

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

October 20, 2019

In attendance were: Holly MacDonald, John Orbison, Anna Maher, Wally Benbenek, Stephen Hage, Maureen Kane Berg, Tom Berg, Lesley Hendrickson, Mary Benbenek, Steve Shellenberg, Brianna Sullivan, Alexander Gerchak, Shawn Holt, Barb Hovey, Malka Key

Voting by Proxy: Maggie Burr, Sarah Mehle, Eric Mellum, Lara Trujillo

The meeting began at 7:35 pm.

Synopsis of *La Belle Helene*: Lesley Hendrickson

Lesley Hendrickson provided a synopsis of *La Belle Helene*. The show is funny and has good chorus parts with solos within the chorus. There is a need for some pre-production expense to prepare the piano/vocal and orchestra scores. The company would need to create its own copies. This would require someone who has expertise in us of Sibelius or Finale programs. There would be a need to find ways to save money to mount this production.

The floor was then opened to a general discussion.

The *La Belle Helene* Vote:

The membership in attendance then voted as to produce *La Belle Helene* as a spring show in a year to be determined.

Voting Results:

Yes	14 votes
No	5 votes
Abstain	1 vote

Discussion of the Other Shows Considered for the Spring 2021 Production:

The Sorcerer: Wally will provide a synopsis of *The Sorcerer*, noting that the show is great for the chorus, but has a slow starter and a problematic male lead.

Utopia, Limited: Stephen, Malka and Alexander reported that they are revising the 2008 script. The primary change to the script, to address the issue of race, is that the Utopians are the descendants of English men and women who became stranded on a deserted south pacific island, either in a lost penal colony (Botany Bay / Pitcairn Island) or by shipwreck approximately 100 plus years ago. They've reestablished ties with England and are seeking the benefits of trade and modernization.

The committee estimates that their revisions will constitute changes to the 2008 version of approximately 5 to 10% of the text.

The 2021 Show Vote:

Vote for the three shows under consideration was by ranked choice voting. A short explanation was given as to how to rank the votes by a 1, 2 or a 3 and how the runners-up were counted.

Voting Results:

<i>The Sorcerer</i>	9 votes
<i>La Belle Helene</i>	5 votes
<i>Utopia, Limited</i>	5 votes

The Sorcerer, therefore, will be the Spring 2021 production.

La Belle Helene and *Utopia, Limited* will be on the ballot for the 2022 season, to be held at the next Annual Meeting in 2020.

Wally moved to adjourn the meeting and Alexander seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Holt