

Metropolitan Theatre Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2015

Present: Kacy Weidebusch, Tina Tallaksen, Jay Redmond, Jeff Mikorski, Ken Weiss, Joe Kaehler, Rick McEwuen

Rick called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Minutes from the October meeting were approved as written.

The first topic of discussion was the smoke in the building on the evening of November 8th. The smoke was caused by a cigarette butt that had caught some of the exterior trim on fire at the Pool Hall entrance. The wood trim smoldered and smoke went up between the walls and into the Theatre. The fire department did some damage to some of the flat plaster in the lobby while looking for the source. One recessed light fixture will need to be repaired or replaced. Damage to the building was minimal. The wood trim on the right side of the Pool Hall entrance will need to be repaired and replaced.

Joe reported that he has contacted several firms regarding estimates for replacement of the front doors and for carpeting in the auditorium. Joe also announced that West Virginia Public Theatre has suspended operations and cancelled their December programming. Joe will endeavor to fill some of the open dates if possible with performances by the Morgantown and University High School Choirs and a MHS Band Concert. WVPT still has an outstanding bill with the Theatre. They (WVPT) will attempt a re-organization. Joe reported the WVU jazz and steel drum performance went very well. Joe also said the rigging control is on order.

Jeff said the lease with Morgantown Theatre Company has been finalized although it has not been signed yet. The effective date of the lease will be November 1st. MTC will vacate the street level office after their current production has been completed. The new lease gives them an option to reserve only 15 dates per year. Any dates they want beyond the 15 will be billed at going rates.

Jay commented that he is exploring options for management of the Theatre including a possible collaboration with WVU.

Ken discussed his meetings with Robyn and others for the development of a fund-raising group. He said they had come up with some possible signature events such as a Cancer Survivor Fashion show, Kids Triathlon, Kids Halloween Contest, Academy Awards, Golden Globe, or Tony Awards parties, Summer Music jams and /or a Battle of the Bands (Motown Showdown). They will meet again to further develop these ideas.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM

Rick McEwuen, chair, secretary