptions have been a success, and we are getting near sellout crowds for opening nights; our thanks to Grapefully Yours for their generous donations. For the upcoming season and the foreseeable future, we will not be having wine and cheese receptions as we expect restrictions to be put on gatherings due to COVID.• We had two midseason celebrations – the usual midseason celebration party at the unit and a second showing of the Not Ready for Prime Time Players, which was in collaboration with Scarborough Theatre Guild and Scarborough Music Theatre – vignettes from each of the programmed shows in the season were shown in order on our theatre stage, and about 100 people attended. Many thanks to all who participated.• The season that we were able to have was wonderful – <i>Rabbit Hole</i> was a beautiful production and <i>Miracle on 34th Street</i> was a great way to get into the Christmas spirit. <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> was a wonderful experience and great show that was unfortunately cut short by the pandemic. Thankfully it was filmed, which allowed friends and family to see it as well as kept it in competition for the ACT-CO awards. <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> won the Thea for Best Production of a Comedy. The show did well at the Theas and all are to be congratulated. The end was abrupt; the set is still on the stage and there has not yet been a closing party. <i>The Government Inspector</i> had been cast and an initial read-through had taken place but rehearsals were barely underway when the production was cancelled.	
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8.	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report as submitted. • The treasurers of Scarborough Players, Scarborough Theatre Guild, Scarborough Music Theatre and Theatre Scarborough all worked together to make sure everything was accurate. This year’s reconciliation was more complicated than usual, since the abbreviated season created additional work with refunds, donations, deferred tickets, etc. • Linda thanked Rhoda Silzer for her service and support. • There was a discussion about revenue that was showing in the treasurer’s report for <i>The Government Inspector</i>. Since this production didn’t happen, it should not show any revenue; any tickets sold for that production should be accounted for in Unearned Revenue (and only there – not in Revenue as well.) This should also be applied to any tickets sold for the final five performances of <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>. Lynette Hines confirmed that this is correct; even though there were tickets sold that remain unused, that money is still on the books for Government Inspector and it must be moved to Unearned Revenue – it cannot show as a revenue for this past season. Further, in some cases patrons purchased subscriptions that included The Government Inspector and this money has not been refunded nor has the ticket been deferred; in these cases, the value of the ticket will be applied to the next subscription the patron purchases and subtracted from the total price. The treasurers will discuss this outside of this meeting where a more complete discussion can take place as it’s important everyone agrees and this will affect all the groups equally; perhaps it could happen next week after all the AGMs are over. To be clear, the numbers are all correct, it’s simply a matter of accounting procedure to figure out where to put them. • Joseph van Veen noticed a few addition errors that he will share with LB and TJ outside of this meeting – they don’t affect the bottom line but he wanted to bring them up. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurers to meet at a later date to discuss placement of revenue collected for shows that did not go on. • Joseph van Veen to give notes to LB and TJ
9.	<p>Brief Update from Theatre Scarborough</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhoda Silzer presented a Box Office report. The Box Office team is responsible for staffing the box office at the theatre on performance days, collecting messages and taking calls on the booking phone line (this can be done from home) and processing subscriptions. Wendy Miller and Rhoda are co-Box Office managers and they make a great team. There were early challenges finding enough staff to look after the box office at the theatre on performance days. The early showcasing of the upcoming season meant there was lots of excitement and subscriptions were coming in until everything abruptly stopped due to the pandemic. There were close to 500 orders received but not yet processed when things came to a halt. It took about 2.5 months to call everyone and sort it out – purchasers were given the option to convert their unused ticket to a future ticket, use the credit toward a future subscription, receive a refund or donate the value of the ticket. A list of those who requested refunds was sent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If anyone would like to volunteer with the Box Office group, please contact Rhoda Silzer • The Theatre Scarborough AGM is next week; please register and attend if you are able to do so

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	<p>to Lynette so she could issue refund cheques. Now that the upcoming season is in flux, some people who had originally asked for a deferment are requesting refunds instead. The calls had a double value: sorting out our business while also getting to have conversations with our patrons and enjoy that social interaction. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Rhoda – they are looking for new volunteers and she can train you easily online.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerry Chadwick, president of Theatre Scarborough, gave a report. Theatre Scarborough manages the shared resources of the three performing groups. The pandemic has presented a challenge with the theatre being in a city-owned building. Each of the three groups have lost shows and we still don't know when we'll be allowed in the building again, and under what circumstances. At the start of the year Theatre Scarborough was aiming to work on accessibility plans, updating governing documents, and community outreach but much of that has taken a back seat to more pressing matters. Many thanks to all the volunteers and to David Buffham in particular, who has been a very dedicated theatre coordinator. The Theatre Scarborough AGM is next week and any member of the Players is automatically a member of Theatre Scarborough. Please register and attend if you are able to do so. 	
10.	<p>Hearing from You, the Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clive Lacey offered thanks and congratulations to the outgoing board. <p>Awards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The John Caldwell Pace Award was awarded to Ciara Crozier, in recognition of her work in the past year on props and backstage, as well as acting as a liaison between The Players and other groups, and creating the newsletters and promotional materials. • The Ben Ganz New Star Award was awarded to Macalib Chin-James. He's an inspiration to all for his willingness to dive in and give anything a try and he is always prepared and ready to work. As with all junior performers we know he couldn't do it without his supportive family and we thank them as well. • The Maggie Caldwell Award was awarded to Malorie Mandolidis for her service as a board member, reading committee member, director hiring committee co-chair and performer. • The Theatre Scarborough Players Award and Elspeth Simpson Award will be awarded at the Theatre Scarborough AGM. • A special award was given to Linda Brent in recognition of her many years of service as she retires from serving on boards. She has contributed over the years as Treasurer, Front of House Coordinator and Membership Coordinator, in addition to producing shows, working on costumes and props, and serving on many committees. It is because of Linda that our audiences now enjoy theatre refreshments and she has been instrumental in the ongoing success of the subscription booth. She has also been awarded an ACT-CO President's Award at our request. <p>Announcing Life Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you wish to stand for election to the Theatre Scarborough board you may do so at the AGM • If you wish to volunteer in any capacity, please get in touch • Please consider attending Out Louds and/or improv workshops, and recommend any plays you think might be worth reading

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are two new Life Members this year: Eric Newton and John Pirker. <p>Approval of the Actions of your 2019-2020 Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved by TJ and seconded by BC – 38 voted yay, 3 abstained. <p>Elections for the 2020-2021 Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EW ran the election. She went through each position, naming previously received nominees, and asking for further nominations. • Katherine Turner stood for President unopposed. LB moved to close nominations, seconded by Andrew Horbatuik. Acclaimed. • Greg Nowlan stood for Vice President unopposed. JB moved to close nominations, seconded by Andrew Horbatuik. Acclaimed. • Teresa Bakker stood for secretary unopposed. LB moved to close nominations, seconded by Joseph van Veen. Acclaimed. • Tony Jones stood for treasurer unopposed. CT moved to close nominations, seconded by JB. Acclaimed. • Ian Fox stood for Front of House Coordinator unopposed. MM moved to close nominations, seconded by Laura Wilde. Acclaimed. • Jennifer Bakker stood for Membership Coordinator unopposed. Joseph van Veen moved to close nominations, seconded by GN. Acclaimed. • Ciara Crozier stood for Publicity and Marketing Coordinator unopposed. Wendy Miller moved to close nominations, seconded by Brian Whitmore. Acclaimed. • Bodene Corbitt, Chip Thompson, Carolyn Williamson, Kris-John Kucharik and Charlie Parkes-Patel stood for Members at Large unopposed. LB moved to close nominations, seconded by GN. Acclaimed. • Malorie Mandolidis, Linda Brent and Darlene Thomas have stepped back from the board this year, as has Emma Wakelin (past president.) Thanks to them for all their hard work. <p>Review of Nomination Procedures for the TS Board</p> <p>Closing Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The deadline has passed for the board to put names forward for the Theatre Scarborough board, but if anyone would like to come forward at the Theatre Scarborough AGM they may do so at that time. Katherine is the nominations coordinator and says that there are some fantastic names coming forward as candidates. • The upcoming year will present lots of challenges and opportunities and there will be many decisions to make. The focus will be less on revenue and more on connecting with our patrons. If anyone wishes to contribute but would prefer not to serve on the board, there are always opportunities to help - stories for newsletter content, computer skills, design skills, and organizational skills are just a few of the areas where expertise is welcome. Please consider as well if you work for a company or organization that could be of assistance. You can also participate by attending Out Louds, recommending plays, or attending one of our monthly improv workshops. 	
11.	Other Business:	•

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• none	
12.	Next Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be determined by the new board after this meeting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
13.	KT adjourned at 9:02 pm	