

HOUSTON BALLET FOUNDATION

Board of Trustees Meeting

MINUTES

Margaret Alkek Williams Dance Lab

Monday, February 12, 2018 at 4:30 pm

Call to order:

The Houston Ballet Board of Trustees meeting was held in the Margaret Alkek Williams Dance Lab of the Center for Dance in Houston, Texas on Monday, February 12, 2018. The meeting convened at 4:37 pm.

Quorum: achieved (per by-law requirements)

Trustees Present:

Mrs. Holly Alvis, Mrs. Melza Barr, Mrs. Diane Bazelides, Mr. Gary V. Beauchamp, Mrs. Kristy J. Bradshaw, Mrs. Wendy Wilkins Burks, Mr. Richard L. Burleson, Mrs. Keiko Chevray, Mrs. Amy LeBlanc Cloud, Ms. Sasha Davis, Mrs. Pamela D. Earthman, Mrs. Sharon Erskine, Mrs. Jo Furr, Mr. Mitchell George, Sandra S. Godfrey, Mrs. Anne Graubart, Mrs. Jennifer Gravenor, Mr. Joseph A. Hafner, Jr., Mrs. Nancy Haywood, Ms. Emily Kernan Hilber, Mr. Jesse H. Jones II, Mrs. Elise Joseph, Mrs. Melissa Holman Juneau, Dr. Dale G. Konicek, Dr. Bridgitte Shen Lee, Mrs. Elizabeth Leykum, Mr. Mark Loveland, Mr. Jerry Martin, Mr. Daniel M. McClure, Mrs. Melissa Mithoff, Ms. Nancy Powell Moore, Dr. Duyen Huynh Nguyen, Mr. James M. Nicklos, Dr. Dana Ondrias, Mrs. Amy Pincu, Mrs. Elisa S. Pye, Mrs. Carroll Robertson Ray, Mrs. Leigh M. Smith, Ms. S. Shawn Stephens, Mrs. Allison Thacker, Becca Cason Thrash, Mrs. Phoebe Tudor, Ms. Hallie Vanderhider, and Mrs. Elizabeth Zdeblick

Guests Present:

Houston First Representatives: David Mincberg, Roksan Okan-Vick, Peter McStravick, Sheila Turkiewicz, and Jim Garcia

Orchestra Representatives: Spencer Park and Amanda Swain

Company Dancers: Oliver Halkowich, Melody Mennite, and Connor Walsh

Staff Present:

Jim Nelson, Stanton Welch, MJ Bavaret, Patsy Chapman, Ermanno Florio, Kelli Gilson, Angela Lane, Lindsey Hurst, Chenay Newton, Andrew Nielson, Lane Roebuck, Jennifer Sommers, Ashley Tagle, Ty Woodfolk, and Alexandra Yates

Mrs. Allison Thacker called to order the Board of Trustees Meeting and welcomed everyone. Mrs. Thacker announced Mr. Chad Libertus joined the Board of Trustees on October 1, 2017 as the new corporate Trustee for KPMG, replacing Mr. David Pincus.

Mrs. Thacker then called for approval of the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on September 25, 2017. With a quorum established, the minutes were approved.

Mrs. Thacker gave a brief update on upcoming Special Events, including the 2018 Houston Ballet Ball on Saturday, February 17, 2018 and Raising the Barre on Sunday, April 29, 2018.

She then called upon Mr. James Nelson to give the Executive Director's report.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Nelson began his report by recapping the changes to this season due to Hurricane Harvey, including canceled, rescheduled, and relocated performances. He also noted the highly successful 2017 Nutcracker Market, as well as the inaugural Opening Night Onstage Dinner. Mr. Nelson introduced, Ms. Lane Roebuck, the new Director of Marketing and Public Relations to the group. He thanked everyone for their efforts in making Houston Ballet's "Hometown Tour" a success.

Mr. Nelson then invited representatives from Houston First to give a presentation and update on the Wortham Theater Center. The representatives provided details on mitigation, timelines, and costs related to the reopening of the Wortham Theater, then opened the floor to questions.

Mrs. Thacker thanked the Houston First representatives for their presentation and Mr. Nelson for his report. She then called on Mr. Stanton Welch for the Artistic Director's report.

Artistic Director's Report

Mr. Welch began his report by sharing the recent company promotions with the group. He spoke about the remainder of the 2017-18 season, with details about the "unconventional" performances at the George R. Brown convention center. Mr. Welch invited company dancers, and Project REACH founders, Oliver Halkowich, Melody Mennite, and Connor Walsh, to speak about their experience creating a new work that will be performed at the General Assembly in June.

Mr. Welch reported on the 2018-19 season, including touring engagements to Jacob's Pillow and Dubai, the return to the Wortham Theater, and a detailed description of the season's repertory. He ended his report by showing a promotional video for the 2018-19 season.

Mrs. Thacker thanked Mr. Welch for his report.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm.