

Houston Ballet Foundation
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
MINUTES
Monday, May 15th 2023

Call to order: The Houston Ballet Board of Trustees Meeting was held in-person on Monday, May 15 2023 in Houston, Texas. The meeting convened at 4:35pm.

Quorum: Achieved (per by-law requirements)

Trustees Present:

Dr. Julia D. Andrieni, Mr. Bill Baldwin, Mrs. Melza Barr, Mrs. Diane Bazelides, Ms. Ann Bean, Mrs. Susan Binney, Mrs. Kristy J. BraToussaint,sey Brown,Mr. James Cowan, Sahsa Davis, Mrs. Mignon Gill, Mr. Jesse H. Jones II, Mr. James M. Jordan, Natasha Khan, Chad Libertus,Mrs. Kelley S. Lubanko, Mrs. Jean E. May Ms. Nancy Powell Moore, Ms. Beth Muecke, Tammy Tran Nguyen, Mrs. Cabrina Owsley, Amy Pincu, Elisa Pye, Mr. Kent Schaffer, Ms. Jordan Seff, Mrs. Helen Shaffer, Ms. Sunday Shepherd, Dannika E. Simpson, Ms. S. Shawn Stephens, Mrs. Erika Toussaint, Stephanie Tsuru, Mrs. Phoebe Tudor, Mrs. Christine Underwood, Ms. Hallie Vanderhider, and Mrs. Amber Westman.

Guests Present:

Orchestra Representative James Wilson

Staff Present:

MJ Bavaret, Rachel Koenig, Angela Lane, Angela Lee, James Nelson, Kristi Roberts, Jennifer Sommers, and Stanton Welch AM.

Mrs. Bradshaw welcomed everyone and called to order the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees. With a quorum present, Mrs. Bradshaw introduced the new Trustee candidates for the Class 2023-2026. The candidates presented included

Mr. Bill Baldwin, Ms. Zoe Cadore, Ms. Kay Chevray, Ms. Jane DiPaolo, Mrs. Marianne Geagea, Ms. Victoria Gutierrez, Mrs. Jayne Johnston, Mr. Ed Koehler, Mr. Phil Lane, Monica Radoff, Mr. Kent Schaffer, Ms. Jordan Seff, Mrs. Renee Humphrey-FY24 Guild President, and Mrs. Leslie Alston– FY24 Guild Treasurer, all of which were unanimously approved.

Following this, Mrs. Bradshaw called for approval of the 2023 – 2024 slate of Executive Committee Officers and Members-at-Large, all of which were unanimously approved. Mrs. Bradshaw then recognized and thanked Ms. Ann Bean– FY23 Guild President, Mrs. Elise Joseph, and Mr. James Parr for their service on the Executive Committee. Mrs. Bradshaw also recognized Mr. Bastiaan de Zeeuw, Mr. Jeremy Griggs, Ms. Gillian Hobson, Mr. Shane Miller, and Mrs. Amber Westman-FY23 Guild Treasurer for their service on the board.

Mrs. Bradshaw then called for a motion to approve the February 13, 2023 Full Board Meeting minutes. With a quorum present, the minutes were approved.

Mrs. Bradshaw then invited Vice President of Finance, Mrs. Amy Pincu, to present the recommended FY24 budget to the Board of Trustees. With a quorum present, the budget for the fiscal year 2023 – 2024 was approved.

Mrs. Bradshaw thanked Mrs. Pincu and then invited Ms. Ann Bean, FY23 Guild President, to present the Guild Report.

Ms. Bean gave an overview of the Guild's 2022 – 2023 season and provided statistics from the recent year. Making a net contribution of \$38,029.

Mrs. Bradshaw thanked Ms. Bean for her reports and proceeded to give the Special Events recap and Development report.

Mrs. Bradshaw began the Special Events recap with gratitude towards the 2022– 2023 event chairs and honorees including Onstage Dinner Chairs Christine and David M Underwood Jr, 2023 Ballet Ball Chairs Allison and Troy Thacker and Raising the Barre co-chairs Dr. Liliana Soltero and Dr. Michael Hawkins, and Mitchell B. George and Stanley Curtis Jr. Mrs. Bradshaw noted the season's events raised nearly \$1.8 million in revenue.

Mrs. Bradshaw concluded the special events report by announcing the 2023 – 2024 season Special Events including the Onstage Dinner (September 8 2023), Nutcracker Market (November 8th- November 12th 2023) Ballet Ball (February 17th, 2024), and Raising the Barre (April 28th, 2024).

Following the Special Events and Development report, Mrs. Smith invited Mr. James Nelson to give the Executive Director's report.

Executive Director's Report:

Mr. Nelson began his report thanking the FY23 season's underwriters. Letty Loya, Jerry Ann Woodfin-Costa and Victor Costa, Hallie Vanderhider, Phoebe and Bobby Tudor, Ann Trammell, Stephanie and Frank Tsuru, Ted and Melza Barr, and Margaret Alkek Williams. Mr. Nelson also gave a special thanks to the Japan Tour of Swan Lake Major Underwriters Akemi and Yasuhiko Saitoh.

Mr. Nelson recapped FY23 Financials.

Mr. Nelson invited trustees to join for the unveiling of a series of new murals currently being created in downtown Houston—including the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance-May 27 at 10:00 am at University of Houston Downtown.

Mr. Nelson shared a status of the 2023-2026 strategic plan.

Mr. Nelson paid tribute to trustees who have passed in an in-memoriam page. Fayez Sarofim, Paul Radelat, Lila Rauch.

Mr. Nelson concluded his report with the announcement of honoring Mr. Stanton Welch AM for his 20th anniversary with Houston Ballet.

Following this, Mrs. Bradshaw invited Mr. Stanton Welch AM to give the Artistic Director's report.

Artistic Director's Report:

Mr. Welch began his report by highlighting the successful weekend of Miller Outdoor Theatre performances. Mr. Welch also discussed the upcoming programs, Divergence and Swan Lake and announced three academy promotions.

Mr. Welch then invited Mrs. Lauren Anderson to the podium to share information about the newly created Lauren Anderson Dance Residency at Ucross ranch. Mrs. Anderson announced that the first recipient of the residency is Houston Ballet Demi Soloist Jack Wolff. Mr. Wolff will spend the summer of 2024 at the Ucross Ranch.

Mr. Wolff thanked the board and Mrs. Lauren Anderson for the opportunity.

Mr. Welch then invited Ms. Jen Sommers to give the Academy and Education & Engagement report.

Following this, Ms. Sommers invited Madison Russo to present her original work *SPINA*

Adjournment:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45PM.