

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

August 25, 2019

In attendance were: Stephen Hage, Shawn Holt, Barb Hovey, Anna Maher, Alexander Gerchak, Malka Key, John Orbison

This Board Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Belle Helene:

The reading of *Belle Helene* has been set for Sunday, September 22, 2019, at 3:00 pm, at the Orion Associates West Building. The show has been cast and Leslie Hendrickson will hold rehearsals at the Orion Associates West Building the week prior to the reading. Stephen Hage will follow up with Leslie regarding the announcement to the company regarding the *Belle Helene* reading.

A House Divided:

The Board made the decision that, despite our admiration for the piece and our friendship and loyalty to Tom and Maureen Berg, the company would not produce *A House Divided*, based on the determination that the production doesn't fit with the Gilbert & Sullivan Very Light Opera Company's artistic vision and mission, as well as continued budgetary concerns. Board members will be available and willing to talk with any company members who have questions about this decision.

The Fall Sing-Through:

The Fall Sing-Through is set for Sunday, October 13, 2019, at the Becketwood Cooperative from 1:00 to 5:30 pm. Jean Van Heel is accompanying. Registration for roles is open until September 15, 2019.

The Fall Cabaret:

Anna Maher recommended there not be a cabaret this fall as there are numerous other GSVLOC events taking place. There will be a Ruddigore promotional cabaret, as there was for *The Mikado*, on the weekend of February 28, 29 and March 1, 2020. Anna would like to do a poll of the cabaret singers asking them if they enjoy doing them and if they think the cabarets should continue, as well as what kind of repertoire they should consider doing.

Ruddigore:

Auditions are scheduled for Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3, 2019. Call Backs are scheduled for Monday, November 4, 2019.

Ruddigore will be set in the 1940s with allusions to classic films and film noir.

Our new Stage Manager is Katie McClean.

Stephen will ask Joe Andrews about what kinds of props and how many may be used. Do we still need Katie Phillips? Stephen will also follow up with her.

Utopia, Limited

The challenge for the rewrite will be to eliminate the operetta's racial issue while keeping the "poking fun at British Corporations" theme. The committee will have to address this issue as well as other issues. Stephen will send an e-mail to those who express interest in the rewrite asking for them to write a proposal of what and how they would like to see changed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Shawn Holt