

Minutes

Market Street Singers Board Meeting July 13, 2009

President, Eileen Nicholson called the meeting to order at 7:10pm at the home of Elsie Simon.

Present: Board Members: Russ Long, Eileen Nicholson, Susanne Redalje, Kate Riordan, and Elsie Simon as well as visiting members Doug Hathaway, and Jeanne van Aalst, and Director, Chris Vincent.

M/S/C to approve the Agenda.

M/S/C to approve the Minutes of the June 8, 2009 Board Meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

For the month of June, MSS Income was \$1,980, and Expenses \$3,131.66 (mainly \$960.51 for music for the new season, see FOOTNOTE at end) leaving a Net Income for the month of -\$1,151. However, our Net Income for the first half of this year through June 30th of +\$571.6 compares most favorably to the same time last year, when our balance was -\$899.62.

M/S/C to approve the Treasurer's Report for June 2009, including Quarterly Reports, with special thanks to Ken Molsberry, for all his work in preparing these for us.

ADDING NEW BOARD MEMBERS

We have accepted, with regret, the resignation of Linda Trautman from the Board. MSS Bylaws allow existing Board Members to vote on replacement members. Eileen welcomed visiting member Jeanne van Aalst, who is "trying us out."

M/S/C that we approve the election of Jeanne van Aalst to the MSS Board.

T-SHIRTS

Russ Long reported experimenting with new printer technology, and showed examples of the results, which looked great. He is working on member T- -shirts, to be ready for our September 12 Artwalk Concert. It was suggested they be of the black/white on blue design, so as to blend in with our existing shirts, for those who cannot buy a second shirt. The new design could also be offered on our website, and potential purchasers would be referred to Russ directly.

PICNIC PLANS

Eileen circulated (for edits) a flier to hand out to members, and Meghan Smithling, Gay Helt, and Kari Stromsland have offered to help. The Board approved a Budget of \$125 for Park fee

plus \$150 for all basic supplies -- including hot dogs and drinks -- for a total of \$275. Attendees will bring salads or desserts. In case of bad weather, we'll adjourn to the Senior Center.

ESTABLISH ANNUAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS, FUNDRAISERS, ETC

Eileen recommends that the Secretary establish and maintain a calendar of past and future events, deadlines, renewals, etc. as a record and reminder mostly for use by the Board. It should be easily transferable to successive Secretaries, and reviewed annually at the January Board meeting. In view of this expansion of the Secretary's job, Kate Riordan volunteered to relieve Secretary-Treasurer Elsie Simon of the Treasurer's duties.

M/S/C that the Board approve the election of Kate Riordan to the position of Treasurer of the Market Street Singers.

Related to the subject of calendar is the need to renew our arrangement for the Brown Bear Car Wash fundraiser tickets, and Elsie volunteered to take care of this.

WEBSITE PROGRESS

Doug Hathaway clarified our access to the members' section of the Webpage. Chris would like to make the teaching recordings he prepares for us available thru the website. Susanne, a librarian, felt this should not be a problem. The access password (for members) can be changed.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

The main document is completed, and just needs refining of the part about Section Leaders, i.e. catch up for absentees, newcomers to section, absorbing new members, maintaining Section Spirit. The short version of the Membership Guidelines is already on the website.

PLANNING FOR CHOIR GROWTH

Chris reported that since January we have grown by 30 people. Last summer we started with 42 members ending with 28. This summer we have 66. We're probably OK for now, but may need a contingency plan by the end of year.

What do we do when we run out of chairs and space at the Senior Center? Could we bring a few folding chairs for practice, or even fold up tables for more seating room?

Chris is concerned that we are growing out of all our venues - i.e., what if we can't fit into the Hearthstone to perform? We can see what it's done to our music budget, and we may need more music storage, even office space. Let's keep this in mind and revisit in the Fall.

Adjourned at 9:10
Respectfully,
Elsie Simon, Secretary

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Monday, August 10, 2009.

FOOTNOTE: MUSIC COSTS

Music costs for this season were the highest ever. There are several reasons for this:

- This was one of those times, which have become rare, when Chris selected mostly new pieces.
- Our membership has ballooned, with 66 members (compared to last year's 42)Chris needs to order or photocopy 70 copies for each selection.
- In the past, Chris has had access to essentially free copying but now has to use a local shop that charges less than Kinko's but still costs a lot more than before.
- The price of printed music and its shipping keep going up well beyond what anyone expected. Chris has started using a local supplier connected to Ron Bolles' business who gives discounts and charges little to nothing for shipping.

[Return to the Members-Only Index](#)