



Village Arts Coalition

Minutes: VAC Board Meeting 11 July 2013 at the home of Susan Smith. Called to order at 7:07PM by Larry Utter.

1. **Present:** Susan Smith, Chuck Palmer, Jim Borzym, Rick Thompson, Willard Crary, Larry Utter, Melba Shepard, Caroline Stepanek, Joseph Snowhawk.
Guest: Ingvar Sodal.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** 2 May 2013-Melba moved, Rick 2nd, passed.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** 30 May 2013 - This meeting substituted for the June 2013 meeting. Chuck moved, Susan 2nd, passed.
4. **Special report from Ingvar regarding Pearl Street Studio (PSS):** After 16 years of serving as a dance studio, PSS may close some time later this year and all dance groups will be offered their current time slot if they want to move Sodal Hall (SH) at the Avalon. The ultimate disposal of PSS is not known at this time. The status of the VAC investment in FDIG (which owns the studio) may change. If PSS is rented to a profit entity, it is not certain if a non-profit (VAC) can still maintain an interest in the studio and receive income from PSS. The VAC may need to leave the partnership (FDIG). Income to VAC from a commercially rented PSS is probably in conflict with the non-profit charter. There is also the question of what to do with the money realized from the sale of VAC's portion of FDIG. Does any of this jeopardize the tax exempt status of the VAC? This needs to be referred to the finance committee for further discussion.
5. **Standing Reports**
 - a. **Treasurer** – No new report.
 - b. **Avalon** –
 1. Sodal hall has the floor finish coat on it. It is totally functional as a dance space, but is not finished as a space. It still needs a good amount of work, but the floor is done. Gustavo will be using the space until his studio is finished.
 2. Sound system will cost \$4,500-5,500 and the money is in the Avalon account.
 3. North Lobby will be kept as a viable dance space.
 4. Improvements are being made to the AC system.
 - c. **Web site** – no new report.
 - d. **Rental Rates for Sodal Hall**

For Pearl Street Users: Current PS rate will be honored until January 1, 2014.
Rate for other users for 2013-14:

Weekday rate before 4pm	Groups fewer than 20 people - \$20/hour Groups of more than 20 - \$25/hour
Evening and weekend rate	
After 4 pm	Fewer than 20 people - \$25/hour More than 20 people - \$30/hour

After 7pm requires a 3 hour minimum rate.

Groups larger than 50 people will have a higher rate than those above, to be determined.

Groups moving from PSS must absolutely decide by November 1, 2013 whether they plan to use Sodal Hall space or not.

- e. **Avalon Management:** Summer is slower, but makes “catch-up” time for staff.

6. Business (Old and New)

- a. **Resignation** – Mary Kay Gillson has resigned from the board.
- b. **Stomp! Revision** - see attached report. Caroline will edit the Sept/Oct issue (her 37th issue) and then retire from the process. Thanks, Caroline, for such a dedicated job on Stomp! The new format will aim at communication with members and among member groups.
- c. **Retreat** - To be held August 11, but date may be changed to Aug 10-11 and the retreat could be held in Steamboat Springs (Halina and Chuck’s invitation). Jim will start working with Larry on an agenda for the retreat to include review and evaluation of goals and where do we go from here.
- d. **Motion** -The August board meeting will be skipped in lieu of the retreat. Chuck moved, Joseph 2nd. 8 yes, one abstention.
- e. There is a possibility of having a speaker discuss problems with non-profits.

7. Next Meeting: 5 Sept, 2012. Susan Smith’s home.

8. Motion to Adjourn: Jim, Rick 2nd , passed. Meeting adjourned 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Smith (for Susie Reisser)

Addendum:

Recommendations for STOMP!

1. Stomp! will be published four times a year instead of six, starting with The Jan, Feb, March issue. The last issue in the old format will be Sept/Oct. This issue will include all information about the changes to Stomp! and information directing people to look for future issues on line, Sept./Oct with calendar included.

2. Remove the calendar from Stomp! and indicate it’s online with large notices throughout the printed Stomp!. Removing the calendar will remove four pages of print and reduce the Stomp! to eight pages. This is a significant change in the cost of printing.

500 copies of 12 sides cost \$362 each printing, x 6 issues/year = \$2172.00

500 copies of 8 sides cost \$277 each printing x 4 issues/year = \$1108.00

yearly savings from printing \$1064.00

Mailings would be reduced to the paid request list and out-of-town members, libraries, etc. Currently 250 Stomp! are mailed.

3. We propose to hire Mary Kay as graphic artist for layout design of the issues. Currently our designer charges \$2,400/year. By using a simpler format we should be able to cut this cost by over half.

4. Help member groups to keep their calendar information up to date information on the Avalon site.
5. We strongly suggest that membership by groups be paid by a certain date (End of March) in order to ensure that they stay listed in the Stomp! and calendar. This saves countless hours of revision by the Stomp! editor, adding and subtracting groups. All groups performing in the International Festival should pay the minimum \$25.00 fee to be included in the VAC website.
6. We suggest using a vehicle email such as "GoDaddy" or "Mail Chimp" or even just a member's group list to request news and photos from member groups. Content of Stomp! will be based on what we receive from member groups. Other miscellaneous articles of interest to the community will be included.

Before each issue groups will be contacted to request articles. If there are few articles submitted it could be a short Stomp! If many articles are submitted we will archive them for later issues. We will attempt to stay current with events.

Since we currently do not have an editor of Stomp, we will use a "co-ordinator" to add news/photos to the Stomp issues.

7. We propose to hire Mary Kay as a graphic artist at the rate of \$45.00/hour for layout of the issues. Susan might help Mary Kay.
8. Mary Kay has done a mock-up of the Go-Daddy request for news. We'll attach it. We would use a similar format to request articles/photos.
9. The bio-information submitted by groups and printed in STOMP! will continue as a list of short, useful information
10. We envision the new STOMP! with a new purpose, as a way to keep our members better informed about what is going on, to keep everyone more involved. Perhaps even a "Message from our President."

10. We will need someone to take the Stomp! to the printer and to mail out the hardcopies that need to be mailed.

11. Possible short articles for next issues could be

- Report from the President of VAC
- Board news and/or introduce the board
- Ingvar and why it's named Sodal Hall
- Bios of our work party chefs
- Introducing the main Sodal Hall volunteer carpenters and painters
- Avalon happenings
- Report on dancing at the Maple Grove Grange (Maureen)
- Special fun news like the dance group that went to Colombia for a wedding!
- All about the Moon Festival
- New Dance Barn in Longmont (Susie R)
- Folk Dancing in Ghana (Skip and Lynne)

- Whats a Melonga? (sp)
- Who calls contra?

For these articles we might want to have a volunteer roving reporter on board.

Caroline Stepanek

Mary Kay Gillson

Susan Smith