

Notes on the Ballroom – June 2024

Things are moving, albeit slowly. At the May meeting, the Board was presented the priority list that the committee recommended. The Board approved pursuing all items on the list with the exception of the stage area bathroom. We are still waiting on cost figures on that piece. The plumber was to come out yesterday with another contractor to look at the sewer pipe that runs between the billiards room and the bocce courts. It will be necessary to cut through the parking lot asphalt to tap in and then repair the asphalt when finished and we don't know yet if a pump station will be required. I will keep you informed as to the progress, cost and likelihood of this piece.

On the other list items; an RFP for lighting and projection equipment was sent mid-May. Those were sent to DB Sound, Creative Sound and Harmon Audio-Visual. After comparing the bids, the Finance Committee bid oversight subcommittee recommended awarding the contract to Creative Sound. The Board accepted the bid oversight's recommendation and Creative has been notified and as soon as they receive the down payment, they will begin ordering the equipment and we will set up a schedule for installation.

We are still waiting on the estimate to remove that back stage wall, but we expect that soon and have hopes that will be removed by the end of the month so that lighting and projection installation can be done in July.

Our maintenance department is painting the dressing rooms and the very back wall. Black is the color of the day. Photos were taken of the art work on the walls and will be incorporated, however there was no reasonable way to preserve the originals as they were scattered over the walls. New inexpensive counters and drawers are being researched and once decided on will be installed by our maintenance people.

Hiles Curtain in Sarasota was chosen to provide a 15oz main stage curtain and a rear curtain to replace the solid wall. After they receive their down payment, we will set up a meeting for their rep to come down and make more accurate measurements than the ones Nate and I did. Black was the preferred color by those who responded to the request.

The ADA portable stage lift has been ordered, the deposit received by 101 Mobility in Tampa and the custom lift is being built.

Enjoy your summer.

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Karen Mars