

Community Players Monthly Meeting Agenda

August 7, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Call to Order

Approval of the Minutes from June 2024

Treasurer's Report

President's Report

1. Welcome, new board members.
2. Thanks, those board members who served.
3. Thanks, Children's Theater production staff.
4. Thanks, Rusty Mumford and *Show Stoppers* ensemble.
5. Joanne Little Memorial was held at the Players' building. Thanks, those who were involved.
6. Auditions for *Para-Cles* and *Guys and Dolls* are this month.
7. Risers were borrowed from Salisbury School. Thanks, David Allen and others involved.
8. Wardrobe Wednesdays were held. Thanks, Lynne and others involved.
9. Debby Nagel resigned as Publicity Chairperson. Thanks, Debby, for your time and effort in serving as chairperson for this committee.

Committee Reports

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Concessions | Brenda Allen |
| Facilities Management | Ken Johnson |
| Fundraising | Matt Bogdan |
| Grants | Matt Bogdan |
| Historical | Bonnie Bosies |
| Hospitality | Rusty Mumford |
| House | Betsy Metzger |
| Lifetime Achievement Awards | Pete Cuesta |
| Marketing | Rusty Mumford |
| Membership | Melissa Dasher |
| Nominating | Sharon Benchoff |
| Patrons | Kel Nagel |
| Performance Space | Kel Nagel |
| Production | Darrell Mullins |
| Program | Tom Robinson |
| Program Advertising | Tom Robinson |
| Publicity | Debby Nagel |
| Scholarship | Lynne Bratten |
| Season Tickets & Box Office | Darrell Mullins & Rusty Mumford |
| Social Media | Kate Adkins |

Old Business

1. *Kiss Me, Kate* wrap up
2. Children's Summer Theatre Camp wrap up
3. *Show Stoppers* wrap up
4. Sally Ridgeway costumes update
5. Other old business?

New Business

1. *Para-Cles* update
2. *Guys and Dolls* update
3. Need for board members to be present at auditions
4. Board approval needed for request for rental of Players' building on Thursdays by Theater Academy of Delmarva

Theater Academy of Delmarva is interested in using/renting the rehearsal hall on Thursdays for September and much of October. This would be for the Rising Stars production of *Alice in Wonderland*, directed by Britni Ilzuk. Dates would be as follows: Sept 5, 12, 19, 26 and Oct. 3, 10, 17. Rehearsals would be 6-8 pm. Sherri Trader Hynes, director of *Guys and Dolls*, has approved this. Sherri does not plan to use the space on Thursdays. If a rental fee is requested, Mary Mahler (owner and artistic director of Theater Academy of Delmarva) has suggested \$300 total, as that is what they had given to use a church space in the past.

5. Board approval needed for purchasing curtains from Tony Broadbent (\$400)
6. Board approval needed for purchasing theater chairs (\$40 per chair for new chairs; \$18 per chair for used chairs); Fundraising update on chair purchase (\$50 donations; 65 "sold" as of 8/5/24)
7. Discussion of purchasing or building our own risers
8. Discussion of purchasing or building a portable stage
9. Discussion of purchasing wing curtains or building portable proscenium
10. Discussion of the need for costume space
11. Discussion of the need for chairperson for publicity committee.
12. Discussion of after-show surveys
13. Other new business?

Next Meeting – September 4, 2024, at 6:30 PM

Adjournment

Committee Reports for August 7, 2024

Concessions - Brenda Allen

Not much to report from concessions. Concessions will be available for the Show Stoppers fundraiser this weekend. After that the monthly fundraisers will be the only activity until the new season.

Facilities Management - Ken Johnson

Fundraising - Matt Bogdan

The fundraising committee met in July and discussed the following:

1. **Previous fundraisers.** These included Movie Night, Trivia Night, 50/50 raffles, manning the gate at Bordeleau Winery, the Guest Bartending event at Brew River, and The Harlem Renaissance: A Celebration of the Arts. We felt that Movie Night was not financially successful, so we will not be holding any more of those. We want to continue having Trivia Nights, 50/50 raffles, manning the gate, Guest Bartending, and special productions.

2. **Current fundraisers.** Those planned for the remaining of 2024 include Show Stoppers (Rusty Mumford, coordinator) in August, Para-Cles (Sharon Benchoff, coordinator) in September and November, Trivia Night (Sharon Benchoff, coordinator) in August and September, Edgar Allan Poe: His Tales of Terror (Matt Bogdan, coordinator) in October and November, the 50/50 raffle (Matt Bogdan, coordinator) at performances of Guys and Dolls in November, Giving Tuesday (in need of coordinator) on December 3, and It's a Wonderful Life radio show (Matt Bogdan, coordinator) in December. By the time you receive this report, Show Stoppers will have happened. Rusty Mumford can give us a report of that special production at the meeting.

Fundraising Dates and Times of Fundraisers for the Remainder of 2024

August 23: Trivia Night at Players at 7 p.m.

September 14: Para-Cles, a hilarious parody of a lesser-known Shakespeare play.
Radcliffe House in Berlin, MD. Show time is 4 p.m.

September 27: Trivia Night at Players at 7 p.m.

October 18: Edgar Allan Poe: His Tales of Terror. Live, memorized tellings of Poe's darker works.
Possum Point Players in Georgetown, DE. Show time is 7 p.m.

October 19: Edgar Allan Poe: His Tales of Terror. Live, memorized tellings of Poe's darker works.
Old Firehouse in Snow Hill, MD. Show time is 7 p.m.

October 26: Edgar Allan Poe: His Tales of Terror. Live, memorized tellings of Poe's darker works.
Poplar Hill Mansion in Salisbury, MD. Show time is 7 p.m.

November 1-3: 50/50 raffle at Guys and Dolls

November 8-10: Edgar Allan Poe: His Tales of Terror. Live, memorized tellings of Poe's darker works.
Players Playhouse on Nutters Cross Road, Salisbury, MD. Show times are 7 p.m. on November 8 and 9,
and 2 p.m. on November 10.

November 16: Para-Cles, a hilarious parody of a lesser-known Shakespeare play. Players Playhouse on Nutters Cross Road, Salisbury, MD. Show times are 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

December 3: Giving Tuesday (need coordinator)

December 20-22: It's a Wonderful Life, a radio play of the heart-warming classic Christmas story. Players Playhouse on Nutters Cross Road, Salisbury, MD. Show times are 7 p.m. on December 20 and 21, and 2 p.m. on December 22.

3. 2025 potential fundraisers. Besides the previous fundraisers that we want to continue having, new ideas included Dessert Theater, Family Feud, World War II: Honoring the Men and Women of the Eastern Shore directed by Matt Bogdan, tribute bands, a Night of Play Readings, a Children's Show, a Murder Mystery, a yard sale, the fifth annual Poe show, A Gift to Remember Christmas show directed by Pete Cuesta, a musical revue directed by Rusty Mumford, technology workshops coordinated by Tony Broadbent, a series of vignettes (such as eight ten-minute plays), a one-act play festival in which other community theaters participate, a new directors' showcase, and cold readings of plays.

4. It was recommended that a list of potential fundraisers is publicized so that potential coordinators can take on the project(s). We are in need of coordinators. Please get involved.

5. It was recommended that Players have a full calendar of 2025 fundraisers finalized by the board by December 2024 so that those fundraisers can be publicized for the upcoming year.

6. We also need a Capital Campaign. We need someone to coordinate this.

7. If you would like to coordinate and/or participate in any of these fundraisers, contact Matt Bogdan at 443-235-3272 or oceancityhappyme@aol.com.

Grants - Matt Bogdan

1. The Coastal Association of Realtors (CAR) recently granted Players \$500 to be used for the World War II production. Earlier in the year CAR granted Players \$500, which was used for our Children's Theater Workshop held in July.

2. Beach to Bay Heritage Area (BBHA) recently granted Players \$5000 to be used for the World War II production. Last year BBHA granted Players \$3000 for the production of Paths to Freedom: The Underground Railroad on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

3. The Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council (SWAC) recently granted Players \$2167 to be used for general operating expenses for 2025 and \$2167 for 2026. SWAC has been a consistent grant provider over the years. Kel Nagel, Debbie Nagel, and Matt Bogdan attended the SWAC luncheon in June in which grantees of SWAC throughout the committee were recognized.

4. The Worcester County Arts Council (WCAC) recently granted Players \$500 to be used for the Para-Cles production.

5. The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) earlier this year granted Players \$5366 to be used for general operating expenses. MSAC has been a consistent grant provider over the years.

6. The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore (CFES) earlier this year granted Players \$6435 to be used to purchase and install a fire exit door as part of the renovation of the Players' building on Nutters Cross Road. CFES also provided a grant of \$2375 last year for the production of Paths to Freedom.
7. MSAC recently granted Players \$9324 for Grants for Organization—Off Year for Fiscal Year 2025.
8. Final reports are being submitted to MSAC for Grants for Organization—Fiscal Year 2024 and Arts Relief Funding General Operating Support for Fiscal Year 2023 (due date of August 15, 2024)
9. So far this year we have received approximately \$32,000 in grants.
10. I am re-applying for the MSAC Arts Capital Grant. Deadline is August 23. MSAC denied our first application.

Historical - Bonnie Bosies

Hospitality - Rusty Mumford

House - Betsy Metzger

Nothing from the House Committee at this time.

Lifetime Achievement Awards - Pete Cuesta

Only one nomination and, at this structure and considering postponing it for a year.

Marketing - Rusty Mumford

Membership - Melissa Dasher

Our 2024-25 Membership Drive is underway! According to our organizational Constitution our "dues shall be due September 1 and shall be considered delinquent if not paid by October 31." Since all officers and members of the Board of Directors, committee chairpersons, and committee members are to be members-in-good-standing I would like to challenge all those on the Board or chairing a committee to be 100% up to date with membership application and dues payment by the October 2nd meeting. Membership info and applications are currently available on paper at the Players building or to print off the website or recent e-mail blast.

Nominating - Sharon Benchoff

No report from Nomination Committee.

Patrons - Kel Nagel

Performance Space - Kel Nagel

Production - Darrell Mullins

Program - Tom Robinson

Program Advertising - Tom Robinson

Publicity - Debby Nagel

Billboards, yard signs and a banner were placed for Kiss Me Kate. Advertisements and promotional material were printed in The Salisbury Independent and The Daily Times.

Matt Bogdan and Kel Nagel appeared on Delmarva Life.

Glad to report that contact has once again been established with Brian Harlin, who has provided us with discounted yard signs for several past performances.

Contact information is as follows:

Cell # (410) 804-8311 brian@neighborhoodsigns.com

I'm providing this information as I am resigning as chair of the publicity committee. This is necessary because of my husband's recent health problems and the difficulty of overseeing his care while carrying out the responsibilities associated with this position. It has been my pleasure to fill this role, and I will continue to support Community Players'. I will write a summary of responsibilities to leave for whoever may take over this position. And I will be available to assist this person or persons with any advice and help as this transition takes place.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Nagel

Scholarship - Lynne Bratten

No report for scholarship.

Season Tickets & Box Office - Darrell Mullins & Rusty Mumford

Social Media - Kate Adkins

Please continue to "like, comment and share" CPOS social media posts. Please make sure the cast of all productions are aware of our socials and ask them to engage and share. It greatly increases our visibility online.

Our highest interaction in July on Facebook: 2,715 on the 19th, about the Musical Review.

Our highest interaction in July on Instagram: 251 on the 15th, a thank you to the campers.

If you have photos to be shared on social media, please email Kate at mariefox18@gmail.com

I do not always see if someone shares stuff due to schedule. If you have info for posting please include an image if you intend to use one, I will have to create one (Instagram requires an image to post) not an issue, it just delays the post being shared.

Note: I would like to make a social media post series "An Introduction to the Board". At the meeting or a date to be set in August, I would like to ask to take the board members' headshots and group photo of the board. Get a mini bio, how members got involved with players and what they are excited about for the next season and term.

*I believe that the day of the board meeting is optimal since most would be in attendance