

Community Players Monthly Meeting Agenda for August 2, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Call to Order

Approval of the Minutes

Treasurer's Report

President's Report

Committee Reports

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

Old Business

Summer Camp Final Update

Jammin' in July Final Update

Uncle Tom's Cabin

Edgar Allen Poe

Pippin

Anniversary Dinner

Farmers Bank Loan

Parking Lot

Other

New Business

Trusses Evaluation

Monthly Cleaning

Kiss Me, Kate – June 21-23, 2024

Happy Elf Christmas Show – Joe Benamati

Next Meeting – September 6

Other

Fundraising Report for Board Meeting for August 2, 2023

The fundraising committee met on July 31, 2023. Various fundraisers were discussed.

1. **Trivia Night** was held on July 28 and was well attended. The next **Trivia Night** will be August 18 (not the 25th due to rehearsal and set up for Celebration Dinner). September **Trivia Night** will be September 29 (not September 22 due to performance of UGRR production).

2. **Jammin' in July at Kylan Barn** was a success. There was a lot of time and effort put in by many people. Thank you to all who helped, including the 11 musical acts. Unfortunately a storm caused us to wrap up at 7 rather than 8, and Charlie Paparella was unable to perform. Charlie did a great job of promoting us with a *Travels with Charlie* segment. He also did a follow up on Monday, July 31. We had a net profit of approximately \$3100.

3. The **86th Season Appreciation Celebration** will be held August 26, beginning at 5:30, with dinner at 6 and entertainment to follow the dinner. It will be catered by Flannery's. Tickets are \$50. Expectations are that 100 people will attend. Reservations need to be made by August 16. Contact Rusty, who is the coordinator for the event, for reservations. A silent auction will be held rather than a 50/50 raffle.

4. **Paths to Freedom: The Underground Railroad on Maryland's Eastern Shore and Uncle Tom's Cabin** will be performed on the following dates and times at the following venues:

Thursday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m. at Players' building (tentative); Friday, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Marva Theater in Pocomoke; Saturday, Sept. 16, at 7 p.m. at Harriet Tubman Museum and Educational Center on Race Street in Cambridge; Sunday, Sept. 17, at 2 p.m. at Polar Hill Mansion in Salisbury; Sunday, Sept. 24, at 2 p.m. at Teackle Mansion in Princess Anne. Still seeking venues for 7 p.m. shows on September 21, 22, and 23.

Matt Bogdan is the director and producer. Sharon Benchoff and Bonnie Nay are the assistant producers. We have a \$5375 budget due to two grants, one from Beach to Bay Heritage Area and one from Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. Rehearsals are underway, and we have a very diverse cast. We discussed other possible venues. Dory Hayman offered her studio for the creation of a radio spot. We have money from the grants to do tv commercials to promote the show.

5. **Edgar Allan Poe: His Tales of Horror** will be performed on August 14 at 7 p.m. at the Island Theater in Chincoteague. Tickets are \$10, cash or check, at the door. We are splitting the gate with Island Theater. We will also perform the show on October 28 at 7 p.m. at Poplar Hill Mansion. We are still seeking venues for Oct. 20-22 and Oct. 27 and Oct. 29. Matt Bogdan is the coordinator.

6. We are planning to do another **Old-Time Radio Show** in November. Dates TBD. **Giving Tuesday** will also be held in late November.

7. Joe Benamati is interested in performing **The Happy Elf** in December at Players. No other information available at this time. I did send Joe a special production submission form to fill out and submit.

8. Discussion of other fundraisers for 2024 was held. There was a lot of interest in having a **Movie Night** and a **One-Act Play Festival** at Players next year. The **One-Act Play Festival** would help us with the coalition of other community theater groups on the Shore.

9. Finally, it was reiterated that an itemized list of needs for the performance space is critical for our fundraising and grant writing efforts.

Special Productions' Submission Form

Name of person submitting the special production: Joe Benamati

Phone number: 410-251-2137

Email address: mr.benamati@gmail.com (or joe.benamati@gmail.com)

Previous experience with producing: Previously directed for CPOS (A Christmas Carol, Mary Poppins)
Directed and led the production team for The Salisbury School for 6 years.

Description of production:

A musical comedy by the Grammy Award-winning and Tony Award-nominated composer and lyricist, *Harry Connick, Jr.'s The Happy Elf* tells the tale of Eubie the Elf, a lovable fellow who wants to spread Christmas joy throughout the town of Bluesville. Hoping to introduce a new generation of children to the joys of jazz, Connick has crafted a musical landscape against which Eubie's story unfolds. *The Happy Elf* follows Eubie, the happiest elf at the North Pole. More than anything else, Eubie longs to be a part of Santa's sleigh team. Instead, he's stuck checking the naughty-or-nice lists. Then, one Christmas Eve, he sees something strange: in the whole town of Bluesville, not a single person has been nice. With a pinch of elfish magic and a magical whoosh, Eubie's off to Bluesville. But can he turn a whole town of naughty children nice in just one day? (from MTI's website)

Cast size: 16 roles + ensemble 25 cast members max

Set description: I plan to use a minimalist set. Just enough 'dressing' to let the audience know where the scene takes place, but not so much that it robs them of filling in the story with their imagination.

Production crew: I don't typically finalize production crews before a show has been approved. I do have people in mind for all roles.

Dates and location of venues: Dec 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10, 2023 The Playhouse at Nutters Cross (just throwing out a potential name)

Conflicts with main season: This show needs to be done at Christmas time. We have no other venues available in December.

What is needed from the Community Players for this production to take place, such as props, costumes, furniture, sound, and/or lighting? CPOS will be the primary source for all of this.

How will this production benefit the Community Players? This show will be profitable and will bring people to our newly set-up flexible theatre space.

Anything else we need to know about the production? If yes, please explain. It is a great children's show, which adults will also enjoy!!

Projected Expenditures

Royalties: No idea, I no longer have the ability to get Royalty quotes from MTI on behalf of CPOS

Cost of scripts: See above

Facility rental: \$0.00

Custodian and security: \$0.00

Orchestra: \$0.00 (the show is designed to use 'canned' music)

Set: \$200.00

Costumes: This depends on if CPOS has elf costumes and a Santa suit available. Could be \$500.00

Props: \$0.00

Lighting: \$100.00

Sound: \$0.00

Makeup: \$0.00

Special effects: \$50.00

Cast Party: \$200

Gifts: I normally handle this myself.

Advertising: Honestly, no idea.

Total: \$1050 plus royalties

Projected Revenue

Ticket sales: 6 shows, 125 seats, \$20/adult - \$15/child. Assuming an average of 2 adults for every 3 children* and 75% capacity* our revenue would be roughly **\$9,550.00**

(*my guesses, could find no research-based numbers.)

Program ad sales: ___???

Sponsorships: ___???

Other (silent auction, raffle, etc.): I ask that there be NO raffle done during this show. I don't approve of gambling. While I merely don't participate during other productions, I feel allowing it when I am the director would be hypocritical.

Total: \$9550

Projected profit: \$8500 (minus royalty costs)