VMC Board Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2023; Jana Hart's home

Attendance:
Jana Hart, Katherine Nitsch, Susan Pautz, Dennis Haberkamp, Tom Paulu, Dave Lawley, Min Kuang, Sue Garritano (subbing for Kristin Judge); Cara Hernandez and Jaz Bielby on Zoom

1. Welcome
Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Katherine Nitsch. New member Dave Lawley was welcomed as new VMC treasurer. Detailed minutes from April pre-Zoom meeting were accepted. Sue Garritano scribing minutes for Kristin Judge due to death in family (condolences expressed).

2. Old Business

a. Agenda items from prior Zoom board meeting:

—Old risers are still at the church pending scrapping, metal recovery or junk removal service. (Dennis)

—Old library files pending recycling. (Susan)

—Discussion on using some of grant money for removal of old risers. (Jana and Katherine)

—Estimated 1000 pounds of material to be removed. (Dennis)

3. New Business

a. Treasurer's report (Dennis and Dave)

—Treasurer's report for late May reviewed and accepted (see handout).

—Shipping date of 6-14-23 for one Wenger car to hold six risers. Potential for 8 feet of additional risers; flexible configuration.

—Grant money: grants received need to be used within a year (Jana). Music cabinets need to be purchased by June 30 (Susan).

b. Music Director (Jana)

—Grants. Must spend them. One more grant out for $10,000 (for 75th anniversary), deadline by August. Governor's award, will send next week (good publicity, no money). Cowlitz grant in fall for youth scholarship $30,000 for 3 years. Jana will attend ArtsWa meeting next Tuesday to find out about Clark county representation.

—Summer auditions: two potentials, Katherine will forward to Jana.

—Concerts: orchestra parts have been ordered; $1600-1800 for rentals. We need to join Ascap; very complicated. All music is purchased for next year. Skyview concert: Cost may be $3000 to 4000. Philip will let us know if less. We have the entire week reserved. Sunday to Sunday. We can put up risers Sunday and leave up through Sunday concert. Rehearsals are being decided. Laurie and Victoria will play a piece as well. Can Mayor Anne introduce us? Also call TV stations. Big publicity. Choirs will join us. A contingent from Portland Gay Men's Chorus to join us (through Doug Friend). There is a huge men's part in Beethoven's 9th Finale. Haven't gotten confirmation yet.

—Dues next year: We will not charge dues to college students. Several have asked to audition. Should not charge dues to Megan Pittman (recovering from serious car crash)

—Dates: I will have all dates to send out to choir. Need dates for Skyview concert; will need three orchestra rehearsals. Dates sent for Jumpstart rehearsals. Will write blurbs for our 3 concerts and send to Min soon.

c. VP Concerts (Cara):

—Possibility of unarmed security person checking the entry doors (paid, unsure of amount). Dave's son did security for years, he might be available to do it. Security protocol needed for front of house at concerts. Discussed recent issue of someone trying to enter building during concert. Safe Village coming just down the street, good to have a security presence (Tom). Skyview recently had a security concern at event; Sheriff's Office was called, patrols were sent (Min).

—Discussed ongoing heat issue at church; follow up with Dan. We've had people leaving during concert, choir members faint. Need to follow up with church as it is unacceptable. Issues with heat pump need follow up. Might set up meeting with Mark, Dave, Josh, Laurie, Ed. Also issues with flying bugs (Susan).

d. VP Technology (Jaz):

—Needing help with tickets (consider Bill Reed). To include: Preparing tickets, get stickers made and and put on back of tickets, place tickets in envelope and write names for sales, keep track of sales, take money from sales, check PayPal for sales, send invoices to Dennis from PayPal (Amy is currently helping), count money after concerts. Jaz will contact Bill after his gig on June 9. Jaz will work on reformatting website with Linda K. this summer. Consider website vendor, check with Mark, cost could be considerable (Min). Tom: asked about online ticketing options. Min and Jaz: would save money if we didn't print tickets, even though they are beautiful. Min: depends on our target audience. Susan: adjusting to a different way of doing things. Min: wondering

about doing a hybrid approach or a complete switch to new approach this summer. Need to start planning. Jaz; maybe have limited tickets at the door, but move most of ticket sales online. Discussion of email promotion options/ marketing companies; to be explored.

—Katherine: Concerns about quality of the video, limited perspective, heads cut off. Min: angle selected by videographer. Dennis: past concerts shot from the balcony. Min: long shots unable to see faces. Audio comes from the close-up camera. Hard to edit to sync up close-up and long-shot views. Tom: hard to shoot a big group. Described the Vancouver Symphony's complex set-up for live-streaming.

e. Promo/Media (Tom)
—Interested in exploring options for email promotion, without necessarily using a marketing company. Mailchimp, for example.

f. VP Membership (Susan)
—Pleased with outcome of the dinner, acknowledged Beth's help.
—Still have music that needs to be turned in.
—Waiting for an eBay bid for three 5-drawer file cabinets.
—Will be adding some photography releases and other info on annual member's agreement.
—Katherine suggested Amazon Warehouse for file cabinet sourcing.

g. Youth Scholarship (Katherine)
—Mackenzie (youth scholarship recipient) offered to sing again, possibly at the cabaret concert.

4. Announcements:
—Next meeting Aug. 22, 6:00, long meeting with potluck dinner.
—Starting rehearsals Sept. 11.

5. Adjournment: 9:10 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Sue Garritano
Emailed to Katherine Nitsch, Jana Hart, and Kristin Judge, 6-7-23