Vancouver Master Chorale
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
12/17/2024

Members present: Robin Patton, Sonya Sigler, Susan Pautz, Bai Pham, Valerie Winkle, Tom Paulu, Philip Denton, Megan Pittman

Members absent: Dennis Haberkamp

Guests present: Dan Warner, Katherine Nitsch

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm

Agenda - Robin

The agenda was used as presented.

Minutes - Robin

Tom Paulu made a motion to approve 11/12/24 minutes, Robin seconded. All in agreement.

Minutes from 11/19/24 - Kristin moves to approve, Tom seconded. All in agreement.

Treasurer's Report – Sonya

Refer to financial report that Sonya emailed to Board. Discussed sound and musician budget for May. Discussed Dec concert budgeted $ versus concert revenue. The finance report doesn't reflect a couple of remaining expenses to be paid in December.

We covered the ticket report from both the October and December concerts.

Discussed scholarship budget and remaining $. Discussion about outstanding dues.

Megan made motion to accept financial report, Bai seconded. All in agreement.

Director's Report - Philip

Discussion about "VMC Carolers". This was organized by a person outside of VMC, and not all singers were from VMC. Just a group of friends, the name was actually listed as Heather's Carolers with Fort Vancouver. In no way was the VMC name used.

Discussion about new accompanist Colleen Adent. Discussed Colleen's compensation , potentially increasing rate and that may result in increase to orchestra's compensation.

Expectations for rehearsals: first rehearsal Jan 13, every Mon night and jump start on Jan 25 (may add a second). Singers may miss 3 rehearsals. Action item: Philip to talk to First Presbyterian to ensure room availability for sectionals and jumpstart.

Discussion about usage of part predominants and cost. Action item: Philip to purchase and Bai to post on website..

Currently, May concert expenses coming in under the budgeted amount. Discussion on extra rehearsal for jazz combo for Mass in Blue and auditions for Haydn (early Feb).Philip to have extra rehearsal for jazz combo. Auditions for Haydn early Feb.

Discussion on soloist compensation. Intention is to keep solos in VMS. To be discussed at Jan Board meeting.

2025/2026 calendar: Dec/March/May. Orchestra for one concert only.

Other Committee Reports

Business - Dennis

See Dennis' report which was provided with agenda.

Dan is going to be working with Dennis on VP Business

Technology - Bai

Action: Bai wants to post part predominants by first rehearsal. Action: Will post youth scholarship information on website by Jan 2. Discussion about getting word out in music community for this event.

Discussion on tickets - utilitize GiveSmart links. Needs graphic to replace placeholder which is currently on website.

Action: post minutes on website.

Marketing - Megan

Created Facebook event and sent out emails

Advertising - Tom

Discussed developing schedule showing deadlines for when Tom and Megan need deliverable.

Publicity worked. No FB advertising, nothing on all-classical radio, flyers in last 2 weeks or so. Discussion about problem with programs, total cost, integrity issues, and ideas for the future. Discussion about using simpler programs to save $. Philip has experience with programs and we have internal contacts. To be discussed at a later Board meeting.

Action: need head shot and bio of Philip.

Membership – Susan

Questions for Philip, to discuss with Philip in small meeting on 12/23/24.

Concerts - Valerie

Valerie working with Cara.

Discussion about security and budgeted amount.

Old Business

None - Will discuss budget in January.

New Business

Need to restructure board - relook at responsibilities. Discussion on potential new structure, look at having committees under officers and how they can be utilitized. Action item: Board members to read officer descriptions and bring ideas/opinions forward, also read Robert Rules of Order.

Discussion on email voting and actions taken outside of Board meetings.

Sonya created draft check request form instead of requests by email.

Need to revise bylaws, operating procedures. Action item: Sonya, Dennis and Dan to work on this

Discussion on general ideas for future, including collaborations. Longview Community Association - action item: Robin to send LCA letter to philip.

Discussed grant writing talent. Sonya can conduct the grant training again.

Action item: Robin to email choir by Jan 2, request volunteers for replacement Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Hospitality committee (which falls under membership).

Good of the Order - None

Announcements

Next Board meeting Sun Jan 12 1-4pm at Sonya's house.

Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 pm