



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement
Western Cape Provincial Parliament
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT

Wednesday, 20 September 2017

Chamber, 08h30 – 10h30

Cape Town Opera

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Adv Max, LH (Chairperson)

Kivedo, BD

Wenger, MM

African National Congress

Olivier, RT

Apologies

Gopie, D

Makeleni, P

Alternate Members

See attached register for a list of persons in attendance.

1. Introduction

The Chairperson welcomed the Committee Members, the officials of Cape Town Opera (CTO), the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and Sport and the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport. The Chairperson allowed brief introductions and thereafter explained the format of proceedings.

2. Presentation by Cape Town Opera

Mr Michael Williams, Managing Director, led the presentation by CTO. He provided an overview, a brief history and acknowledged the support offered by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport to the CTO, since 1999. The presentation addressed various components of the CTO organisation including, finance, community outreach and education, as well as fundraising.

The CTO aims to uphold four key pillars, namely, creating high level operatic art, developing and training youth musically, continuously strive towards broadening its audience, and creating indigenous South African opera productions.

Ms E Brunelle, the Financial Manager, stated that opera is a thriving business. She added that internationally, there is a demand for South African opera singers. Germany and Argentina are two

countries to which the CTO have toured, among several others. This demand results in foreign direct investment which provides employment opportunities for local job creation instrument players, costume makers, carpenters and other artisans, especially when productions are held in South Africa. Ms Brunelle reported that approximately R10.8 million was invested in the Western Cape in 2016. She added that for 2017, R14.2 million of foreign direct investment has been recorded, as a result of the opera industry.

Ms C Crouse, the Head of Community Outreach and Education, reported that the CTO won the 2016 Western Cape Cultural Award. The flagship programme is the *Opera is my First Language* programme which develops learners from rural and township schools. The CTO also works with persons with special needs, mainly children, and the success of this work has resulted in productions to showcase the talents of these persons. In addition to weekly visits to places with persons with special needs, the CTO arranges bi-weekly by a music therapist to help the persons with special needs. Some of the activities include drawing, singing and dancing. In attendance, 12 year old Hope Cornelius, a learner at St Mary's Primary School in Retreat, shared her experiences within the outreach and education programme.

In addition to working with special needs persons, CTO also arranges keyboard lessons, where the keyboards are sponsored on a loan basis, and vocal training. In partnership with the *Jazzhands* programme, selected deaf and blind community members are given access to opera productions, free of charge. Other programmes include creating a platform for young learners to compose short productions as well as allowing select learners to attend the final dress rehearsal of productions, free of charge.

Ms Melanie Daniels, Head of Fundraising, highlighted the importance of and the need for funding, especially from a national government perspective. She stated that despite challenging economic times, the CTO could easily triple the number of learners it develops from the current approximate of 4000 learners. She acknowledged that the impact of the CTO's programmes, from both commercial and social upliftment aspects, is significant enough to warrant more sustainable support.

Mr Williams informed the Committee that several applications for funding from the Mzansi Gold Economy Programme and the National Arts Council, have been unsuccessful, to the point where the receipt of some of these applications have not been even acknowledged.

Minister A Marais, Cultural Affairs and Sport, stated that opera contributes to employment and tourism. She added that her office will do a submission to the office of the National Minister for Arts more funding for opera.

Artists from the CTO performed three acts for the Committee during the presentation. These acts include a solo by Ms E Stuurman, her duet with Mr A Tshoni, and an ensemble where these two artists were joined by Ms D Speckman and Mr P Madibeng.

The Chairperson thanked the guests for their contributions and excused them from the meeting.

3. Recommendations

The Committee RECOMMENDED that the office of the Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport, Hon A Marais, engages with National Minister regarding the shortage of funding to the Cape Town Opera.

4. Consideration and adoption

The Committee considered and adopted the draft minutes of 26 July 2017.09.27

The meeting adjourned at 10h30.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Adv LH MAX', written in a cursive style.

Adv LH MAX, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPORT



WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT
 Cultural Affairs and Sport
 STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY

ATTENDANCE REGISTER FOR DEPARTMENTAL OFFICIALS AND VISITORS

Date: Wednesday, 20 September 2017
 Chamber, 6th Floor, 7 Wale Street

| NAME | DESIGNATION | DEPARTMENT/INSTITUTION | CONTACT NO/EMAIL ADDRESS |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Melanie Daniels | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER | CAPE TOWN OPERA - FUNDRAISING | 083 6550583 melanie.d@capetownopera.co.za |
| MICHAEL WILLIAMS | MAN. DIRECTOR | CAPE TOWN OPERA | 082 852 8882 michael.w@capetownopera.co.za |
| Elise Brunette | FIN MNGR CULTURAL AFFAIRS | " " | 0764615858 eliseb@capetownopera.co.za |
| Guy Redman | CHIEF DIRECTOR | DCAS | guy.redman@westerncape.gov.za |
| Nerine Teaven | DEPUTY DIRECTOR ARTS + CULTURE | DCAS | Nerine.Teaven@westerncape.gov.za |
| Munyiseleli Ngadini | CTO | Cape Town Opera | 0614304321 Ngadini.lul@ gmail.com |
| Danielle Spectman | CTO | Cape Town Opera | 0783881631 divaspectman@ gmail.com |
| MARVIN KERNELLE | CHORUS MASTER | CAPE TOWN OPERA | MARVINK@CAPETOWNOPERA.CO.ZA |

| NAME | DESIGNATION | DEPARTMENT/INSTITUTION | CONTACT NO/EMAIL ADDRESS |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Juan Burger | Vocal Coach/Repertoire | Marine Staff | 0837990045 juanb@capetownopera.co.za |
| FATH ZURRU | OUTREACH ASS (CTO) | CAPE TOWN OPERA | 0732016163 fathzurru@gmail.com churru.c@capetownopera.co.za |
| Christine Cicuse | Lead Outreach Educator | Cape Town Opera | 0825670109 |
| Anelise Tshona | C.T.O member | CAPE TOWN OPERA | 0712467777 tshona@capetownopera.co.za |
| Ernestine Stuurman | C.T.O member | Cape Town Opera | 0710641769 ernestinstuurman@capetownopera.co.za 0734736727 |
| JADE HOLMES | CTO ADMIN | CAPE TOWN OPERA | jadeholmes21@gmail.com 0760744381 |
| Mawonga Gaba | CTO Outreach Assistant | CAPE TOWN OPERA | Mawonga@capetownopera.co.za |
| Rogan Smith | Head of Research | DA Western Cape | rogan.smith@da.gov.za |
| Hope Cornelius | Pupil | Retreat High School | |
| Amroux Marais | DCAS | | |