

**FIRST MEETING OF THE YEAR 2020
FLATO MARKHAM THEATRE ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF MARKHAM
Canada Room, Civic Centre
Monday, January 27th, 2020**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Present

Stephen Timms, Chair
Councillor Alan Ho
Councillor Keith Irish
Aleem Israel
Diane Lai
Kathy McCarty
Ronald Minken
Carrie Sally
Sophia Sun

Staff

Eric Lariviere
Debbie Watson

Regrets

Suelyn Cheong
Anne Gilligan
Deborah Jestin
Ron Lynn
Ken MacDonald – via teleconference
Justin Reid
Srinka Wallia
Am Woods
Scott Hill
Andrew Rosenfarb

Guests

Jewell Lofsky

The meeting convened at the hour of 5:40 p.m. with Stephen Timms in the Chair.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

- Happy New Year
- Stephen Chait is retiring January 30th
- Christina Kakaflikas, Acting Director of Economic Growth, Culture & Entrepreneurship, introduced herself

2.0 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

- none declared

3.0 AGENDA REVIEW, ADDITIONS/CHANGES

- to define working committees and task forces FY 2020 – will be addressed in priority item

3.1 Board Meeting Attendance

- provide for teleconferencing to be available at each theatre advisory board meeting

Moved by Diane Lai

Seconded by Kathy McCarty

WHEREAS the City of Markham is recognized as Canada's high tech capital, and in an effort to maintain that status and keep up with current and evolving technologies, the Flato Markham Theatre Advisory Board requests that Council consider a board member who participates in a meeting via teleconferencing, skype, or other similar methods, be counted as part of a quorum, which is not permitted under current legislation.

Carried.

4.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Carrie Sally

Seconded by Diane Lai

THAT the minutes of the Flato Markham Theatre Advisory Board meeting for Monday, November 25th, 2019, be approved.

Carried.

5.0 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT – ITEMS ARISING

- Wi-Fi bandwidth frequency sold by Federal Government which forces the Theatre to buy new wireless equipment by May, 2020 – staff is working in resolving the situation to comply with new Government rules
- the new electronic Highway 7 sign should be in place by early March
- seven ECEY performances in January had to be cancelled due to on-going teachers' labour disputes
- Coronavirus:
 - two shows cancelled yesterday due to coronavirus
 - following City's health and safety guidelines and task force; will be monitoring this situation closely and provide update timely
 - staff is also getting legal advice on the wording of rental and artist contracts to determine if any additions should be considered under the theme of "Force Majeure".
- all theatre staff, both full and part-time, are taking Diversity Training this month

- we applied to the Department of Canadian Heritage for a grant through the Anti-Racism Action Program
It would allow for –
 - the creation of a Markham Global Youth Choir (MAGYC);
 - diversity and cultural sensitivity training and workshops; and
 - bridge artists with the diverse community through artist engagement and outreach programs
- the new ticketing system has resulted in more on-line sales; we no longer have to pay a fee for on-line sales
- preliminary 2019 results – total operation of \$3,799,585; 7% growth vs. 2018; City contribution = 21% of total operation
- the replacement of the HVAC system in 2021 will require that we close for two months (8 to 10 weeks), from Mid-August to Thanksgiving
- board advised staff to perhaps look at negotiating better term for duration of work/look at benchmarks for similar replacement in other theatres?

6.0 PRIORITY ITEMS – PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

6.1 Appointment of Theatre Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Moved by Aleem Israel
Seconded by Sophia Sun

THAT Diane Lai be appointed Theatre Board Chair for the year 2020.

Carried.

Moved by Diane Lai
Seconded by Ronald Minken

THAT Deborah Jestin be appointed Theatre Board Vice-Chair for the year 2020.

Carried.

6.2 Nomination of Committees, Task Forces, and Committee Chairs

- the MPAAAs should remain the same as a task force; it is more of a community event; Gala committee should start working on the 2020 event.
- It is suggested to create a task force to review the mandate/terms of reference of the Theatre Advisory Board within the context of the recent creation of the Markham Foundation for the Performing Arts; it is however proposed that this task be taken by the strategic planning committee.

Moved by Kathy McCarty
Seconded by Aleem Israel

THAT the existing Working Committees and Task Forces stay intact, and that the priority task of the Strategic Planning Committee will be to review the mandate and terms of reference of the advisory board, in the context of the creation of Markham Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Carried.

- **Strategic Plan Committee** – Diane Lai and Stephen Timms, Co-Chairs
- **Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee** – Ronald Minken, Chair
- **Gala Committee** - Deb Jestin and Ken MacDonald, Co-Chairs
- **Markham Performing Arts Awards Task Force** – Kathy McCarty and Sophia Sun, Co-Chairs
- Board members are invited to submit their names for any of the Committees

7.0 WORKING COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

7.1 Strategic Plan Committee

- nothing to report at this time

7.2 Fundraising and Sponsorship Committee

- nothing to report at this time

7.3 Gala Committee

- nothing to report at this time

7.4 Markham Performing Arts Awards Task Force

- nothing to report at this time

8.0 NEW BUSINESS

- Thank you to Stephen for his service on the Board. He has done a wonderful job as both member and Chair, and is an incredible leader.

9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- Monday, February 24th, 2020; 5:30 p.m.
- Canada Room, Civic Centre

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

- 7:00 pm