

# Minutes

## Market Street Singers Board Meeting August 10, 2009

President Eileen Nicholson called the meeting to order at 7:05pm at the home of Elsie Simon.

Present: Board Members: Russ Long, Eileen Nicholson, Susanne Redalje, Kate Riordan, Eden Rivers, and Elsie Simon, Jeanne van Aalst, and Director, Chris Vincent.

**M/S/C** to approve the Agenda.

**M/S/C** to approve the Minutes of the July 13, 2009 Board Meeting.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

We welcomed Kate Riordan as our new Treasurer. After meeting with personnel from Chase Bank, Kate, Eileen Nicholson, Chris Vincent and Ken Molsberry are now the updated signatories on the bank account. Elsie Simon turned over to Kate the additional supply of checks.

For the month of July, MSS Income was \$965.00, and Expenses \$900.40 leaving a Net Income for the month of \$64.40. A regular generous donor contributed \$200. As for expenses, the choir picnic cost \$233, \$32 less than the \$275 budgeted, and Ingrid was not paid for two Tuesdays that were not practice days

**M/S/C** to approve the Treasurer's Report for July 2009.

### **MSS PICNIC, TUESDAY, JULY 21 - EVALUATION**

The picnic, held at Golden Gardens, was deemed awesome. Next year we need more volunteers at the picnic to help guard food tables at all times against animal diners, and to help with clean-up at the end. We will also need at least two tables for food, longer tablecloths (and affix these later, to avoid accumulating bird "deposits"). The beverage choices were very good, but we needn't repeat the veggie-burgers. Kudos to Eileen Nicholson for spearheading this worthwhile effort!!

### **MEMBERS-ONLY SECTION OF WEBSITE - PRIVACY ISSUE, DISTRIBUTION OF PASSWORD**

Susanne raised the question of retaining privacy for the Members-Only part of our website. The password has been distributed pretty widely and casually, with no attempt to protect confidentiality. While most of the data there is fairly innocuous, the password would help protect against excessive chatter. Also, there can be certain confidential data that we would only want to disseminate directly to our members via e-mail, and not incorporate on the website at all. We need to remind members that the password is confidential, and for use by "Members-Only." Chris suggested we establish a policy on the handling of confidential

information.

## **DVD OF MAY 30TH CONCERT**

Lynne Arnold had a technical problem and could not record the concert as he'd planned. However, a friend of Jean Bowman made a DVD recording of the concert with many wonderful segments. It is an exceptional record of songs we performed extremely well, along with some instructive examples of areas where we can do better. In the future, Chris recommended that we invite aspiring videographers to contact him ahead of time about where to set up, and even attend a rehearsal.

For this recording, Chris recommends we extract the 7 or 8 best pieces and post them individually on YouTube. He will ask for Lynn Arnold's help with this.

## **SEPTEMBER 12 CONCERT**

### **PROMOTION**

Russ presented his poster design for the concert, and incorporated several suggestions from the Board. In addition, Russ showed us an idea for a coffee cup, just like the one in his poster (with our logo on it), which he could sell at the concert, for \$10, coffee included, and the choir get \$5 and Russ get \$5. Russ expressed his concern about a conflict of interest. But the board felt this was not an issue: we were lucky to have all the time and work Russ donates to us, to say nothing of his creativity, from which the MSS benefit greatly.

However, to try to introduce and sell the cups at this particular concert, would be awkward. The program is only about 35 minutes long, after which we will head out to Stroll-sing on Ballard streets, so time is rationed. Such an activity would compete with the concert itself for our attention and focus. And other than our members, who would the customers for such cups be? It would be better not to conduct sales business there. It would detract from the purpose of evening, and also from the cups.

Chris suggested that we have about 15 cups available to buy. Then, between two coffee songs, Chris will promote them, and also refer people to our website for information on contacting Russ to obtain them. We prefer not to conduct transactions directly via the website (i.e. using PayPal) because of fraudulent activity reported by our internet provider.

### **NEW T-SHIRTS**

Russ will have them available (\$10 each) to order at rehearsal tomorrow, Aug 11. There will be a new design as well as a special women's style, although members can still wear their current T-shirt. We must make sure all new members have a T-shirt. (We should make obtaining a T-shirt upon joining the choir a part of the membership requirements, so everyone has one by concert time.)

### **PUBLICITY**

Brandy Rinck has already sent a press release composed by Chris to her media list. Chris will disseminate the press release to members along with the newly approved poster, and he'll also do an e-mailing. Russ will have posters available for distribution at practice tomorrow night, August 11.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

are needed at the concert to help with welcoming, handing out programs, traffic control., etc. As for printed programs for these Artwalk mini-concerts, black and white, and even just one sheet, is adequate. For the Stroll-singing that follows the concert, it would be helpful to have "allies" accompanying us. Rent for the performance site will be \$150.00.

## **RUMMAGE SALE, SAT, SEPT. 26**

Set-up Friday night, Sept 25. Eileen reports that Joyce Bowlby will provide instructions on how to set up if she can't be there. We will need to sign up volunteers for both days. Russ has the "cashier" aprons. Russ has also designed new signs for the new location and month/date. Recommended locations for sandwich board signs on Sale Day included 65th & 24th, 65th & 32nd, 24th & Market. Our new location this year at the Senior Center (on 30th NW) puts us west of the business district, so we won't benefit as much from foot traffic as in the past.

Adjourned at 8:35  
Respectfully,  
Elsie Simon, Secretary

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Monday, September 14, 2009.

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