

## Market Street Singers

Board meeting January 10, 2013

The Market Street Singers is a choral ensemble for Ballard that builds connections within diverse communities. Celebrating the joy of choral music among singers and listeners, we aspire to cultivate neighborhood pride with choral arts that are truly community identified.

Present: Jaime Worthington, Jean Bowman, Hannah Won, Margo Landreville, Terrell Aldredge, Cathy Palmer, Chris Baptiste, Lucinda Kidder, Ashley Wiggin, Chris Vincent (via phone)

Absent: Gary Woods

Chris Baptiste called the meeting to order: 7:04pm

### 1. Treasurer's report (Hannah)

Hannah reports that we are up for the year overall. In his comments via email, Ken noted that our overall membership contributions are down due to fewer members contributing but we still ended the year ahead because of our fundraising efforts, which we will need to continue (e.g. auction, Christmas concert, internal fundraising).

**ACTION:** Agenda item for a future meeting-- revisit our fundraising efforts and figure out what is working and what is not working.

We also discussed the potential for a board meeting December for next year's board during this conversation to create a smoother transition between the board and members. We felt that this was missing from the transition between this year and last year. We will revisit this conversation later in the year.

### 2. Task List Updates (Terrell)

The group discussed upcoming events and which are still in need of planning.

- Terrell reported that we are ready to go on the sing along. Lucinda volunteered to organize the event.
- May concert: Terrell will ask Kathryn if recalls who might have organized concerts in the past.

**ACTION:** Terrell to work on creating a list of people who have organized concerts in the past so we have a record and could potentially tap them as future organizers. This entails overall organization of the concert; one point person to organize the event, etc. She will check with Kathryn about past organizers.

Tote bags fundraiser: When we first discussed this idea, we didn't have anyone interested in organizing the fundraiser. Terrell suggested that we revisit this idea with the help of Russ. Jaime volunteered to organize the project and will connect with Russ to start the project.

Ideas about this fundraiser included:

- Bag could be sold at concerts and rummage sale as well as other public events
- Bag should be relatively cheap; Jaime will talk about cost, design, what else to include with Russ

**ACTION:** Jaime: coordinate tote bag project; report back to board on cost and ideas generated.

**ACTION:** Cathy volunteered to organize the July picnic, and will attempt to reserve the space for July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### 3. Board Meet and Greet event update (Jaime)

This event was originally planned for the fall and to be held at Barbara's house. We had originally intended for it to be a chance to mingle with the community and meet potential new board members. On further discussion, the board decided to postpone the event until we can determine what exactly we would be seeking from community members invited to this event. Cathy suggested that we ask if there is a management trainee or another individual who might have more time to share with us. We discussed writing a letter to Ballard Market as a way to thank them and invite them to join us at a meeting. As we work to identify what exactly we will want this event to become, we will have further discussions about planning and who should be invited.

Lucinda shared how a choir in Massachusetts organized a lunch event for working professionals to help them learn more about the group and find alternate ways to involve them in the group. She also reminded us that fundraising isn't our biggest goal; instead we should be working on growing our audience. So when we create this event, we will want to frame it in that light.

#### **4. Board Meeting Location/time**

The group decided on alternating Thursday nights and Saturday mornings. Thursday nights will be on a rotating basis; 7-9pm. Saturday morning meetings 10am-12pm will be held at Hannah's house on Queen Anne.

#### **We have set the below dates:**

Thurs Feb 21- Julia's on Wallingford, Sat Mar 9, Thurs April 11, Sat May 11, Thurs June 13, Sat July 13, Thurs Aug 8, Sat Sept 14, Thurs Oct 10, Sat Nov 9, Thurs Dec 12

**ACTION:** ALL: mark the dates in your calendars now!

#### **5. Sing-along-event (Chris V.)**

Chris V. reminded the board that this Jan. 26 event will be much different and much less work than our last sing along two years ago. We will be using our own music, so we don't need to track the music in the same way we did last time. We can have a suggested donation but we don't need to charge people to attend. The show will be no more than 1.5 hours long. We need to take turns staffing the door and handing out music.

Lucinda volunteered to organize the event and will work to create some signage for the actual event. She will make announcements at rehearsal and encourage attendance as well as ask volunteers.

**ACTION:** Lucinda: Announce the event at rehearsal and ask for volunteers to help with door staffing, etc. Also will work on getting the news out about the event.

#### **6. New Legal language about being a legitimate non-profit (Chris V.)**

Chris V. alerted us to new state regulations that require us to put specific language on all of our advertisements and public facing documents stating that we are a non-profit. Specific language can be seen on our website. Chris suggested that we use this language in our programs but not put it on our posters and flyers, as the language is too long to fit. The board agreed with Chris and we will proceed accordingly with not printing the language on the flyers.

#### **7. Bookkeeper Compensation (All)**

The board voted to compensate our bookkeeper \$50/ month to help cover the additional duties the position is now covering.

#### **8. Upcoming – May Concert, Chorus America Conference in June, and Consortium Festival in October**

Chris V. wanted to make sure we were all aware of upcoming events and things we will need to organize. We

will need to get more information about how we can participate and volunteer for the Chorus America Conference. We will continue this discussion at a later date.

For the consortium concert in October, we may not be able to participate. We are trying to register now but they have a complex selection process and we will know sometime after February if we are invited to perform. The event will be held at St. Mark's Cathedral.

The May concert will be May 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at Ballard Lutheran. Make a note in your calendars now. We will need a production manager for these shows.

**ACTION:** ALL: Note dates for your calendars.

## 9. Board Recruitment (All)

The board discussed ways to encourage members to attend meetings and start thinking about board participation early. We should encourage specific people to come out to the meetings, identify individuals who might be interested and have conversations with them encouraging their attendance. We will continue to talk about this and think about which members might be interested.

**ACTION:** ALL: think about members who might be interested in joining a board meeting and participating in the board. All should try to come to our next meeting with an idea for an individual they would like to approach.

## 10. New Business (anyone?)

--Ashley would like to step down from being membership coordinator. Ashley will email Terrell a short description of the position and see if we can find someone else interested in this role, hopefully someone who can be there earlier before practice to greet new members.

- o **ACTION ITEM:** Ashley will email Terrell about membership coordinator position for Task List. Ashley will stay on to help with the transition to the new person until they feel comfortable with the position.

--Terrell asked everyone to think about if we should try to get advertisers in the May concert program. The board agrees that we should proceed with trying to do this using the materials Terrell created last year.

- o **ACTION ITEM:** Terrell will create a document/ flyer at the next board meeting.

--Chris B. asked if we need to consider replacement section leaders for those who are both Officers on the board and section leaders (Hannah and Terrell). Jean volunteered to take over 2nd alto section from Hannah. Terrell will stay on as Soprano section leader for now.

- o **ACTION ITEM:** Jean will work with Hannah to transition section leader roles.

--The group discussed the idea of Chris V. holding small workshop on music theory and reading music for those interested. We think this would be a great thing for members to have access to. The group also discussed the idea of purchasing a few "how to read music" books to be shared among the group. We will continue this discussion with Chris at a later meeting.

--Chris V. wanted to share that the season is off to a great start and he feels that the choir has gained a lot of momentum and excitement and looks forward to the rest of the rest of the season. He also noted that Echo Glen would like us to come back in the future but we will have to wait one year to do this.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm

Next meeting: Feb 21, 7-9pm, Julia's restaurant in Wallingford.

Mar-Cathy

Apr-Gary

May-Lucinda

Jun-Jaime

Jul-Jean

Aug-Hannah

Sep-Margo

Oct-Terrell

Nov-Ashley