

**The Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera Company  
Board Meeting**

**July 11, 2013**

In Attendance: Wally Benbenek, John Orbison, Barb Hovey, Shawn Holt, Eric Pasternak , Mary Gregory, Malka Key, Stephen Hage

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Stephen.

A proposal to dedicate the 2014 Spring show to Peter Erickson was approved.

The production staff for The Grand Duke is in good shape. Stephen is still deciding on a Music Director. It is down to two candidates: Laurie Matthews and Scott Winters. Scott Winters does have some conflicts during the run of the show and currently has a commitment on Mondays.

The rest of the production staff is as follows:

Joe Andrews-Stage Director  
Music Director-TBA  
Laura Bidgood-Stage Manager  
Jack Kravik-Set Construction  
Andy Kedl- Lighting Designer  
Larry Rostad-Set Designer  
Bob Johanneck-Audio-Visual Engineer  
Maureen McIntyre-Orchestra Manager  
Briana Sullivan-Assistant Stage Manager  
Malka Key-Assistant Stage Manager  
Trina and David Morrison-Co-House Management  
Charlotte Morrison-Ticket Manager  
Costume Designer-TBA  
Mary Olson-Poster Designer  
Daniels Studio-Group Photos

There was a brief discussion as to whether there is a need for a fourth assistant stage manager. Stephen will ask Laura Bidgood about this. A meeting with Mary Olson will

also be called to discuss ideas for a poster design in order to have it ready for the website by October.

Jacob Wellington asked Stephen if he could be an assistant director with Joe Andrews. Joe Andrews is okay with the idea. The board approved of the idea, but agreed that some guidelines will need to be created as to what are the duties of an assistant director.

Auditions for The Grand Duke will be held at Lake Harriet United Methodist Church on Sunday, November 10, from 5:00 to 9:00 pm and Monday, November 11, from 7:30 to 10:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, and Call Backs on Tuesday, November 12 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm in the sanctuary.

The rehearsal space will be booked at a later date as the church does not book “outside” groups more than six months in advance.

The Grand Duke opens March 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 with the Preview on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

Other News:

Some ideas for the show from Joe Andrews:

Make the show within the show be another Gilbert and Sullivan show.

Possibly set the show in Edwardian times “a la Downton Abbey.”

Move the show from Germany, where it is set originally, to an England manor house, again, “a la Downton Abbey.”

The first Grand Duke production meeting will be sometime in August.

Church News: The A.V. crew took down the lights at Plymouth in June in preparation for the sprinkler work. They are stored under the orchestra platform.

Malka asked Wally to talk to a ticketing service called Gold Star regarding offering discount theater tickets. Questions as to how much the surcharge on each ticket arose. Wally will look into it.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Holt