

November 19, 2008

Monson Arts Council Board Meeting

Present: Tod Beall, Barbara Keffer, James Hoffman, Lynn Salem, Gerry DePace, Reed Coles and Chris Mertens.

Tod Beall conducted the meeting. The minutes of the October 15th meeting were read by all. Motion to accept made by Barbara Keffer, seconded by Lynn Salem. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Keffer presented her report. It was perused by all. Balance in the MAC Account is \$12,314.51 plus a \$10,000 CD. Motion to accept by Gerry DePace, second by Chris Mertens. Motion carried.

Citation presented by the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in commemoration of Monson Arts Council's thirty years of service was hung ceremoniously at our meeting by Tod Beall. It hangs proudly above the mantle in the Board Room for all to enjoy. It had been matted and framed by Nancy Bryant of Giclee of New England.

Art Show Committee: James Hoffman provided information on the up-coming Art Show. Three excellent jurors have been selected. Gloria Russell, Stew Weatherbee and a New York City Art Gallery Professional. David Xanatos has the digital system up and running well. Each artist may submit his or her artistic works digitally or in person as well. Monson Savings Bank has increased their sponsorship donation from \$3000.00 to \$4000.00. We have two performances scheduled for the Spring Art Show. A. John Thorpe will perform as a drummer and Susan MacDonald will perform as a folk singer.

Theater Committee: This report was given by Barabara Keffer. The Music Man was a smashing success. Attendance was over 800 and there was much positive feedback on the show. There is still a buzz in town as to the wonderful performances of all in the cast. The sets were also given kudos by those in attendance. A job well-done. Due to the cost of production, the profit was at approximately \$900.00. The goal of the Arts Council to provide theater to the community has been achieved. Tod Beall will send a thank you to David Dupuis for creating such magnificent sets and scenery. We do appreciate all David has done and continues to do for the Arts Council.

Irene Thornton has been interviewed and accepted as director of "My Three Angels", our spring play. She has a wealth of experience and has many fresh, new approaches to offer. She plans to bring in students as stage manager and assistant stage manager. She is eager to start working on this project. James Hoffman will send in a press release soon so we may begin the audition process. Auditions will take place January 25 and 26 and call-back is on January 28. Rehearsals will take place in the House of Art until the end of March.

Ray and Denise Suprenant have agreed to Produce this show. They also are eager to take part. The Arts Council is fortunate to have access to such talented individuals .

Scholarship Committee: Tod Beall revealed that \$1000.00 Scholarship will be awarded to a Monson graduate in 2009. Scholarship committee members are working on the application form at present. It has been agreed upon that an essay of approximately 250 words expressing one's interest in the arts is a requirement of this award. Applicants need not necessarily be seeking an education in the arts, but must have an interest in the arts. The scholarship will be awarded the second semester of the freshman year of college after a transcript is presented.

Scholarship committee has set the date of the next Talent Show at November 14.

Motion to adjourn was made by Reed Coles and seconded by Chris Mertens. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Mertens (Board Member)

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