VMC Board Meeting
April 14, 2026

Present: Robin, Dennis, Andrew, Philip, Valerie, Susan, Bai, Jonathan, Geri,
Guests: Mark, Katherine, Robert, Rebekah
Absent:: Tom

Call to order, 7:00 pm
Motion to approve agenda - Robin. Proposed by Dennis, seconded by Jonathan. Passed unanimously.

Minutes - Geri. Motion to approve March minutes proposed by Susan, seconded by Robin. Passed unanimously.

- Geri mentioned that, depending on the new Secretary's schedule, it might be best to submit comments and corrections by noon the Saturday before the meeting.

Concerts report - Valerie

- Planning for May concerts: she has checked up on the use of equipment, security and photography, with backup help for the latter.
- Discussion of whether to hire March's videographer Chris again and whether Charlie will be taking photos. Bai and Valerie will talk to Charlie about this. There was a question of whether to pay him for his work. It was noted that choir members donate their talents to the choir without compensation. Note that later in the meeting, Philip said that he's pleased with the videographer's work and sees no reason to change.
- Susan reported that flowers are covered.
- Jonathan said that the risers crew is ready.
- Jonathan will pursue the possibility of installing electrical outlets in the church for the speakers. This would be for Chorale's benefit, not necessarily for the church's.
- Valerie gave an overview of the raffle document. Ticket receptacles would need to be managed at all times, according to State regulations. Swipe could be used to sell tickets. Income must be kept separate from concert funds. State recommends that an uninterested party perform the drawings.

Treasurer's report - Andrew

- Financial report: balance sheet was shared onscreen, with overall assets at $83.5k.

- Income statement showed income totaling $9,826, expenses totaling $24,327, with a net loss of $14,501 for the month of March.
- Philip reported that he has a vendor in Oregon for merchandise and proposed sending the design to this company. First line of orders will be for members.
- Andrew requested approval of a $100 budget transfer from Misc. to Postage to cover expenses from the orchestra (return of music) and Cherie (letters to donors). A board vote on the process is a one-time but best practice since it's never been done before. Robin motioned to approve, Bai seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Tom (in absentia) requested an additional $520 for the Advertising budget to run ads in the Columbian and All Classical Radio for the concert, transferring funds from Programs ($200) and Posters ($320) to Advertising. Jonathan motioned, Susan seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- The next meeting may include an item on budget reallocation policy for Board consideration.

<u>Director's report - Philip</u>

- Next season he would like an appointment on the calendar to review received videos and submit feedback regarding performances.
- He is looking for Christmas pop music suggestions.
- As noted before, he is pleased with the videographer's work.

<u>Development report - Dennis</u>

- The City of Vancouver is releasing new grant programs at four levels in July.
- The committee has done preliminary tasks for applying for the Cowlitz Tribe grant. Program plans included in the Vision statement will help with this.
- One grant requires including programs that involve schools.
- The committee will send all its drafts to the Board.

<u>Nominating committee</u>

- Includes Dennis and Katherine. Needs one more member.
- Two Chorale members have expressed interest in the Secretary position. Mark will be stepping into Bai's role.

(Back to Development)

- Robin mentioned that the fundraising goal for this year is
- The Development Committee has compiled a donor list which will be used as a customer relationship management document to keep track of important facts

related to donors and to use in maintaining and cultivating relationships with donors.

Robin - Strategic Planning Committee

- Committee met on 4/12 and reviewed surveys regarding membership recruitment, fundraising, marketing and visibility, organization & system development and what members want.
- Decided to rewrite the VMC Mission statement. There was a discussion of the proposed Vision and Values statement drafts, with suggestions. Robin gave an update on WA nonprofit mission guidelines.

Membership report - Susan

- Philip wants to standardize audition requirements - all members must be able to pass the same audition, including current members. Discussed audition process: 2 solfege scales, an art song and sightreading assessment. Doesn't have a proposal yet.
- Susan - committee is planning the end of year party. Tenors do the skit.

Marketing Committee

Tom emailed his report to the Board in advance.

Social Media report - Valerie

- Jaz and Bekah are working on material for upcoming concert, including securing graphics.
- Update on member spotlight and on the email for signing up on the committee.
- Provided a brief look at Canva. The committee plans to host an introduction to Canva basics, possibly in summer.

Tech committee report - Mark

- Committee has access to the Board email list.
- Online ticket sales are on, with 20 tix sold so far.
- Robin - all Board members need to have a committee.
- Bai - committee is creating finance and treasurer VMC.org email addresses.

New Business

- A one-time vote to approve of Philip's pilot program to offer VMC members an opportunity to buy clothing with a VMC logo was motioned by Jonathan, seconded by Dennis and passed unanimously.

- A motion to approve of the unlicensed raffle with guidelines displayed and the physical address added to tickets was proposed by Valerie, seconded by Bai and passed unanimously.

Good of the Order

- Robin spoke about the presence of educational opportunities for boards and of workshops by the Nonprofit Association of Washington in Gear info.

Motion to adjourn, made by Geri, seconded by Jonathan, passed unanimously, 9:00 pm.