VMC Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 7, 6:30 PM

1. Call to order - 6:33pm

2. Attendees:
   Jana Hart
   Katherine Nitsch
   Dan Warner
   Dennis Haberkamp
   Jaz Bieby
   Kristin Judge
   Min Kwang
   Susan Pautz
   Dave Lawley

3. Absent:
   Cara Hernandez
   Tom Paulu

4. Secretary's Report - Kristin
   a. No outstanding action items

5. Old Business
   a. Cowlitz grant- ok for using for riser purchases? Yes

6. Treasurer's Report - Dennis Haberkamp
   a. Refer to VMC Monthly Treasurer's Report for February and VMC Budgets file, revised 2/28/23, which Dennis sent out via email.
   b. Jonathan - contacted the electricians that First Presbyterian uses for the lighting.
      1. Katherine: Jonathan said will cost about $2k, come out of ArtsWatch $
   c. Sara Corbel - sales, Product Mgr for Wenger.
      1. Dennis set up meeting for 3/1/23 with Sara. Walked thru bid - upgrading for 3' x 8' instead of 3' x 6' risers, will include telescoping legs so can move the risers closer to cross. Can set up any configuration of risers. We can use the old black risers if needed where the sopranos stand to accommodate other choirs who will join us. We can also get some little stairs. Products are customizable. Also have straps to connect old to new risers, part of accessories.
      2. Dennis says the new risers aren't really that much lighter (4-5 lbs), but existing risers getting and and new risers are easier to set up.
      3. Approx $35-36k for final price (Sarah will provide final price March 8.
      4. Motion: approve as long as it doesn't exceed above amount. Bid includes freight (4k), will take a week to get here.

   a. Wenger will ship via large truck, don't usually have ramp to go up/down. They will hand the risers down to us, we'll use a dolly to move them back to storage. Part of bid is 3 carts to hold 10 risers, railing system.
   b. Jana: will meet with Rob Davis, SW Wash. Jana will go in, set the existing risers up. If they are good enough, safe enough, we will donate to Skyview. There are 4 risers.
   c. Motion to purchase:
      1. Jaz motions, Katherine seconds.
   d. Jana said when we do the Verdi, etc, we will have approx. 150 singers. Keep the old rectangular risers to see how close they fit. Dennis recommends getting rid of the trapezoid risers though.

7. VMC Director's Report - Jana
   a. Get rid of the old costume stuff, but maybe keep the red sparkly jackets for the bass talent show? Let Jana know what we want to do with it
   b. Flyers out for Scholarship auditions
   c. Any ads for next concert
      1. Min already addressed this - we will do the same thing that we did for the last 2 concerts
   d. Concerts next year already planned, have most of the listening tracks. Will have to get together with Victoria to join ASCAP for orchestra tracks.
   e. Meet with Doug, conductor of SW WA symphony. Verdi concert for 2024/2025. Look at dates for concert - Apr/May timeframe tricky. One concert in Longview, one Skyview. Rent bus to bring choir up?
   f. Submitted 2 more grants. $8k for the 75th, will hear back in May. Also applied for Paul Allen grant.
   g. Tour stuff still being researched.
   h. Should we issue one more scholarship announcement?
      1. Min: students must submit application by Fri April 14.
   i. Dan: do we pay for use of Magenta theater for Christmas program? Jana: No.

8. VP Business Report - Dan
   a. Update list of donors for the program. Send to Min. She successfully recruited Ginny, but Min will be more hands on since it's her first time.
   b. Action item: Min will provide Susan with singers' names for review.
      1. Action item: Dan will send Min the last program for donors, will tell Min who to add or leave off for this program
   c. This is Dan's last of 4 yrs in his VP position.
      1. Dennis volunteered
      2. Discussed process of recruitment

   a. **Decision:** Katherine should mention to the choir that VP Business and VP Budget/Treasurer are open, does anyone want to volunteer.
      1. Dave Lawley already shadowing for VP Budget/Treasurer position.
3. Min was asked to be the VP marketing during the interim and agreed. This happened before Tom expressed his interest to help.
   a. Dan asked if Min is interested in giving up VP Marketing position to Tom. Min is happy to do so because of Tom's interest in marketing.
4. Susan: in the past, we sent out a notification asking if people wanted to nominate for board positions, and then go from there.
5. Jaz: Amy said there was discussion about splitting VP Tech between 2 people a while ago to split responsibilities (social media, ticketing, etc)
6. Katherine: Tom was asking about Social Media responsibility/position
7. **Decision:** Further discussion is required

9. VP Marketing's Report - Min
   a. Participated in Arts meeting, as well.
      1. Min reviewed the presentation, describing how to bring in larger audiences.
         a. Requests Jana can provide background of the composers, the compositions.
         b. Content of presentation:
            1. Concert is: must see, fun for families, good place to visit, good place to take kids, immersive. Possible use of screen, placement. Revisit this.
            2. Jana: Really want to use projection for Christmas concert, she really wants the projection, will talk to Rebecca Hoffman about this.
               1. For Mozart concert we don't need the words but it would be nice to project Henry's piece and Hebrew love songs.
                  1. Rebecca said they have some stronger projectors.
            3. Skyview has screens on the left and right, can do all kinds of things. Min said they use a lot of lighting at Skyview.
               1. Dennis: they have professional instrumentation and lighting.
               2. Min: Lighting is expensive. Since we're going to be at same facility for a while, recommends some additional lighting, lighting configuration.
      2. Min: the different attractions makes the concert more immersive and attractive. Diff color lights. People will see changes from concert to concert.
         a. Discussion on lighting; warmth/coolness of lighting, Jonathan's lighting, current lighting is too dim for sopranos/basses to see music.

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3. Min: how do audiences get their info? Small majority get it through printed material. Jana is going to many orgs who do this online, which is what we need.
    a. Key is how we can capture the audience.
4. Min: when you ask ppl why aren't you coming? "Not for people like me", competing with other activities (sports, etc)
5. Photo discussion
    a. Discussion on prices, options each photographer offer, Board members' experience with each photographer.
    b. Both want to come into venue on Saturday and have a look. Min said they want them to come for Sunday's concert when there are better lights.
    c. Discussion of how we want to utilize photographers - which day, orchestra, choir, lighting, height differential, photo of Jana conducting, Jana's portrait..
    d. Selection: Jacobsen Photography
        1. Need Jana's photo before 3/29.
        2. Min to discuss additional needs of choir and orchestra with Kristin Jacobsene a sign up at concerts for those who want future concert info.

10. VP Technology: Jaz
    a. No updates

11. VP Concerts: Cara
    a. Cara absent

12. VP Membership: Susan
    a. Now at 91 singers
    b. 5-drawer standard standup filing cabinet. Jaz weill send photo of one she has
    c. Will send out info for those who signed up for hospitality, will meet before rehearsal to go over
    d. Resume discussion from last meeting on women possibly wearing slacks.
    e. Dan: option to wear clothing to match how singer identifies
    f. Jana: Portland Symphonic have gone to slacks and dresses. Slacks were all different but nice. No bare arms. The men were more uniform than the women.
    g. Susan will discuss with Mary

Meeting end: 8:45
Next meeting: April 4, 6:30 (Zoom??)