



# Syracuse City Arts Council

## Board Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2020

Meeting begins at 8:00 p.m.

Public meeting will be held electronically in accordance with Executive Order 2020-1 issued by Governor Herbert on March 18, 2020 suspending the Enforcement of Provisions of Utah Code 52-4-202 and 52-4-207 due to Infectious Disease COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus. No physical meeting location will be available.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9771610462?pwd=RjBWNGIKTE1yTm1Ka3E3cDNBeWxydz09>

Meeting ID: 977 161 0462

Password: 930469

### 1. Opening Business

- Call to Order at 8:09pm
- Christopher motioned to adopt the July 23, 2020 Agenda and LeAnna seconded. All voted in favor.

### 2. Discussion and vote on July 31 concert

Material was provided with the meeting agenda that included COVID-19 policies, copies of the posted flyers asking participants to social distance themselves and wear masks and information about a participant in the fundraising concert who tested positive for COVID-19. It appears everyone read through the material. Christopher asked if everyone agreed with the timeline of events. This timeline came directly from the participant and those involved agreed it is accurate. He asked if any of the rules have changed. Tara said for events 6,000 people are allowed outside and 3,000 people inside if everyone wears masks, but everything else is about the same.

The participant last attended rehearsal on the 11<sup>th</sup> and had worn a mask the entire time. On the 12<sup>th</sup> this person was exposed at church choir to COVID-19. Wednesday she started having symptoms and was tested Thursday morning. She notified SCAC on Friday July 17 of her fever/cough and that she was being tested and did not attend the next rehearsal. Saturday she notified SCAC of the positive COVID-19 results and it was decided she won't be performing at the July 31 concert. Tara says every week someone doesn't come because of COVID-19 concerns and LeAnna says they are fine with that. SCAC reached out to the health department. The health department considers her contagious beginning Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> and feels other SCAC performers are at low risk for being infected from this individual.

Councilman Maughan expressed concern via email that although SCAC did share all this information with the city and himself, they should have done so sooner. A participant contacted Councilman Maughan with incorrect information and he had become very concerned about how this was handled based on that information. He also expressed that the decision for how to handle this should have been brought before the entire board in a meeting such as this and not made by a few board members. He felt the information should be given to our performing venue so they can make informed decisions.

Kresta explained that this misinformation created issues in the city and the city attorney had been concerned with holding practice on the 25<sup>th</sup>. With the correct information the city feels we can still hold

practice. SCAC is having practice in the amphitheater on Tuesday. If they are confident that the participant has not exposed the rest of the cast and they have had all the stated precautions, Candice reports that the amphitheater is ok with us still using the facility.

We discussed the precautions the amphitheater is taking. The audience is asked to stay 6 feet apart as they come in. They escort each group in. They fill out forms stating where each person is sitting and put different groups 6 feet apart. People can sit in the grass area, but are asked to still practice social distancing. They have taken a picture each night as proof of social distancing. Announcements are made before the show about social distancing procedures. Audience is asked to leave before the cast leaves and to meet the cast members in the parking lot. At intermission they make another announcement about social distancing and face coverings. Candice worries about the cast more than the audience. We have a large cast. They will be wearing masks backstage the entire time unless applying makeup. Custodial staff comes in every night and sanitizes all the touch points. They are on hand to sanitize touch points during the event as well. Seats outside sit in the hot sun and have not been an issue. They have cleaner for the bleachers. Dressing rooms and bathrooms are sanitized every day. Candice is confident the sanitization is effective. Their cast did not get sick after five weeks together.

Sheila asked about removing masks to go on stage. Tara stated that Gaston will wear a mask during the part he is close to others. The big number could be socially distanced. In 'Hard Knock Life' when they aren't socially distancing they are partnered with family members. It was mentioned that during symptom checking participants should be asked to stay home if they have family members who are sick. We discussed asking people if they had travelled outside of Utah, but we don't know where the hotspots are. Kresta commented if we don't have a plan to do something about the answers we should not ask the question.

School procedure was mentioned. If students aren't wearing a mask, they are going to be sent home. If kids have symptoms, they will be sent home. If cast members come in and look sick, we are within our rights to send them home. Statistics indicate if you are in contact less than 15 minutes with someone you are probably safe.

Brie asked about the cost change for the concert. The amphitheater had the wrong numbers when he quoted us a cost. It costs \$225 to have the custodian there. James and she decided to add the sound package, because it was needed. That is why the cost went up to \$600.

LeAnna asked about the plan for donations. We will have Paypal with signs posted to pay for Paypal or Venmo. Our donation box will be in our donation box. We only have one donation box and two entrances. Nathan and Spencer Rawlings are the MC's.

Kresta says the city is ok for us to practice. Sheila asked about our options for the concert. Online, virtual, etc. If we did it online, it would be on Facebook. Brie wonders why we don't choose to stream and have an audience. We could ask for donations online as well. Tara asked about internet access to stream. Candice says we do have access to do that, but does not know if the signal is strong enough to stream. Tara asked if there is internet hardwired. Candice will find out.

James does not have a strong opinion but mentioned the performer's virtual performance experience is different than having a real audience and that the audience experience is also different. Personally, he is less likely to pay money for virtual performances and suggests we will have fewer people wanting to participate and/or pay for a virtual concert. He questions if it is worth it to stream it. LeAnna suggested

recording it and then posting it online. James felt we could make sure the quality was good to record and post later. James dislikes donating or paying for a stream content. He would be much more likely to donate at the venue than for a virtual concert.

LeAnna has concerns about social distancing with the food trucks. She has had people come to her with this concern. Russ says, there is usually one line to order and one to pick up and he doesn't think it will be an issue. Tara was told they will be on the playground. Candice doesn't have this information. She will get up-to-date tomorrow. Candice doesn't think it will be a problem. Candice suggested having the cast park on the north side on the road to free up parking lot space. Concern about the noise of traffic at the amphitheater was shared. Candice says you will hear everything that goes by. (Loud vehicles, etc.) It's part of the amphitheater experience. The food trucks will be there 7-9pm. Sheila asked about bringing food into the amphitheater area. Outside food is allowed inside the theatre. They don't have the concession area built yet, but it is in the works.

Brie is more worried about the cast than the audience. The kids stay in their family group and are wearing masks. Tara doesn't plan to have them in the dressing room, but watching the show in the side seating and coming up and down. They are planning to mark off seats for the cast members on the side. James saw a video posted of rehearsal and not all people had masks on or were socially distancing on the video. One girl cannot wear a mask due to anxiety. They have instructed her to practice social distancing from everyone except her family.

Candice said the cast could sit in the pit if they put chairs there, which they have done before. You can safely sit about 250 people in the seats. We won't want to take up a lot of seats with cast members. They've had over 100 people at every show. Last night they had closer to 200. Word has gotten out that it is safe to come to the amphitheater. The concert is free and likely more families will come.

We discussed social media to promote the event. Hope Box only used social media to promote their show. Russ is publicity, but he doesn't do social media, so Tara has been doing that and we have been promoting the concert via social media.

Tara brought up the topic of our Friends of the Arts \$50 Sponsorship Level. She would like to promote this sponsorship at the concert. Historically we have given one free ticket for this sponsorship. She suggested giving two tickets to our Jr. musical and two to our Summer show for this sponsorship level. Historically about half of sponsors don't redeem their vouchers. LeAnna suggested giving them the option of two tickets for the Jr. Show or two for the other show. This option had more approval. LeAnna asked if \$50 donations can link to the sponsorship form. Tara says that online donations give us their email address, which she can contact them with. She doesn't know if there is a way to make online donations more official with a link. If they want to do it at the event, we want it to be prepared and easy for them.

Christopher motions to do the concert as we originally planned to have an audience and Brie seconded.

LeAnna: Abstains

Cindy: Yes

Russ: In Favor

James: Abstains, wasn't here for the first part

Sheila: Abstains

Libby: Yes

Candice: Yes as long as we follow protocol and check with cast daily

Christopher: Yes

Tara: Yes

Brie: Yes, if we do things we are supposed to

The motion passed six to three.

LeAnna abstained from voting, because of concerns about our relationship with the city. She felt it wasn't handled right by the city or on our end. Our relationship with the city is more important than this fundraiser concert. James has the same concern. Candice concurs as does James.

Dave didn't add to earlier conversation, because he didn't want to sway our vote. This wasn't handled well. The issue for the city is legal liability of people's health. The performance is not in a city facility so we can do what we choose, but he is concerned a lot of board decisions are being made outside of the board and brought to the board after the fact. If this continues we will lose support of the city. We have to operate under state guidelines. That is his job. LeAnna said we were not aware of the guidelines of contacting the city. They contacted the health department. Councilman Maughan is concerned with the legal implications. The city is required to protect people's health. We aren't performing in the city facility so we need to work with that facility for that. He shared concern that important decisions need to be made by the full board. Because of our association with the city we need to live within the guidelines of the city protocols. We don't have to know all the city protocols, but when something comes up (like the participant contracting COVID-19) we should immediately come to the city with that information and they can tell us what the protocol is. It was mentioned that SCAC contacted the health department, but they didn't realize they needed to go to the city sooner than they did.

Kresta says that having the concert won't impact our relationship with the city. Brie asked if there is a protocol from the city that we should read and know about. Kresta will send guidelines to our organization.

Dave's frustration is that the decisions are being made by a few members and not the entire board. In a future meeting we should discuss what should be left to board decisions and what can be done in committee. Brie mentioned that the Jr. Theatre cancelled their production. They cancelled the production before the board meeting, because there was no meeting before the decision needed to be made. Dave said we can call an additional meeting. It could be as short as five minutes. James said he found out that 'Matilda Jr.' was cancelled on the website and felt he should have found out in a different way. Dave said it was the right decision, but the wrong way to make the decision. The full board should have met and decided this.

Kresta commented that we can have more meetings in a month. Emergency meetings have to meet certain guidelines, but we can have an additional meeting without it being an emergency meeting with the proper notices given. Usually we need 24-hour notice to hold a public meeting. Dave mentioned that we need open meeting training every year. We haven't been doing it and we need to. Our attorney can do it. This missed training could be why we are distanced from functioning as we should. This has jeopardized our standing with the city. When in doubt, we can email Dave and ask him what we should do. He is not here to tell us what to do, but he is here to advise us on policy.

Kresta apologized for not getting more information to us about what to do in this situation. Dave said that if there is any kind of accident or issue, we need to report it and bring it forward. The city can help make sure we do the right reporting and don't get in trouble. He feels that it is common sense. When we are under the city umbrella. The city has local guidelines we don't know about. That's why Kresta and Dave are working with us. They know it and they can help us with it, but we have to let them know. If someone gets injured at all, we need to file an incident report. Even if it's not big, we have a document that tracks it. Dave wished he had found out about this situation from us the day that we found out.

Dave suggests that if anyone tells us they are being tested for COVID-19 we should let people know. Dave suggested that if someone can't wear a mask it should be addressed with our city lawyer. It was discussed if girl in question can't wear a mask, she needs to be 6 feet apart from others. What James saw online was not social distancing and some were not wearing a mask. Dave said we don't have to know it all, but we need to have the conversation and bring it up. None of us have been in a pandemic before, but the scrutiny and the threat of the health department is real. Their policies can change weekly.

Kaysville has had a lot of bad press for some of the things they have tried to do. At the end of the day, the city supports us. We need to be careful. If in doubt, ask a question. Councilman Maughan has a lot of patience for questions, but not so much for getting out of trouble.

Does anyone want to change their vote. An abstain is a no vote for the record. No one wants to change their vote. The motion carries. Russ asked if we want to record the performance. Tara said we will record it in some way. We have a videographer and she will work with them. James said we can do livestream, but if we have a live performance we may not need to livestream. Tara will talk to the videographer about possibilities. Brie would like to know for the future if a livestream is possible with the internet at the amphitheater. Candice has already sent the email to ask the question and will get back to us.

### 3. Adjournment

LeAnna motioned to adjourn. Sheila seconded. James abstained. All others voted in favor. Adjournment at 9:17 pm.

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In compliance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons needing auxiliary communicative aids and services for this meeting should contact the City Offices at 801-825-1477 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

On July 22, 2020, this agenda was provided to the Standard Examiner and submitted to Syracuse City for posting on the Syracuse City Hall Notice Board and for publishing on the Syracuse City website, at <http://www.syracuseut.com>, and on the State Public Notice website, at <http://www.utah.gov/pmn/indx.html>. A copy was also submitted to the website manager for publishing on the Syracuse City Arts Council website, at <http://www.syracuseutaharts.org/about-us/council-minutes>.

Tara Wilson, Syracuse City Arts Council Chair