

PC PAC Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2019
2 PM

Kim Valentin, David Larson, Jay Pitts, Shelia Crawford, and Roy Costner IV were present.

Kim Valentin called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

Kim noted we did not have enough members for a quorum.

Kim asked that we send out email to establish a phone conference to approve minutes from previous meetings, bylaws, PC PAC Rental Contract, and discuss the potential of helping fund the capital project for new seats in the Performing Arts Center.

Jay discussed how the County is looking to help fund this project in cooperation with the Pickens County Performing Arts Foundation.

Kim mentioned we should reach out to the Mill Church to see if they might be willing to fund a portion of the chairs considering their contract is coming due in March for renegotiation.

Jay spoke on how the contract is due for the Mill Church in March and since the rental fees have changed at the PAC, those increases should be reflected in the new agreement.

Roy discussed the current financial status of the foundation. He spoke on how while we have had a loss of around \$16,000. The majority of those expenses were from renovations and a free show in honor of our Veterans in November. Despite these losses, attendance from December has steadily increased and indicates that it will continue with a consistent schedule.

Jay also mentioned that we are looking at finding an accountant to keep the books for the PC PAC and help file taxes. He mentioned two businesses we are looking at working with and should have direction by the end of March.

Kim made a comment that the loss from the veterans show and Christmas decorations was substantial and we should look at discontinuing the Veterans show or finding sponsors to offset the costs.

Jay mentioned that the PAC may receive A tax funds in the next fiscal year.

While speaking of budget, Kim also brought up concerns about funding the capital project for new seats. Based on previous cuts to budgets proposed by tourism like the Blue Ribbon Birthday Bash she is unsure if the County will agree to fund what is proposed. She asks that the board be sure of how much the County is willing to spend on the capital project before locking in an agreement with the company for new seats.

Jay mentioned that he will look at finding sponsors and request A Tax funding for the next Veteran's show.

Kim asked if we had received any revenue from ticket sales for Something Very Fishy and James Gregory.

Roy spoke on how we did not receive any income, other than the rental fees, from the performances; however, this allows the foundation to continue to build and develop a database of people who are interested in these types of shows.

Roy mentioned how this will be useful for future partnerships he is looking at with the South Carolina Entertainment Hall of Fame (SCEHOF). In the fall of 2019 and spring of 2020 he is looking at bringing in a comedy series in cooperation with SCEHOF which will make the information collected from James Gregory tickets invaluable. Roy continued that this partnership does not end there, but also brings in Honky Tonk Christmas in December and additional events throughout the tourism department. He mentioned that he is considering looking at the partnership as a 50/50 split. Both parties invest 50% and split the proceeds 50/50.

Jay spoke on how this partnership will lead to Pickens County becoming SCEHOF's house for new and upcoming acts.

Roy continued to speak on the potential of bringing in theatrical productions. He spoke on two different ways this could be approached. First, through tapping into people we have within our network to produce plays ourselves. Second, a partnership with Mill Town Players and Will Ragland to bring plays in that they would produce for us. He mentioned that Will is looking at this opportunity as a satellite church where he would produce a different show at the PAC than what is already playing in Pelzer. Roy continued that if we would like to go that direction Will has asked that our board submit a proposal so that he has something to go to his board with to continue discussions.

Jay provided context that this partnership would be close to a turnkey solution where Will would be able to provide costume designers, set constructors, etc.

Kim asked why not use the grant Jamie received during the conference from the past fall.

Roy mentioned that we are planning to still use the grant for the fall season and is working with Jamie to narrow the selection down.

Kim suggested we use the grant to bring in plays, or pay people for traveling plays rather than worrying about all the details of executing a play.

David spoke that this partnership has the potential to be a turnkey operation and the Mill Town Players similar to paying a traveling show.

Kim wanted to make sure that we understand that we do not have the resources to produce the shows ourselves. This agreement would require us to lean on the Mill Town Players to staff the productions.

David asked if we have any idea of the costs for his productions. An action item was created to follow up with Will to ask the following questions:

1. How much have the last three productions he put on cost?
2. How much time will he need on stage?
3. Where will they rehearse?

David mentioned that we should insure that the brand of the Mill Town Players productions has both Pickens County Performing Arts Center and Mill Town Players branded.

Jay mentioned the success of the Something Very Fishy production and spoke on how Kathy Prosser is excited to bring the production back for next year.

Roy mentioned that she is looking for booking an an entire month in March of 2020.

Based on the sewage problems during the performance, Jay also mentioned that the City of Liberty is looking at getting the sewage pipes replaced/fixed in the near future depending on a grant that has been applied for.

David spoke on the importance of having educational shows at the PAC like Something Very Fishy.

Jay mentioned how we will have 11 acts between now and the end of the Summer.

Kim asked that we send out a list of all acts from now to then to the rest of the board.

Roy spoke on the plans to have children's acting classes in the summer and is speaking with Jean Toole about who to reach out to in order to accomplish this goal.

Jay brought up two upcoming events for tourism including Mark Wood's Electrify Your Strings and the Watermelon Crawl festival on July 27.

Kim mentioned we should look at using Quickbooks to manage our accounts. She also mentioned that she uses a company called Curry CPA out of Easley, S.C.

Jay asked that we look into this company.

Roy spoke on the Capital City Chorale and having them again in December.

Shelia mentioned we should look into Ooloney River Association, Seneca River Association, and Reedy River Association.

Roy also spoke about the other shows we have booked in December.

Shelia mentioned we should look at sending save the dates out by October for December.

Roy mentioned he is looking at releasing a full calendar by April for the fall season.

Meeting was adjourned