

MARKET STREET SINGERS
Annual Meeting, November 9, 2010
Ballard Northwest Senior Center,
5429 32nd Ave NW, Seattle.

President Susanne Redalje called the Annual Meeting of the Market Street Singers to order at 6:05PM.

ATTENDANCE: 53 members attending of 66 on the membership roster.

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of November 17, 2009 were read by Secretary, Elsie Simon.

TREASURER'S REPORT Treasurer, Kate Riordan, reported that the 2010 Budget projects an end-of-the-year surplus of \$300. But as of today, we already have a surplus of \$2500, due mainly to members' donations, approximately \$20/month. Fundraisers are our next biggest source of income. We invite and welcome any new fundraising ideas. They enable us to not charge admission for performances, although we still take in significant donations. Expenses include salaries, space rental, music, storage locker, etc. We have cash reserves, so even if we wind up \$1000 in the red, we have back up. In response to a question about the size of donations at performances, Kate pointed out that these were included in non-participant income donations.

Kate announced her retirement as Treasurer effective December 31, 2010.

ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

M/S/C that we elect and welcome new Board Members: Barbara Helde, Helena Morris and Ashley Wiggin.

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS: Vice President, Kathryn Minturn, acknowledged with appreciation Suzy Crawley and Elsie Simon, as they retire from the Board.

ANNUAL AWARDS were presented to:

Board Awards: (by Kathryn Minturn) to BRIONY NICKELS and (by Chris Baptiste) to LYNN ARNOLD

President's Award: (by Susanne Redalje) to EDEN RIVERS

Spirit Award: (by Chris Vincent) to GREG PALMER

Director's Award: (by Chris Vincent) to KATHRYN MINTURN

In presenting The Spirit Award to Greg Palmer, Chris reminded us of Greg's early and constant encouragement of our fledgling choir, seeing us as "the little choir that could." Choir member Ned Palmer accepted the Award for his Dad, Greg, who passed away May 8, 2009.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND NOTICES:

Sarah Coyle presented Director Chris Vincent and husband (and choir bookkeeper) Ken, and accompanist Ingrid Verhulsdonk each with a Thank You gift in appreciation for their faithfulness, talent and exceptional service.

Kathryn introduced the new Task List, created to organize and promulgate "jobs" that need to be done, some short-term, some ongoing, i.e. Editor for the Cybergazette, where the Task List will be kept. A Procedure Manual is being assembled to record how these various jobs are done. Members are invited to contact any Board member with questions about and suggestions for the List.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS: Director Chris Vincent commented:

(1) We have found a new, roomier venue for performances at Ballard First Lutheran Church.

(2) We have experimented with two performances of concerts, and that worked out fine.

(3) The results of the recent survey of the membership about the establishment of a small choir within our group, to serve smaller venues, etc. raised valid and important issues, that necessitate a closer look regarding how to make it fair and reasonable, how to allocate our resources, etc., and that will take more time.

(4) Chris explained why we recently withdrew from a performance at Purdy's Women's Prison in Gig Harbor. Their security protocols presented serious challenges, i.e. we would have to be there by 1PM on Sunday, which is very difficult for Ingrid and Chris. Once there, 45 minutes for processing would be needed, and singers would all have to provide Social Security numbers, Birthdates, and ID. Collecting this sensitive information in a secure manner, by the deadline of Nov. 15, did not seem doable. Also required was an itemized list of all possessions - music, including each folder with its individual pieces of music, books, piano, etc. We will work on doing this performance in the future.

(5) In an effort to reach a more diverse audience, Kate Riordan has contacted the Boys & Girls club, about performing for them, and they are interested.

(6) Plans for the Spring concert start with the theme of seasons, i.e. "Summertime," "Autumn Leaves," also classical pieces, Chorus from Haydn's Oratorio "Seasons," also humorous pieces.

Q and A (answers to the questions):

In response to a suggestion by member-on-leave, Larry Gockel, Chris will look into assembling a repertoire of basic pieces that most choirs know, so that TMSS might host a sing-along and invite choirs in to sing those classics.

Since we won't be doing ACT this Holiday Season, the Senior Center will not receive a donation as a result of a collection at that performance. The suggestion was made that TMSS therefore give the Northwest Senior Center a direct, end-of-the-year donation. There was support for doing this, and the Board is asked to take care of this.

We have in the past contributed toward the fee for the Director to attend a Choral conference.

Regarding our size, for the summer concert we lost a number of people, but by Fall they were all replaced with newcomers, and we've totaled about 65-66 singers for some time now. Usually 10 people will be absent from any concert.

Consortium: go to www.seattlesings.org Greater Seattle Choral Consortium - click on Member Profiles to find our entry. We will list our concerts when dates known.

Chris would like to see us perform with a community orchestra.

Members appreciate our songs being available on YouTube, to show to our friends -- and prospective patrons!

When Chris asked for suggestions of songs to perform, the replies included: James Taylor, ABBA, Country Music, Spirituals, the German piece "Verleiden's Frieden" (sp?).

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Elsie Simon, Secretary