

Agoura High School Theatre Boosters



Thespian Troupe 1814

January 15th, 2008 Meeting Agenda

<http://theaterboosters.tripod.com>

Co-Presidents: Barbara Callas, Laurie Martone (not present)

Recording Secretary: Susie Laffer – December Minutes Approved.

Treasurer: Setareh Bahri (not present)
Barbara will get update from Setareh.

Corresponding Secretary: Susie Laffer – Website Update.

Executive VP's: Helen Davis & Laurie Martone – update.

Murder Mystery: More publicity is recommended for next year. The turn out was low on the student night, however, we don't have exact numbers yet. The date presented some difficulty since it was so soon after Winter break. In addition, we only did one mailing. In the past, organizers have guessed at number of students that will actually show. In order to accommodate more students at the last minute, tickets are less expensive and the food is basic and minimal. Next year, we should make sure Mr. Miesel does an all call. We missed that opportunity this year. It is a reflection of our need for additional help so we can make sure all details are covered. Another reason attendance was lower was because there was an AHS home basketball game going on this year at the same time. We scrimped this year. Helen did a fabulous job making all the centerpieces. The production is totally student-run. Allison did a great job. The caterer was Classic Catering.

Mayme noted we need to figure out a more organized way to handle promotions. We did not get out on the Marquis until right before the show. Someone needs to take charge of making a list of what needs to be done and a time table to get on phone messages, marquis, etc. It was suggested that the position on ASB as Liaison with TAB (now Alex P.) should figure this out and communicate it. A publicity person for the production should also be designated. Barbara will find out how we get it done for the upcoming productions: Romeo & Juliet, Crazy for You & ComedySportz.

Janice Cohen is the point person for the Marquis and Morning Announcement.

Mr. Regan offered that if we get all the information in writing to him, he can get it to Mr. Miesel and make the automated phone call happen.

The publicity to-do list should cover steps/time table needed for promoting the production on:

- The Marquis
- Video Announcements
- Board next to G Building
- Automated Phone Call

Publicity/ComedySportz: Cinco Paul

(See Murder Mystery notes above regarding publicity discussion.)

Cinco finished editing the video for "Sugar" and passed around a list for orders. Cinco will also be filming Romeo & Juliet.

Kelly's dad is a graphic designer & has volunteered to do a flyer for Romeo & Juliet. Cinco will contact him. Cinco will also get Mr. Regan info for all call.

Sherry can make different sized posters.

Mr. Regan noted we cannot put any publicity out in the community without a special stamp that Mr. Regan puts on it.

The students are organizing a flyer party for Romeo & Juliet publicity. There will be a photo call for Romeo & Juliet on February 11th for publicity in the Acorn the week of February 14th. We can also have the Acorn put the show in the Datebook. Romeo & Juliet is Feb. 20-23.

Barbara will go to Lindero Canyon Middle School and make sure it gets on their announcements. It was noted that someone should also go to A.E. Wright.

Hospitality: Cheryl Saphos/Shari Pevsner (theater) – Wendy Kearns (CSZ)

For the benefit of the new members in attendance, the hospitality function and needs were discussed.

The Students who are in the shows are supposed to provide treats, and there is a designated amount of money to buy other treats. It is very social and fun, as those involved get to know the kids and parents. They need 2 people to set up and 2 people to clean up. Others always volunteer to help and drama club kids help. There is a credit card for Smart & Final to stock up on drinks and cups. The coffee pots are kept in the storage closet in the boys bathroom. Hospitality for ComedySportz is a little more involved as there is constant serving.

Hospitality is involved in all drama/TAB events: cabaret night, fall play, student-directed musical, murder mystery (coffee bar), spring play, spring musical, ComedySportz and also help out at banquet. The money raised through ComedySportz is a perpetual fundraiser for TAB. The Door money goes to Drama Club (\$400 to \$700 a night). Drama Club pays for banquet, expenses and trophies and the thespian convention. ComedySportz hospitality is a huge job because of the increase in the number of games to twice a month. It can be done by committee to divide up responsibility for the various events.

Membership: Michele Jackman (not present)
(Cabaret Night)

Banquet: Michele Jackman (not present)

Phone Tree: Helen Davis – nothing to report.

Instructor: Tina Lehne

Ms. Lehne is still looking for Guest Speakers to come in and is trying to incorporate guest speakers into the curriculum. They would like to do a Shakespeare workshop that she believes will cost \$250.

Sherry asked for some parameters for the workshops. She is looking into a workshop with the Groundlings. She noted that the Groundlings normally have the kids go to them.

Ms. Lehne reported that Romeo & Juliet is going well, and she had nothing else to add.

Administrator: Chris Regan

Mr. Regan remarked that he was very impressed with Murder Mystery. He noted a concern about outsourcing the technical help. We had kids sitting around from stagecraft, and instead paid people to do stuff that we have kids available to do. We should use our current students as much as possible rather than

relying on alumni. They're great but we need to train our current students. The kids from the stagecraft class did a great job for "Sugar." The Murder Mystery director was more comfortable using the alumni. For Crazy for You, we can use the alumni and have them train the current students.

Mr. Regan expressed the administration's concern that recent plays have had a focus on alcohol. The Dining room, Sugar, Murder Mystery, etc. We are telling the kids "Don't drink or do drugs" yet sending a conflicting message in theatrical productions. We should get the word out to the kids that they should be sensitive to this issue if they are considering writing for Murder Mystery next year.

Drama Board: Nicole Saphos – President

The ASB silent auction 2/16. Drama Club is putting together a basket to auction off that includes tickets for shows and ComedySportz, DVDs of past shows, etc. Barbara will take care of doing the Basket. Cinco will get the DVDs.

Drama Club is trying to get everyone to see the shows. Drama Club is meeting Thursday nights to see the upcoming shows: Bubble Boy on 2/7 and Romeo & Juliet on 2/21. Drama Club will be having a Valentine's day party on 2/16.

Drama Club now has a Facebook rather than a Myspace and they can send invites with Facebook.

Membership Discussion: Opportunities to Serve on the TAB Board

Barbara gave a pitch to the new members in attendance regarding opportunities to serve. Elections to the TAB Board will be in April. We need several new members to step up and take on Board positions. Board members or co-chairs get a vote on issues TAB must vote on.

Hospitality: Sherry said she is willing to take on hospitality. Keri Lieberman volunteered to co-chair.

Banquet: Denise is willing to volunteer to be the Banquet chair. Banquet honors outgoing seniors. Students and families of all those involved in theater arts are welcome to attend. Banquet used to be in a hotel with an elaborate buffet dinner, etc. However, it was decided that it was not a wise use of money. It is still called banquet, but it is a potluck with everyone attending bringing food.

Murder Mystery: Diane Hurlbut & Renee Abramoff are willing to co-chair. They can get the director's and writer's parents to take an active role, and form a committee to assist with all the details and coordinate the volunteers..

Publicity: Brad Hertz is willing to help Cinco with Publicity.

Membership: Adler and Davis agreed to co-chair, and also are willing to act as corresponding secretary. They recommended setting up a Yahoo Group, which would enable us to avoid getting labeled as Spam. It was noted that we need to better coordinate and communicate with parents of the kids taking classes and involved in productions. Sherry could write a standard letter that goes out with packet the cast members get when they get permission to be in a show.

Fundraising: TAB has not done had a fundraising chair since early on.

Convention: We still need a parent to help coordinate convention. This year, we are not going to convention due to the unavailability of a parent to follow through with convention coordination.

President: Susan Laffer has agreed to serve as President

Past President: Barbara Callas will continue involvement as past president.