UTAH SYMPHONY | UTAH OPERA
FULL BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019
MINUTES

Attended: Joanne Shiebler, Naoma Tate, and Dr. Astrid Tuminez (elected in item II) attended via teleconference and Jesselie Anderson, Doyle Clayburn (Utah Symphony Guild), John D’Arcy, Julie Edwards (musician), Kem Gardner, Brian Greeff, Stephen Tanner Irish, Tom Jacobson, G. Frank Joklik, Mitra Kashanchi, Andrew Larson (musician), Tom Love, Abigail Magrane, Paul Meecham, Robin Milne, David Mortensen, Dave Petersen, Frank Pignanelli, Shari Quinney, Patricia Richards, Mark Stratford (Onstage Ogden), Jim Tozer, David Utrilla, Kelly Ward, and Henry Wurts attended in person from the Elected, Ex-officio and Lifetime Boards.

Guests and staff members present included: Howard Clark (Trustee Emeriti), Conner Gray Covington, Olivia Custodio, Thierry Fischer, Paula Fowler, Steve Hogan, Renée Huang, Christopher McBeth, Jon Miles, Leslie Peterson, Jessica Proctor, Talia Ricci, Toby Tolokan, Greg Walz, and Heather Weinstock. Julie McBeth was present to record the minutes.

I. Welcome and Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees Chair Tom Love welcomed the board members and thanked them for their time and commitment to USUO. He introduced new board member Kelly Ward and board membership candidate Dr. Astrid Tuminez, then acknowledged new ex-officio representatives Doyle Clayburn representing the Utah Symphony Guild, Mark Stratford representing Onstage Ogden, and Julie Edwards representing the orchestra along with returning musician representative Andrew Larson. He asked if there were any questions or changes suggested for the three items forwarded for review as the consent agenda. Upon a motion duly made by Dave Mortensen and seconded by Brian Greeff, the May 22, 2019 Annual General Meeting minutes, May 22, 2019 Full Board Meeting minutes, and Utah Symphony Guild By-laws revision attached as the consent agenda were approved by unanimous vote.

Mr. Love recognized the service and generosity of Kem Gardner, who was transitioning to the leadership role of Immediate Past Chair and moved to adopt the following Resolution of Appreciation.

WHEREAS Kem C. Gardner has been a long-time supporter of the arts and diligently served on the Utah Symphony | Utah Opera Board of Trustees since September 2011, and before that on the Utah Symphony Board of Directors from 1978 to 1985 and 1989 to 1997, and on the Utah Opera Company Board of Trustees from 1978 to 1985 and 1993 to 1996; and

WHEREAS he influenced countless government officials and corporate colleagues to support USUO’s concerts and education programs benefitting schools statewide; and

WHEREAS he provided guidance and valuable insight as a member and leader of an impressive number of regular governing and special fundraising leadership committees including the 1984 Endowment Campaign and the recent Campaign for Perpetual Motion, which helped the Utah Symphony celebrate its 75th Anniversary in grand style culminating with a concert in Carnegie Hall; and

WHEREAS he faithfully served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and personally led in extraordinary giving to ensure a balanced budget; and
WHEREAS he believes that Utah is an outstanding place to live, work, and raise a
family and in testament to that belief has continually exemplified what it means to be a
community builder reflecting the words of poet Emily Dickinson:

_We never know how high we are till we are called to rise._
_Then if we are true to form our statures touch the skies._

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Utah Symphony | Utah Opera extends its most sincere gratitude to Kem C.
Gardner for helping our organization touch the skies and connect the community
through great live music.

The resolution was adopted by unanimous vote and the board members and meeting guests gave Mr.
Gardner a standing ovation of appreciation.

II. **Board Nominations:** Mr. Love conveyed a recommendation of the nominating committee to elect
two new members to serve on the USUO Board of Trustees and shared highlights of each candidate’s
background and community service. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, Senator Dan Hemmert and
Dr. Astrid Tuminez were elected by unanimous affirmative vote to each serve a three-year term on the
Board of Trustees beginning immediately.

III. **2019-20 Committee Chairs Ratification:** Mr. Love presented the following list of proposed
individuals to serve a one year term as USUO Committee Chairs: David Dee, Development Committee;
Jim Tozer, Deer Valley® Music Festival Councils; John D’Arcy, Finance Committee; Annette Jarvis,
Governance Committee and Boards on Fire Task Force; Jesselie Anderson, Government Relations
Committee; Doyle Arnold, Investment Committee; Patricia Richards, Music Director Search Committee;
Thomas Wright, Nominating Committee; Brian Greeff, Strategic Planning Committee; Joanne Shiebler,
President’s Roundtable; Mike Poulter, Planned Giving Advisory Council; David Utrilla, Hispanic and
Latino Communities Outreach Task Force; and Kelly Ward, Utah County Committee. Ms. Milne
suggested adding a board liaison for the new Upbeat Society and volunteered to serve in that role. Mr.
Pignanelli moved to ratify the list of committee chairs on page 13 of the meeting materials, amended to
include Ms. Milne representing the Upbeat Society, to serve a one-year term. The motion was duly
seconded by Dave Petersen and passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Love expressed appreciation for the great
leadership of the committee chairs.

IV. **Adopt-a-School: West High School:** Utah Opera Artistic Director Christopher McBeth shared
details for the Adopt-a-School project for the current academic year which features opportunities for West
High School music and drama students to interact with and learn from Utah Opera staff representing all
aspects of producing and promoting musical theatrical works.

V. **Finance Report:** Finance Committee Chair John D’Arcy directed board members to page 14 of the
meeting materials and talked through the projection for the fiscal year completed August 31, 2019
(FY19), which was tracking to achieve a small surplus thanks in large part to Mr. Gardner’s extraordinary
personal gift and additional giving made in honor of his term as Board Chair. Mr. D’Arcy then presented
a projection for the recently begun fiscal year (FY20) and provided a detailed report of differences from
the approved budget.

VI. **Boards on Fire Task Force:** Mr. Love noted that Boards on Fire task force chair Annette Jarvis
was unable to attend the meeting and asked member Brian Greeff to lead discussion of the book that had
been forwarded to all board members to read courtesy of a donation from Joanne Shiebler. Mr. Greeff
noted the fundraising component of USUO board member responsibility as well as the need for strong board assistance in that regard to achieve the board-approved budget. He shared his personal impressions of *Boards on Fire* and invited board members to share their own, which several did.

**VII. 2020-21 Utah Symphony Season Programming:** Utah Symphony Music Director Thierry Fischer presented the programming and guest artists planned for the 2020-21 Masterworks Series and acknowledged the partnership of VP of Symphony Artistic Planning Toby Tolckan to planning each season and booking the guest artists.

**VIII. Music Director Search:** Music Director Search Committee Chair Patricia Richards shared the list of members of the newly formed committee, noting equal balance between orchestra musicians and board/staff representation. She shared that the committee’s work will be confidential and that a final hiring recommendation will be made to the board. She encouraged board members to take advantage of the opportunities to get to know all visiting guest conductors while the search is being conducted, as any of them might be candidates.

**IX. Other Business / Executive Session:** Mr. Love asked if there was any additional business to discuss before adjourning to an executive session. Mr. Larsen noted that the annual Salute to Youth concert was to be held that evening and encouraged attendance. There being no additional business, the musicians, guests, and staff members left the room and the board members continued meeting in an executive session.

**Minutes Recorded By:**

Julie McBeth

**Minutes Approved By:**

Thomas M. Love, Chair