

MINUTES
Market Street Singers Board Meeting
May 10, 2010

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

PRESENT: Board Members: Suzy Crawley, Kathryn Minturn, Eileen Nicholson, Susanne Redalje, Kate Riordan, Elsie Simon, **Director,** Chris Vincent, **Visitor:** Briony Nickels

M/S/C (moved by Suzy Crawley) to approve the Minutes of the April 12, 2010 Board Meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Kate Riordan reported Income for April of \$1900.01 mainly from \$1515 in member donations, with Expenses of \$1201.80 for the usual items, for a net gain of \$698.21 for the month and a balance in the bank of \$5695.35.

Fundraising Update: Do we want to push on fundraising?

We agreed to sell **Chinook Books**, which cost \$20 of which we'd keep \$10 if we commit before June 15th. They'll be available in August and we can take them on consignment. We'll also again sell Entertainment Books ***Kathryn Minturn will announce this at practice and will suggest that members not necessarily have to buy one for themselves, but rather can sell them friends who plan to buy them anyway. But start spreading the word.

Rummage Sale: Last year's low sales followed a year of the highest sales ever . But a main problem last year was poor location, away from the center of activity, and Chris thinks he can work an arrangement with St. Luke's Church. Joyce Bowlby, sales manager, is available for most weekends in Sept and Oct. Also, last year's Fall schedule** of concert and sale left us with four weeks of no practices at which to plan or promote the sale.

Brown Bear tickets: The latest batch of 50 tickets is half sold, at the new price of \$5.00 each.

Grant Application: Eileen reported that she, Chris Vincent, Eden Rivers, Nissa Limbach and Sue Bean are trying to find a meeting time, meanwhile the City's grant application is not available until early June.

Soliciting Business "Supporters:" Elsie suggested asking Ballard businesses for \$10 - \$50 in return for recognition on programs and website might be a way to not have to charge members all the time.

We concluded that fundraising activities seem adequate and appropriate for now.

Board Membership: The Board accepted Deborah Seidel's resignation, leaving board with six members, with a required minimum of three members. [24:30] What does the Board do? It supports the Director by dealing with administrative issues like planning, providing a sounding board; becoming aware of when/what help is needed and trying to provide it.

Concert (June 5 & 6) Update: Russ Long has designed another lovely poster, and Chris assumes ***Brandy Rinck has submitted it to her online news contacts.

Production Committee: ***Chris Vincent will try to set a meeting for the committee to meet with the Ballard First Lutheran Secretary this week, about Concert logistics and to familiarize them with the setting. The committee, led by Kate Riordan, includes Kathryn Minturn and Briony Nickels. They'll need to situate risers, update final list of who will perform, secure stools and a chair, and help Chris with production "script."

We discussed the positive response to Chris's Introductory remarks at the Hearthstone performance May 4th and agreed that he should do the same at the June 5-6 concert. It would also reduce the size and cost of the program.

Music Management Issue: With the growing number of members coming in and out of the choir, Kate Riordan is spending more and more time trying to recover music. Do we want to ask newcomers for a \$10 deposit, or provide them music folders to use temporarily, returning them at the end of practice? Or are we OK losing music? How much do we lose each season? But that's not the only issue: there is also the time spent preparing for copying, ordering odd quantities, small amounts, etc. and up to six weeks delivery.

In the fall, we could experiment with asking everyone to pay a \$10 music deposit. Or, we could try a phone tree, using additional board members to phone daily to request music return.

Annual Picnic, July 20: A site at Golden Gardens is reserved. As we did last year, people will bring salads & desserts, while hot dogs (not veggie hot dogs), drinks, tablecloths, plates, will be provided. We'll need to form a committee, especially for Clean Up. Family and friends are invited.

Chris will email a **Questionnaire** to all members tomorrow, seeking their opinions about establishing an Ambassador Ensemble.

Software Upgrade:

M/S/C (moved by Eileen) that we authorize Chris to spend \$150 to upgrade the music software to Sibelius v. 6,

Eventual additional hardware and software will cost about \$800 more. For now, Briony Nickels can help with scanning for next season's learning discs -- her field is Music Technology!

Membership Guidelines: Chris requests that updated Membership Guidelines be readied by June 8 to reconcile the one on the web with the one handed out with new music, and to list new Board Members.

Director's Compensation: The Board will take a look at updating Chris's compensation, in light of the additional time spent on choir activities due in part to the increased size of the choir, along with the added time needed for preparing learning discs, and searching and negotiating venues for the size of our group.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05PM.
Elsie Simon, Secretary

**the Fall Concert was on Sat., Sept 12 (Sept 8 practice was at Big House so no time for sign-ups, etc); No practice on Sept 15 (sang at Hearthstone) or on Sept.22nd (between-season break). The Rummage Sale was on Sat., Sept 26 which left us with no prior practices (for almost a month) at which to muster sign-up support for the Rummage Sale -- volunteers, items, and poster-posting.

TO DO list:

Kathryn Minturn will announce about Chinook Books at practice
(ask of) Brandy Rinck - has she submitted Rus's concert poster to her online contacts?

Kate: contact Megan Smithling re music return

Chris Vincent will try to set a meeting for the committee to meet with the Ballard First Lutheran Secretary this week, about Concert logistics.

Elsie: NOTE for budget planning, funding, (also policies) for sunshine comm, Music disc-making software, hardware