

HOUSTON BALLET FOUNDATION

Board of Trustees Meeting

MINUTES

Jones Studio

Monday, September 25, 2017 at 4:30 pm

Call to order:

The Houston Ballet Board of Trustees meeting was held in the Jones Studio of the Center for Dance in Houston, Texas on Monday, September 25, 2017. The meeting convened at 4:40 pm.

Quorum: achieved (per by-law requirements)

Trustees Present:

Mrs. Holly Alvis, Mrs. Melza Barr, Mrs. Diane Bazelides, Mr. Gary V. Beauchamp, Mrs. Gina Bhatia, Mrs. Kristy J. Bradshaw, Ms. Lindsey Brown, Mr. Richard L. Burlison, Mrs. Amy LeBlanc Cloud, Ms. Jan DeCoux, Mrs. Sharon Erskine, Mrs. Jo Furr, Mr. Mitchell George, Mignon Gill, Mrs. Jennifer Gravenor, Mr. Joseph A. Hafner, Jr., Mrs. Nancy Haywood, Ms. Emily Kernan Hilber, Dr. Bridgitte Shen Lee, Mrs. Elizabeth Leykum, Mr. Mark Loveland, Mrs. Kelley S. Lubanko, Mrs. Jean May, Mr. Richard K. McGee, Mrs. Melissa Mithoff, Ms. Nancy Powell Moore, Ms. Beth Muecke, Mr. James M. Nicklos, Dr. Dana Ondrias, Mrs. Cabrina Owsley, Mr. James J. Parr, Mrs. Elisa S. Pye, Mrs. Leigh M. Smith, Ms. S. Shawn Stephens, Mrs. Allison Thacker, Mrs. Phoebe Tudor, Mr. Marcus Watts and Mrs. Elizabeth Zdeblick

Guests Present:

Spencer Park and Amanda Swain, Orchestra Representatives

Staff Present:

Jim Nelson, Stanton Welch, MJ Bavaret, Patsy Chapman, Elizabeth Cleveland, Ermanno Florio, Kelli Gilson, Angela Lane, Lindsey Hurst, Chenay Newton, Andrew Nielson, Madeleine Onne, Larissa Potiomkin, Jennifer Sommers, Christine Stone-Martin, Ashley Tagle, Ty Woodfolk, Alexandra Yates, and Cheryl Zane

Mrs. Allison Thacker called to order the Board of Trustees Meeting and welcomed all of the new Board of Trustee members. Mrs. Thacker then called for approval of the minutes from the Annual Meeting of the Members held on May 15, 2017. With a quorum established, the minutes were approved.

Mrs. Thacker called upon Mrs. Myrna Fisch to provide a report on the upcoming Nutcracker Market. Mrs. Fisch provided an update on current sales for the Nutcracker Market which will be held at the NRG Center, November 8 – 12, 2017.

Mrs. Thacker then called upon Ms. S. Shawn Stephens, Vice President – Development, to give the Special Events Report. Ms. Stephens reported the Opening Night Onstage Dinner has been rescheduled for Thursday, October 26 following the opening performance of *Poetry in Motion* at the Hobby Center of Performing Arts. She gave an update on the 2018 Houston Ballet Ball, which will remain scheduled for Saturday, February 17, 2018 however, a new location will be announced soon. Ms. Stephens also gave an update on plans for Raising the Barre, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, April 29, 2018 from 6:00-9:00pm.

Mrs. Thacker thanked Ms. Stephens for her report. She then called upon Mr. James Nelson and Mr. Stanton Welch for their Directors' report.

Directors' Report

Mr. Welch began the report by inviting principal dancer, Karina Gonzalez, to share her news with the group. Mrs. Gonzalez announced her pregnancy and that she will be taking time off from performing.

Mr. Nelson continued the report by providing an update on the damage to the Houston Ballet Center for Dance and Wortham Theater Center as a result of the flooding from Hurricane Harvey as well as plans for rebuilding.

Mr. Nelson and Mr. Welch discussed the success of the *Mayerling* production and the positive reviews it received. They noted upcoming rescheduled performances of *Poetry in Motion*, the *Margaret Alkek Williams Jubilee of Dance* and *The Nutcracker* taking place at the Hobby Center of Performing Arts. Mr. Nelson discussed plans to secure a second location for additional performances of *The Nutcracker*. Mr. Nelson and Mr. Welch announced the company will perform in a Theater District wide performance at Miller Outdoor Theater on Wednesday, September 27, 2017.

Mr. Welch shared the recent company promotions with the group as well as design sketches for the upcoming world premiere of *Sylvia*. Mr. Nelson also spoke about and provided images of the new large format program which debuted at the *Mayerling* performances. The Directors' report ended with a performance by Houston Ballet Academy.

Mrs. Thacker thanked Mr. Nelson and Mr. Welch for their report.

Adjournment: With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:31 pm.