

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

**August 31, 2017**

In attendance: Stephen Hage, Barb Hovey, Wally Benbenek, Shawn Holt, Malka Key, Mary Gregory, Alex Gerschak, John Orbison

The meeting began at 7:00 pm.

*Orpheus in the Underworld:*

Stephen e-mailed a cast list and rehearsal schedule to board members and cast.

Sitzprobe is Thursday, October 19 and piano dress is on Friday, October 20.

The understudy rehearsal will be on Sunday, October 22.

Tech. week rehearsals will be Monday, October 23 and Wednesday, October 25 with no on Tuesday, October 24.

Preview is on Thursday, October 25.

There is a need for 3 rehearsal pianists as well as space for each. Stephen will follow up with Jean Van Heel regarding her rehearsal schedule and with Richard Rames to contact pianists. (Jean, Steve, and Lawrence.)

The substitutes for Chorus Representatives will be Mary Benbenek for the women's chorus, and Eric Pasternack for the men's chorus.

Wally Benbenek will arrange for pictures of the two Eurydices and Aristaeus / Pluto for the Star Tribune as soon as possible.

Gold Star will be handling discounted tickets and advertising.

Malka Key will announce usher opportunities and have people e-mail Shawn Holt with names.

Mary Gregory will take t-shirt orders while Wally Benbenek will have the image vectorized.

Tickets and House Management are being handled by Trina Morrison.

*Princess Ida:*

Randy Buikema, Joe Andrews, Denise Brophy and Barb Portinga are all on board for Princess Ida.

Randy Buikema and Joe Andrews want the same schedule as for Orpheus, with the break on the Tuesday of Tech Week.

The Thursday performance has been removed.

Audition schedule is Saturday, November 4 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm, Sunday, November 5 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm, with Monday, November 6 from 7:00 to 10:00 pm for call backs.

Stephen need to call Lake Harriet United Methodist Church regarding the rehearsal schedule.

The pianists need to be secured and Stephen will follow up with Jean for rehearsal schedules and with Richard to contact Jean, Steve and Lawrence.

Job Descriptions:

It has been recommended that each board member write a job description of their duties for their eventual replacement. A short description of the job will be available for reading on the regular page in the web site with a more detailed version in encryption on the web site.

Diversity in auditions and casting:

Malka raised the issue of how do we attract a more diverse cast base.

Suggestions were:       Post audition notices in community colleges and universities.  
                                  Place calls and/or send e-mails to theater directors and voice teachers.  
                                  Stephen will call people he knows.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Holt