

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

November 17, 2019

In attendance were: Malka Key, Shawn Holt, Wally Benbenek, Alexander Gerchak, Barb Hovey, John Orbison, Anna Maher, Stephen Hage, Jean Van Heel

The Board Meeting was called to order at 7:38 pm.

Audience Survey:

Anna Maher has created a survey of questions asking our audience to rate their experience with the company and preferences for future work. The Board approved testing the survey this season to determine if it provides us with helpful information. Anna will set it up in Google to have it ready one month before the opening of *Ruddigore*.

Call Backs and Casting Concerns:

Anna Maher and Alexander Gerchak raised a number of concerns with this year's Call Back and Casting process. Subsequent to the discussion that ensued, the Board affirmed the Company's position that no principal roles are pre-cast. Stephen Hage said that, in the future, he would not allow people to be called back for roles that have been cast before Call Backs. In addition, the website's audition notice will be much clearer noting that one has the option of reading sides at their initial audition if they are unable to come to Call Backs.

Future Directors:

Four prominent Twin Cities directors have expressed interest in directing the GSVLOC, including Gary Briggie, Joe Chvala, Matt McNabb and Paul Coates. Stephen Hage will contact Gary Briggie to notify him that we are aware of his interest. Subsequently, he will contact the other three candidates to see which of them are interested in directing our next production, *The Sorcerer*, in 2021. The interested candidates will be interviewed by a small group of company members.

Production Meeting:

The next Production Meeting for *Ruddigore* will be Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 7:00 pm, at the Orion Associates Golden Valley East office, at 820 Lilac Drive, in Golden Valley.

Cabaret:

The next cabaret is titled "From Gilbert & Sullivan to Broadway" and will be held at Honey in Northeast Minneapolis, on Saturday, November 30, 2019, at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, December 1 at 7:30 pm. Jean Van Heel will be accompanying.

Other Business:

Sarah Mehle is holding a benefit event for her newly founded Minne Opera project at Honey in Northeast Minneapolis, on Sunday, November 24, 2019, at 7:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Shawn Holt