

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.

**April 11, 2014, at the home of Cathy Palmer
Call to Order: 7:06 pm**

Present: Jean Bowman, Mitch Cunanan, Cassie Owens, Cathy Palmer, Marilyn Varas, Chris Vincent, Gary Woods, Jaime Worthington

1. Minutes – (ALL)

The board reviewed minutes for the March board meeting. Cassie moved to accept the minutes and Mitch seconded the motion. All approved; minutes accepted as written.

2. Treasurer's Report (Cassie)

TMSS continues in good shape financially. Cassie repeated her appreciation for Ken's reports that make TMSS financial situation clear and easy to understand. She pointed out that for TMSS depreciation is entered annually rather than monthly

3. Previous action items (ALL)

- a. Concert programs (Chris V.): they are underway; inserts are completed.
- b. Civic Partners grant (Cathy): although TMSS submitted its form in mid-March, it has not yet received a contract to sign. Cathy will check with the Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.
- c. Picnic (Marilyn): Chris B. has scheduled the picnic for Tuesday evening, July 15th, at Woodland Park Picnic Shelter #3. We will solicit volunteers and distribute more information (maps etc.) after the summer season starts in June.
- d. Keyboard (Chris V.): the old keyboard has been offered to several persons, as a gift or possible purchase. No one to whom it has been offered wants it. The Board asked Chris V. to approach the Ballard Senior Center about accepting the keyboard and storing it in the meeting room; if the Center rejects this offer, Chris V. should list it for sale on Craigslist.
- e. Ballard High School (Marilyn, for Patty): the group of teachers/admin/staff at Ballard High School which could approve TMSS use of the BHS auditorium for a concert will meet at the end of April.

4. Spring concert (Chris V.)

Chris V. reported that, for the most part, everything is in hand. The detailed production schedule, including rehearsals, has been finished and approved by the Earthrise group. It has been sent to all MSS members via the Gazette. Volunteer recruitment is proceeding well, but more volunteers can always be used.

5. Display Board (Jean)

Jean and Russ decided on the following criteria for design of the new display board: simple; easy to see; short and sweet. They decided that this version, to be completed before the May concert, will be a simple poster (one panel, for display on an easel) rather than a tri-fold. Jean passed around a sample poster. Board members gave the design high marks, with special note of the background (text of all the songs TMSS has performed). After discussion of the copy (for example, the board emphasized that this poster is intended to inform concert-goers about TMSS, not recruit new members), the Board approved the design and asked Chris V. to review the copy/bullet points with Russ and Jean.

Discussion of the display board led into a discussion of whether TMSS should be mailing in order to build concert audiences. Chris V. reviewed the history of early mailings (lots of work and expense for little result) and the gradual movement to e-mail/online. Choir members who, in the past, have been asked to provide e-mail addresses to TMSS for publicity purposes have declined; they prefer to forward concert notices to their contacts themselves. Chris V. will ask choir members again to be lavish and tenacious in forwarding concert notifications. Jaime will check with Brandy about the Ballard blog and Facebook, to ensure that these outlets are being used as intensively as possible.

6. New Keyboard & May rehearsal schedule (Chris V.)

Chris V. prefers to wait until after the May concert to proceed with a purchase. Cassie will ask Ken whether this purchase must be depreciated or can simply be expensed. Gary and/or Kate will contact Ballard Senior Center to let it know that TMSS will not be using the rehearsal space at all during May. Rehearsals for summer season will begin June 3rd.

7. Alternate rehearsal space/Reconstituting Ambassador Ensemble (Chris V.)

As decided at the previous board meeting, the Ambassador Ensemble will test the Sunset Hill Community Center as a possible rehearsal venue on Monday evening, June 9th. Because the Ambassador Ensemble has lost several members, Chris V. will assess whether there is still interest in proceeding with such a group and whether new members might like to join.

8. Rummage Sale (Cathy)

Cathy reported the happy news that Terrell had referred her to Theresa at St. Luke's, who has confirmed that construction at the church is not imminent. Thus the rummage sale venue which has been successful for TMSS in the past will be available for fall 2014. After discussing the choice between two mid-October dates, the Board chose Oct 17/18, for the sale, as allowing more time to organize the sale after a late-September start to the fall season. Cathy will e-mail Theresa to confirm the date. Marilyn noted on the Task List that a Rummage Sale coordinator must be found.

9. Chinook Books (Marilyn)

Margo is willing to sell Chinook Books again. The Board thanked her for her willingness to take on this task, and approved renewing this fundraiser.

10. New business (ALL)

- Marilyn relayed from Patty a request from a choir member that the victims of the Oso landslide be recognized during the May concert. After discussion, the Board decided that a better option would be to dedicate a piece at the September 10th anniversary concert to the victims.
- Chris V. relayed from Kate a request that TMSS renew its participation in Give Big, the Seattle Foundation-sponsored fundraising effort which in 2014 will take place on May 6th. After discussion (and phone consultations with Ken and Chris B.) about the amount of work involved and the number of contributions generated from donors who are not TMSS, the Board decided to participate. Appeals will emphasize that the 10th anniversary season is a good time to consider an extra contribution, as special concert expenses are higher than normal. Chris B. will update the TMSS Give Big profile and website; Jaime will take responsibility for announcing Give Big in the Gazette and talking to Brandy about using Facebook to support this fundraising effort. Kate will announce/explain Give Big during an upcoming rehearsal

Adjournment: 8:23 pm, Jaime moved, Mitch seconded.

ACTION ITEMS

Kate:

- Announce Give Big to choir members at an upcoming rehearsal, before May 6th
- Coordinate with Chris B. to update profile/website for Give Big
- Notify Ballard Senior Center that TMSS will not use the rehearsal space during May

Marilyn:

- Add recruitment of Rummage Sale Coordinator to Task List

Cathy:

- E-mail Civic Partners office about contract.
- E-mail Theresa at St. Luke's to confirm choice for date of rummage sale.

Jean:

- Continue work with Russ and Chris V. on new poster about TMSS

Gary:

- Coordinate with Kate to notify Ballard Senior Schedule about May rehearsal schedule

Jaime:

- Check with Brandy about intensive use of Ballard blog and Facebook to promote May concerts
- Check with Brandy about use of Facebook to promote donations to TMSS through Give Big

Chris V.:

- Ask Ballard Senior Center about accepting old keyboard as a gift; otherwise, list for sale on Craigslist
- Review copy for new poster with Russ and Jean
- Remind TMSS members to forward concert notices to their e-mail contacts
- Assess interest in reconstituting the Ambassador Ensemble; arrange to June 9th rehearsals at SHCC

Upcoming

May 6th

May 17-18th

June 11-14th

July

September 13th

Give Big

Spring concert

Chorus America

Annual picnic

Fall concert

Market Street Singers Board Meeting
April 11, 2014

October 17th/18th

November

December

Rummage Sale

Annual Meeting & Silent Auction

Holiday concert

Next meeting: