



**Annual General Meeting**  
**Seaway Valley Theatre Building**  
**30 6<sup>th</sup> St.**  
**November 12, 2021**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Lise Richer, Peter Labelle, Christiane Taylor, Conrad Gonthier, Cathy Durham, Corey Disotell, Mari Cheffer, Josee Julien, Kerry Hug, Steve Ellam, Paul Aubin, Cheryl Snider, Allison Main, Marty Taylor, Frank Burrelle, Jacob Pilon, Angela Pilon, Alan Scrivener, Maryelle Tetrault, Liz Adams, Jacqueline Petro, Joseph Ianni.

**Regrets:** Lesley Ellam

#### **1. Call to Order**

**Lise Richer** called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

#### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

**Lise Richer made a motion** to approve the AGM agenda as amended adding section 6d.). Artistic Director Report. **Christiane Taylor seconded the motion. Carried.**

#### **3. Approval of the Minutes**

**Cathy Durham made a motion** to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2020 Zoom meeting as amended to include Paul Aubin name as present. **Seconded by Peter Labelle. Carried.**

#### **4. Chairman's Report**

**Lise Richer welcomed** those attending our first AGM in our new theatre home, namely the "The Seaway Valley Theatre". We are now in our 16<sup>th</sup> Season, having performed a total of 75 shows, Big thank you's to our volunteers who sit on Boards, committees, teams, cast members, those who clean, repair, renovate, or handing out a show program. Without you, SVTC would not exist.

Our 2020-2021 season was a challenging one. *Sixth and Broadway*, after numerous startups and lock downs was performed a full season later, on the heels of a small cast play *Slow Food*, which also had to change show dates due to the complexities of the pandemic. Both plays were well received, and our community was excited to have an evening of music, laughter, and tears. Ticket Wicket continues to be our ticket selling provider. In the future we would like to have the theatre open, for in-person sales a few hours a week.

SVTC awarded our Bursary to Hannah Lord who is pursuing post-secondary Education in an arts-related field. We did not have a recipient for the Venetia Warner Award as there was little youth involvement for shows in 2020-2021. Covid -19 was also responsible for not having the March Break Camp and the Annual Summer Theatre Camp.

It has been SVTC's dream to have our own home. During the winter of 2020 we were able to enter a rent to own agreement for the purchase of our Dream home. We continue to improve our facility with generous donations from our members, local businesses, and with support from the Ontario and Federal Government, Chamber of Commerce, City of Cornwall (Heart of the City)" Community Renewal Program Incentives" and the RRRF (Regional Relief and Recovery Fund. Without the Covid-19 relief that was available we would not have been able to have done all that was done to this facility.

We have had numerous fund-raising activities to cover our day-to-day operations.

1. (2)Paint Nights
2. Sold Ground Soap
3. Fudge from Cowan's Dairy
4. Valentine's Day Basket
5. Krispy Kreme Fundraiser
6. 50 Plus Community Club from South Stormont On Line Auction
7. 50/50 Draws (Started in June and will end this December)

Thank you to all who initiated and helped with these fundraisers.

We have been very busy writing and submitting for available grants since the onset of the Pandemic. We were unsuccessful in procuring the: Ontario Trillium Grant for Covid -19 (Submitted twice, September and December 2020), The Intact Insurance Grant, and the Scotiabank Corporate Grant. However, we are pleased we successful with the following Grants:

- The Cornwall Tourism Grant for PPE
- The City of Cornwall Heart of the City "Community Renewal Program Incentives" a good portion for our building signage. If anyone knows someone to help us write grants or knows of grants that would benefit out theatre Company, please let us know.

Another source of income since October, is the rental of our facility for Meetings, Baby or Wedding showers, Small Parties.

Our 2021-2022 Season started a little later, deciding on a playbill, which includes finding a team, applying for rights and holding auditions. *Sixth and Broadway*, next is *The 12 Days of Christmas* in December, took place here in the Seaway Valley Theatre, *The Sound of Music* in February 2022 at Aultsville Theatre, and *There Goes the Bride* back here in May 2022.

Everyone was wished great success in the 2021-2022 Season. We will remain strong and as promised last year we will do everything in. our power to keep Valley Theatre Company's name alive.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Our Treasurer Kerry Hug was introduced. Kerry started the Treasurer's position in January. Kerry went through the accounts line by line for the AGM attendees. She was questioned what was the balance undeposited fund? Kerry explained it was moneys that had come in but not yet deposited. *Sixth and Broadway* is not yet closed. Steve Ellam questioned the displaying of names and donated amounts. His experience at Trinity Church is donator names are anonymous. After a discussion, it was to withhold displaying names as this was confidential information. Paul Aubin asked if we knew profit amount for *Slow Food*, as it is not in the

report. *Slow Food* ran over 3 weekends and there was a profit of over \$3,000.00. We had income of \$9,954.29 from Covid Relief. We also discussed why we don't get a GST Rebate. We would have to be making something more than \$5,000.00 from ticket sales. And if that happened, we would have to charge GST on everything. Total assets are \$155,061.05, and total Liabilities and Equity are \$155,061.05. SVTC had a total income of \$24,838.50, and total expenses of \$34,792.79. Net income of -\$9,954.29. **Peter Labelle made a motion** to approve the Financial Report as presented. **Seconded by Conrad Gonthier. Carried.**

## **6. Reports from Committees:**

### **a.). Building Committee- Peter Labelle**

There was no submitted report, but the following were the talking points that Peter touched on:

- The Building Committee Members of Lesley and Steve Ellam, Mike Lalonde, Dennis Durham, Marc Richer, Allison Main, Joy Krol were thanked for their diligent work keeping our building in order. Steve Ellam is our new Building Manager
- We have new Windows and Doors, Front steps have been rebuilt.
- The Fire Alarm test has been done and we passed
- We have managed to get rent covid relief ( \$10,255.00)
- The gardens have needed a clean out revamping, and of course the work is ongoing.
- 3 H-Vac units have been replaced after 30 years, and new ones installed,
- New sewage line?

### **b.). Membership/Communications- Conrad Gonthier**

Conrad Gonthier reported that we have a total of 17 adult members, 1 student, 14 Senior, 2 Family, 0 Show Members, for a total of 34 Members. We also had up to 12 active Patrons in various times during the Season. The Pandemic has hit the show membership portion very hard. The numbers should increase now that we have a season planned.

### **c.). Marketing – Christiane Taylor**

Christiane Taylor reported that Angela Pilon, Paul Aubin, Josee Julien, Lise Richer, Shirley Robertson, and Christiane Taylor on the Marketing committee. The fundraising and partnerships during the past year were:

Mikes Printing T-Shirts – Mike Petrynka

Ground Soap- Lead by Cassandra Disotell

Fall Paint Night – Lead by Cathy Durham

Cowan's Fudge- Lead by Lise Richer

Valentine Basket Draw- Leady by Angela and Jacob Pilon

Spring Paint Night – Lead by Cathy Durham

50/50 Fundraising Draws- Lead by Josee Julien and Lise Richer

50+ Community Club Auction- Lead by Lise Richer and Angela Pilon

Krispy Kreme – Lead by Mari Cheffer and Corey Disotell

Promoted the shows *Sixth and Broadway* (a couple of times) and *Slow Food*

Posters, Event Banners, and ads for our F/B Page, uploaded pictures, posters to our website & Instagram and advertising to the seaway News, Standard Freeholder, Local Seekers, YourTv, and Nation Valley News.

**d.). Artistic director – Andy Davidson**

Andy sent report via email. Lise read his report in his stead, as Andy is on the other side of the border and it is still closed. Andy is pleased to see the new season is looking hopeful.

**7. New Business**

**a.). Plans for a New Season**

We are hoping to have more rentals, get the kitchen cleaned, do washroom renovations, and encourage more volunteers to help. Our wish list includes applying for another Trillium grant. Possibly adding more signage. In the spring, the gardens need to be cleaned up. Marion Barnes is very knowledgeable about these things and will guide us.

**b.). Elections**

Allison Main, our elections officer took over this part of the evening. Conrad Gonthier, Peter Labelle, and Lise Richer terms are up, but all have decided to let their names stand for re-election. Josee Julien nominated Cheryl Snider. Lise Richer nominated Lesley Ellam. Unfortunately, Lesley was not able to attend the AGM, but had given a letter to Lise that she would accept the nomination and do her best to fulfill the requirements of being a board member. The members nominated, all allowed to let their name stand for election. According to our election rules, there is no need to have an election as the Board is under the 12-person limit. The 2021-2022 Board stood and was sworn in.

**8. Adjournment**

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. Our next Annual General Meeting will be in the fall of 2022.