

Friends of Platteville Municipal Auditorium Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Dorothy Genthe, Marilyn Gottschalk, Summer Hamille,
Doug Mackey, Kerry McCabe, Celeste Moore, Patrice
Steiner, Keith Thompson

And: Cindy Robles, Larry Bierke

Date: 04/06/2011

Time: 7:00 (Wednesday)

Place: Platteville City Auditorium

Last Meeting Date: 03/15/2011

Meeting facilitator Cindy Robles created an agenda for this meeting. Cindy conducted the meeting until the officers were elected. Patrice Steiner took over, using the same agenda.

There was no Treasurer's report since we have no Treasurer or bank account. The City is holding on to the Graham Fund monies and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

First order of business was to **elect acting officers**. Cheryl Schmieder had already volunteered for the office of President, Celeste Moore volunteered for secretary, Patrice Steiner volunteered to act as Vice-President, and Doug Mackey volunteered to act as Treasurer. Dorothy Genthe moved to accept the volunteers named as Friends officers. Keith Thompson seconded. The motion carried.

The second and third items on the agenda pertained to the numbers of **other board members** and **sub committees** sponsored by the Friends, but consensus was that we needed to wait a bit to determine what this might be. Discussion was tabled.

The fourth topic discussed was the **name of the organization**. The question was raised as to the official name of the auditorium. People agreed that it should be consistent. Although it was wordy, it was felt the word Platteville was necessary in the title to find the group on the internet. Various alternatives were discussed: Platteville City Auditorium, Platteville Municipal Auditorium, Platteville City Theatre, Platteville Municipal Theatre, Platteville Community Auditorium, Platteville Community Theatre were all mentioned. It was pointed out that current signage refers to it as the Platteville Municipal Auditorium. Dorothy Genthe moved to accept the name of the Friends of the auditorium as the Friends of Platteville Municipal Auditorium. Celeste Moore seconded. The motion carried.

Fifth item was the **direction or goals of the group**. Put succinctly, it is to raise money to renovate the Platteville Municipal Auditorium and support its users. Those attending decided the first Wednesday of every month would be fine for **scheduling meetings**, despite conflicts. Any day of the month we look at would have scheduling problems for *someone*. We will stick with

the 7:00 meeting time for now. Cindy Robles will see if she can find more comfortable seating for us in another room.

Part of developing the goals of the group is in **developing by-laws** for approval. Cindy Robles brought a disk from Germantown Friends of Parks and Recreation as a guide. Celeste Moore had also downloaded the By-Laws of Rountree Gallery's Friends of Our Gallery. She had started making appropriate changes to the FOG By-Laws to reflect the purpose of the Friends of Platteville Municipal Auditorium. Her rough draft was passed around and suggestions made. Celeste will write up the By-Laws, and then email them to Friends members for suggestions and proofing before the next meeting. We hope to vote on them then. Dorothy Genthe suggested that two board members' signatures should be required on all checks, so this was added.

This comment brought us to **our relationship with Building Platteville, Inc.** Cindy Robles pointed out that any checks would need to be written through Building Platteville so we could take advantage of that organization's non-profit status. She suggested setting up a joint meeting between Cheryl Schmieder/Patrice Steiner and Duane Young of Building Platteville to set up an account through them. Their Treasurer is Mike Moran.

We spent the rest of the meeting coming up with **other ideas** to implement.

We should create a secure **donation box** to put out during events. Doug Mackey said he could do this.

Summer Hamille suggested contacting the Mineral Point Opera House manager (Phil Mrozinski) and Grand Opera House in Dubuque for **campaign/rebuilding strategies**. Doug Mackey will do this.

Southwest Community Fund is offering **grant money**. They may help us with the \$5000 we need for the used seating Dorothy Genthe found. Deadline is April 15th. Patrice Steiner will look into this.

It was reiterated that HVAC repairs to the auditorium are *not* to be paid by us.

A **rendering of a rejuvenated auditorium** will help people visualize what their contributions are going toward. Larry Bierke said Platteville Main Street on Industrial Studies could do a rendering. Keith Thompson was also going to suggest the university offering a cad rendering for a student project. First, however, we have to establish project goals so we have a better idea what it will look like.

It would be nice to compose a **history of the auditorium** for literature and the website created by Celeste Moore. Wisconsin Room at UW-Platteville may have old auditorium pictures for the website.

Mike Willis is willing to direct **'The Eleventh'** on September 11, 2011 as a benefit. It is the 10th anniversary of 911 and he is willing to set aside the proceeds for the auditorium.

Marilyn Gottschalk said Dennis Cooley (Assistant Chancellor for University Advancement and Executive Director of the UW-Platteville Foundation) offered to help with fund-raising at one point. She will check with him again.

Dorothy Genthe asked if it would be okay for her contact to come in and measure the **auditorium for seats**. It was. She suggested the actual replacement take place AFTER presentation of 'The Eleventh' in September. There is some concern what we will do to get rid of the old seats. We will need to look into options.

Original blueprints may exist of the auditorium for dimensions and technical details. Cindy Robles will check into it.

Our **next meeting** is May 4, 2011. Cindy Robles will see what room is available in City Hall and get us on the schedule.

The motion for adjournment was made by Patrice Steiner and seconded by Celeste Moore. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.