

## February 4, 2017, ICTA Board Minutes

The Iowa Community Theatre Association board met in Newton on February 4, 2017. In attendance were Rick Myers, Norman Ussery, Molly Ketchum, John Olson, Cheryl Zieringer, Donna Smithson, Bobbi Lutzen, and Loween Getter. President Rick convened the meeting at 12:40 P.M.

Mel moved, Norman seconded, carried, an approval of the minutes of the November 14, 2016, meeting as distributed through Center Stage. In the absence of the treasurer, there was no financial report.

After discussion and revisions, the fund-raiser to be implemented at the AACT/Fest meeting in Marshalltown will be a 50/50 drawing. Molly moved, John seconded, carried. Tickets will be one dollar each or six tickets for five dollars. When the number is drawn, the winner will receive one-half of the money; the other half will be placed in the L.K. Boutin fund. (Mr. Boutin presented an endowment fund many years ago to be used for grants to encourage theater growth. Only the interest is spent annually for grants. Information is on the ICTA web site.) One drawing will be held at the close of the Friday night performances; a new drawing will be held after the Saturday night performance session; a third drawing will conclude after the Saturday night gala. These are three separate drawings. The person must be present to win. Rick will check to determine if a gambling license is required.

Loween reported that Center Stage should be out the second week of February. As the meeting progressed, various issues were suggested to be announced in Center Stage. Several board members had received copies of the Minnesota newsletter and conveyed their appreciation of having a copy which gave details for the Region V and national levels of the 2017 AACT/Fest events.

There was much discussion on the Iowa festival. Two theaters cancelled out which leaves seven productions, four workshops by the adjudicators, and the Gala (celebration of winners) for the Iowa Awards in Excellence program. Various suggestions were made for changes, especially in the time schedule and publicity efforts.

The nominations committee consists of board members who are in the second year of their three-year term: Rick, Donna, Molly, Jason, Pam. Donna will chair the election. An article in Center Stage and on the web ([www.iowacommunitytheatres.com](http://www.iowacommunitytheatres.com)) will give brief information about each board member's responsibilities and opportunities for influence of theater in Iowa. Potential board candidates should contact [lenoxdonna@lenoxia.com](mailto:lenoxdonna@lenoxia.com) immediately. Terms expiring are for: Helen, Carol, Mel, Christine, Cheryl

The Gala received many comments and suggestions. All review sheets (and these are not critique sheets) are presented to Pam. Pam and Mel will send the tallying information to both Cheryl and John who will check all of the information, connect with the theaters to proof their names and spellings, and place the top numbers of each category into a booklet to be provided to Gala attenders. Because of the large number of productions that are reviewed, the people from every production from every theater will not be listed. Only the top ten (an, as yet, unidentified cap) in each category will be printed. This program has definitely expanded, and it is the board's hope that more and more theaters will ask to have their productions reviewed. What an honor it is to receive a winner's goblet!

John reported for an Awards in Excellence committee (John, Mel, Cheryl, Pam). After discussing their recommendation, it was decided that beginning in 2017 reviews of musicals and dramas will be placed in different categories for rankings. This means that at the Gala held at the 2018 Convention there will be eighteen categories rather than eleven to receive a top award. Mel moved, Loween seconded, carried.

Regarding policies, it was affirmed that individuals may become members under their own name and address, and theaters may become members. There is no category for businesses.

A question arose regarding the inscription of a winning theater's name on the traveling trophy that is won through the Festival process. It is the responsibility of the individual theater to include its name with the other winners. Because this trophy is a traveling trophy, John suggested that a plaque be presented to the winners, the runner-up, and the theater host. Another suggestion was a plaque be presented to the two winners, and a nicely framed certificate be given to the runner-up and host. Rick and Donna are each going to check prices in areas familiar with them before a decision is made. There was no motion.

It was also suggested that the ICTA Board tell the adjudicators in what categories to select winners. The board would choose the category; the adjudicators would choose the winner. Mel is going to ask Sue Buekema to check with the AACT adjudicator for an opinion.

At 3:07 John moved adjournment; Mel seconded; carried. The next meeting will be at the March Festival.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Smithson, Secretary