

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

7:02 PM Meeting called to order.

### **Member Roll Call**

Shantelle Grant  
Ron Matheson  
Gary Cortellino  
Kieth Kozicki  
Vickie King  
Karon Miller  
Mark Elam  
Nathan Collins  
Sharon Crosby-Absent

~A motion was amended to add UGA Game Day 9/3 at the Ritz to be discussed under new business.

Motion 1- Karon            Motion 2- Keith

~Minutes Approved 4/26

Motion 1- Keith            Motion 2- Mark

**Treasure Report-** \$ (report given to each member)

Motion 1- Gary            Motion 2-Nathan

FYI from Gary-94 members on Eleo

### **Old Business-**

Georgia Presenters: Fox Tour (behind the scenes)

**Locals at the Ritz-** Nathan Collins

Pro's:

- First timers at the Ritz.
- Great experiences for the performers.

Con's:

- Awareness of the Ritz Theater having Friends of the Ritz.
- Lack of community supporting
- Light Wire Show
- Team support prompting the show and duties (assignments next time)

- Next show, there should be a line-up of who's performing, and maybe an MC to announce the acts.
- Check all posters and flier before they are put out
- Marketing and promoting better (use all social media outlets)
- Let's focus only on one show to have enough promoting time for each event.

Nathan expressed his concerns and expectations for future shows in collaboration with Diamond Studios.

Everyone agreed that a job assignment sheet would help with the success of each event. Nathan would like to operate the FOR Facebook page. Keith will give Nathan the credentials to operate the fb page.

~Karon Miller will share her contact with Foxfire with Nathan.

~We will send out volunteer invites to the rest of the members to help with future events at the Ritz. The FOR would like to sell and schedule volunteers to help with tasks.

~Keith will talk to Christian and Tami about the FOR members handling future concessions. (2023) so she can focus on the beer and wine sales.

**Awards:** We need to really brand ourselves in the brochures.

Awards are:

~Family membership \$65.00

Motion 1-                      Motion 2-

~Christmas Parade Theme?

~What's the cost? And the cost of having a float this year.

**RITZ Expansion:**

~Meeting with Terry Carter about the Ritz expansion cost \$1.9 million dollars. Gary, Ron and Keith have seen the plan layout and bounced around some ideas. The city will need assistance. The city may be able to come up with \$385,000.00 from SPLOTS. They already have a one hundred thousand dollar grant from the Rural Business Development-USDA. Pending there is a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission for \$750,000.00 totaling about 1.2 million hoping for 1.3 million.

~Do we as a board want a role in fundraising for the expansion of the Ritz?

**YES, we all agree.**

~What role will that be? **TBA**

~Fundraising dollar amount or level as a goal for the FOR in this expansion? **TBA**

We have 7,300.00 in the bank that is unencumbered.

~Gary suggested grants that they can't get/non-profit, control of concessions/FOR store, a gala or sponsor an art show. All funds raised goes to the city and keeping up the Ritz.

~Keith will talk to Tami and Christian about controlling the concession for the FOR funds.

~Gary suggested that we talk to Mark with the Community Theater to see if we can make money off the ticket sales. The FOR can get the theater for free and make money just off the tickets.

~Mark would like to see us reach out to businesses and do a capital campaign. Keith agreed. Keith suggested we do it with the city.

~Gary suggested we focus on the shows we present. Try and make at least \$500 a show.

~Keith Suggested Morehouse College Glee Club and Clark Atlanta University Philharmonic Society singers. Only a piano is needed.

~Gary suggested The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater group.

~Travel expenses are a concern at this point and the dollar amount to perform.

~Shantelle suggested contacting Larry Gholston for Morehouse College and Marilyn Woodruff for Clark Atlanta. Mr. Gholston's son played in the Morehouse band and Marilyn is a graduate of Clark Atlanta.

~We must promote all shows! Locals at the Ritz is back on the calendar. Nathan will let us know the schedule plan and assign tasks for the FOR members. Nathan will send us an email.

~Please check your event tasks.

### **Georgia Game day at the RITZ:**

~Mark will send us the outline and job tasks for the Georgia Game "Free Game day at the Ritz" in the form of an email. Donations in the amount of \$10 to watch the game. People can make this donation online. We can pay any expenses out of this pool of money. After that, we will split the money with the UGA Scholarship Fund.

### **There will be no assigned seating!**

~ We will have 2 or 3 food truck vendors and a beer tent set up. The city, (Sharon Crosby) at this point is in agreement with this arrangement.

~Keith made a motion to have Game Day at the RITZ and a contract/written agreement from the city with approval. And that they would take care of the beer sales. Keith will write up the agreement.

**All members are in agreement!**

**Georgia Presenters Showcase:**

~Karon will represent the FOR at the Georgia Presenters showcase in Columbus, Georgia. Connie Tabor has agreed to pay for her registration, \$100. She may be able to ride down in the city car with Tami. Karon will ask Tami.

~A total of \$400.00 is allotted to Karon to attend the Georgia Presenters Showcase from the FOR.

Motion 1- Shantelle Grant      Motion 2- Gary Cortellino

**Closing Note:**

Keith made an announcement that after his term is up, he will be stepping away from the organization.

Keith was very appreciative of everyone's hard work and dedication to this organization. He will continue to be a member and he will be involved as much as possible. Keith wants the organization to grow with new blood and energy. Keith said, we would support with money.

**Next meeting:** An email will be sent out to announce the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn this meeting, Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Motion 1- Shantelle G.      Motion 2- Gary C.

**Meeting Adjourned 9:24PM**

