Children’s Ballet Theatre

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2021 7:00 PM via Zoom

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Attendees: Quorum:** Yes | |
| Hillary Henderson (HH) | **Community Members:** |
| Kelly Joldersma (KJ) | Lisa Whiting Dobson (LWD) |
| Mindy Morgan (MM) | Kate Powers (KP) |
| Sue Powers (SP) |  |
| Matt Rosendale (MR) | **Artistic Staff:** |
| Cecilia Stajos (CS) | Jesse Powers (JP) |
| David Weissling (DW) |  |
| Amy Zaagman (AZ) | **Others:** |
|  | Casie Medina (CM) |

AZ called meeting to order at 7:02PM.

SP motioned to accept minutes from 7/18/2021. CS seconds. None opposed.

CS announced that Sophia has decided to join the company at Interlochen and will attend school there this year, thus will be resigning from CBT. Congratulations Sophia! CS would like to offer her help wherever the board needs it. DW motions to move CS to community board member status, MM seconds. None opposed. Board will appoint new member for the now vacated seat during the September meeting.

Health and Safety Protocol, Fall 2021

Board had discussion around masking, temperature checks. Board decided all members and volunteers/chaperones will wear masks regardless of vaccination status. Board made the following modifications to the Health and Safety Protocols document:

-Strike temperature checks. Add sneezing as a symptom to watch for, stress that everyone must wear a mask and monitor for symptoms at home. Stay home if unwell. Strike 6 feet of distance. Add that health department of the county in which we are rehearsing or performing will be the authority on quarantine and testing requirements following exposure. Attendance policy will be in effect this season with a virtual option if needed. JP and attendance chair should be notified if dancer needs virtual option.

SP motions to accept policy as modified, KJ seconds. None opposed.

Member Recruitment and Auditions

HH asked for someone to staff auditions. KJ and SP will staff. Remember we can also offer flexible auditions. HH will check with any interested dancers needing alternative dates and make a plan with JP. Still looking for someone to take over as audition chair.

Every board member, and every dancer and family, needs to be involved in recruitment. AZ suggested an open house for younger dancers--former little guests, danceworks dancers, etc. to give info on CBT. Also need to reach out to other studios about opportunities. JP suggested maybe giving some free tickets for dancers at other studios.

MM reached out to seven former families regarding possible return. Of those who replied, one yes, one no and one maybe. AZ is going to reach out to former little guests about auditions.

Return to Company/Nutcracker 2021

Board reviewed season calendar. AZ will send calendar and policies and procedures for board review. Will then be finalized and sent to members soon.

MR sent in forms to Holt. We have first “dibs” but district has not yet established policies for outside rental.

Board agrees school show will be tabled for this year.

Board agrees to keep meeting time at 7PM.

Treasurer’s Report

No big changes over the summer. Will need tuition to start paying bills. Budget for 21-22 is difficult until we know how many dancers we will have. Last year even with successful fundraising we didn’t not cover our costs. We were roughly $24,000 short. This was covered by the PPP loans that were converted to grants. How will we cover that this year?

Have submitted application for the Lansing area Sunrise Grant. MR suggests looking in to the Fox47 temperature fundraiser for nonprofits. MM will work on a proposal for sponsorships this fall. SP reports that Texas Hold’Em has started back up. AZ is going to pull fundraising committee together to plan fundraising for the year including talking to Chrissy Trotochaud regarding coupon books.

AZ and SP will look at insurance and efficiency of coverage.

Artistic Director’s report

Summer company is going great. Nine dancers. MR reports Ingham Country Fair asked if we would come back every summer. We were paid $100 and each dancer received a free unlimited ride pass. We will ask to be listed in the program/events listing. Will perform at Mint Festival August 14 and 15.

Patty from Happendance has invited CBT to be part of a performance in October. Will likely be older dancers. Details to follow.

Marketing

HH moves to remove Gregory M. George from CBT public social media sites. MR seconds. None opposed. Board has been having this discussion for several years. The snarky comments are not helpful when we are trying to recruit new members.

We have a new graphic designer. JP will work with her to design/revamp Nutcracker posters.

Old Business

Prior to this meeting, JP’s evaluation was completed. AZ wil share a written copy with him for his files. JP and AZ will work together to plan a time to complete the ballet mistress’s evaluation.

KP and MR plan to work on the website this week. Casie Medina asks that member page password be updated as much information has changed. MR will change.

CS reports that they are in need of using the warehouse space we have been using to store props. JP offers to help go though and determine which of the items in the Stajos warehouse need to be kept.

KP motions to adjourn at 9:02PM, SP seconds.