VMC Board Meeting
Tuesday January 10 6:30 PM

1. Call to order - 6:50 (Zoom issues)

2. Attendees
   Jana Hart - Music Director
   Katherine Nitsch - President
   Cara Hernandez - VP of Concerts
   Dan Warner - VP of Business
   Dennis Haberkamp - VP of Treasury
   Jaz Bielby - VP of Technology
   Kristin Judge - Secretary
   Min Kuang - VP of Marketing
   Susan Pautz - VP of Membership
   Tom Paulu - Guest

3. President's report - Katherine
   a. Risers
      i. Wanger risers
         1. Jana said these are the preferred model for choirs
         2. Risers are lighter, airline production material yet can handle substantial weight. Can adapt to a flexible arrangement.
         3. Cost: about 30k plus shipping
         4. Need to ensure they fit in the sanctuary
         5. Dennis will put specs together. - Tom made a motion to approve this budget item as described in discussion. Susan seconded. **Approved.**
   b. Jana: proposed purchase of choir laptop.
      i. Dennis made a motion to purchase a laptop, cost not to exceed $600. Katherine seconded. Approved.
   c. Tom: proposed purchase of choir zoom subscription
      i. Dennis: cost is $165 for 100 attendees
      ii. Rehearsal via zoom for those who are sick? No, better to have those who are sick stay home and listen to parts predominant.
   d. Youth Scholarship
      i. Letter sent to voice teachers Mid December, 2nd letter 1/9/23
      ii. WIll resend letter
      iii. Do we have the church reserved for auditions or are they held
      iv. elsewhere? Reserved for 4/18 already. Call church to doublecheck.

e. If Arts WA grant $ need to be spent this year Jana will order next years' music.
f. Continued discussion on need to purchase a VMC laptop
    i. Everything is on Dennis' laptop right now - once we get the laptop, will move info onto the cloud since many will need access.
    ii. Since we have a lot of personal sensitive information in our documentation (social security #s …), we need to start thinking about cybersecurity. Dennis will speak to people about this.
g. Laurie asked why she never got a 1099 - when we were earning under 50k we did not need to issue 1099s.
    i. Anyone earning more than $600 needs 1099s - this would apply to anyone in the orchestra.
    ii. Jana said Laurie worked as a Tax Preparer. Jana said we could consult with Laurie and if anything is needed Laurie can guide us.
        1. Dennis said he worked with Laurie and she guided him with
h. 75th Anniversary concert 2024
    i. Jana is talking with Victoria - will need big orchestra.
    ii. Philip got Skyview for us.
    iii. Jana contacted Jacob Funk to see if Clark County would want to join us - he wasn't interested.
    iv. Should we invite other groups to sing with us?
i. Choir Tour 2024
    i. Travel committee to meet next week - Kathrine, Paulette, Kathleen Y, Kristin
        1. Develop survey to distribute to choir about where we want to go.
j. Jaz/Katherine: Pushback from multiple singers about "new" end time of 9:30. Jana said this has always been the end time and is in line with what other choirs do - we are sticking with 9:30 end time.
k. New members - high caliber!
l. New grant submissions
    i. Thinking about writing a grant to cover the 75th
        1. Complete
        2. Other one is for creative event grant for 8k
    ii. Another grant is opening up in Feb and closes end of March

4. VP Business - Dan
    a. Do we need to make sure cowlitz is ok with us purchasing the risers with their $? Consensus is yes.
    b. Jim Fisher is giving up first weekend in December, so it's ours moving forward.
    c. Jana prefers winter concert to be end of Feb 2024 instead of March since

the 75th concert will be big. We won't need First Presbyterian for May concert because we are at Skyview (May 18/19).
    i. First Presbyterian requires that we use the church for 2 out of 3 concerts/year.
d. Sent thank you small gift to First Presbyterian after for Christmas concert

5. VP Marketing - Min
    a. No deadlines for now, not until end of Apr/May. Everything already finished up for the season.
    b. Youth scholarship - should we increase the awards? If so, then we need to change the poster to reflect the new prize amounts.
        i. Jana - we will keep it the same for this year, revisit for next year. We can instead give encouragement awards
        ii. All in OR and WA are eligible
        iii. Min will send a copy of the poster to Jaz for social media
    c. Tom brought up the idea of a newsletter to the choir.
        i. Can write about upcoming events, who will be joining us. Send by email and also bring copies to rehearsal.
        ii. Newsletter would bring awareness to choir members so they can tell friends, family members, community about the choir and upcoming concerts.
        iii. Tom and Min to discuss offline
    d. Tom: we didn't get a huge amount of media publicity for the concert, yet people knew about it. Word got out from the Phantom concert? Audience members from Phantom spread the news?
    e. Min: concerned we don't have enough space in our venue.
        i. Also have to be careful with contagion, close quarters.
        ii. Are we exceeding the allowable limit (fire code??).
        iii. Need to figure out how to accommodate # of people coming to concerts, encourage people to show up early.
            1. Can't do reserved seats.
            2. Jana: Portland Symphonic Choir does all ticket sales online so they can stop ticket sales once they've reached the max
    f. Tom - for next concert, Scott Hewitt at The Columbian said to put together what we want to go out and they will write the article. Also, continue to look into other published media.

6. VP Technology - Jaz
    a. Add orchestra names and singer spotlights to website
        i. Can't do the orchestra -
    b. VMC stamp for concert, use our logo. Dennis will send logo to Jaz.
    c. Jaz: recommend purchasing a square stand for iPad for the door. All

agree.

d. Jaz: recommend getting upgraded webspace - better organization of practice tracks by section

7. VP Concerts - Cara

8. VP Membership - Susan
    a. Fee is $125 for new people starting mid-season
    b. Basses - secured Paul for the whole year but we will not need to hire basses for the future
    c. Will we ever be renting out the Water Resource building for a Dinner in the future?
        i. All agree the church is fine, maybe have a BBQ outside the church.
        ii. Reserve First Presb for Tues May 8, 5-8pm. Fee was maybe $200.
            1. Susan is trying to get a hospitality committee up
            2. Brenda's 50th year - will plan to do something for her!
            3. Talent show - basses this year
    d. Susan: are we always having orchestras for concerts? Jana - no.
    e. File cabinets
        i. Need to purchase at least 3 new 4-drawer file cabinets. Katherine said can always purchase used.
            1. File cabinets - Susan said will purchase when weather is warmer, because we need
        ii. No space for additional file cabinets so these would be replacements.
        iii. Need help to get rid of the old, bring to dump, and move in the new.
        iv. $60-80 range. All agree to purchase.
    f. Boxes of decorations in shed. Should we have a sale? Take what you want, leave a donation? Jana - let's do it at the annual meeting.

9. Other New Business & concerns
    a. Susan/Jaz - we should get new pix for choir and choir/musicians for website and for video.
        i. Jana - said yes, we want to do this. Want tio list all of our musicians. Will keep them loyal to us.
        ii. Susan - said Dianne Walter isn't going to be with us for the concert, who should handle this. Min will try to ask her if she could
            1. Susan will manage the singer's names on the program. She will perform final review.
            2. Min said the whole program thing is huge, and Dianne is the coordinator. She gets the info to Scott and he sets up the

program.

3. Deadline for program - Min will check with Scott to find out when we should get the info to him. She received the programs the morning of the concert!!!

Meeting end: 8:45
Next meeting: Feb 7 6:30pm, probably Katherine's house