

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.

**September 16, 2014, at the home of Kate Riordan
Call to Order: 7:02 pm**

Present: Jean Bowman, Mitchell Cunanan, Cassie Owens, Cathy Palmer, Kate Riordan, Patty Stedman, Marilyn Varas, Chris Vincent, Jaime Worthington. Ex officio: Brandy Rinck. Guests: Tom Tsurumaki, Annamaria Taskai.

1. Minutes (ALL)

The board reviewed minutes for the July and August board meetings. Cassie moved to accept the minutes and Jaime seconded the motion. All approved; minutes accepted as written.

2. Miscellaneous (ALL)

a. An additional Chorus Leadership handbook from Chorus America has appeared. Mitchell is the current borrower.

b. A notebook of "Member Profiles," at one time a feature in the Gazette, has also appeared. No one borrowed this item, or expressed interest in reviving this feature.

c. Kate gave Cassie information about an insurance policy available through Chorus America.

3. Treasurer's Report (Cassie)

a. No one had questions about the figures that Ken provided. Board members appreciated the clear graphic about income per concert.

b. After discussion, board members decided that Square would not be used at this year's auction. We will rely on cash and checks, and will remind members to bring these modes of payment with them to the auction.

c. More questions were raised about the value of participating in the GiveBig program; the board will decide whether or not to continue participating in the fall.

4. Task List (Marilyn)

a. Rummage sale: Tom, Jenna, and Patty have planning for this event well in hand. Brandy will send the poster design to Patty; Russ will be asked to print flyers for distribution at the first rehearsal (Sept 30th) of the fall season. We will have access to the space at St. Luke's after 2:00 pm on Friday, October 17th. Board members reviewed other details (the percentage of income usually donated to St Luke's for use of its space; cash on hand; pick-up of leftovers by Northwest Center). Chris V. reminded board members that posting signs on public or private property (such as at the city park across the street from St. Luke's) is illegal. Sandwich boards (of which there are two at Kate's) should be used instead.

5. Annual Meeting (ALL)

a. Gloria is heading the Annual Meeting/Silent Auction on November 11th, and has recommended holding this event at Blue Ridge Community Center. After discussing pros and cons of making this move, Jaime moved that the meeting be held at Blue Ridge, Jean seconded, and board members unanimously approved the motion.

b. The Board Social, for which choir members buy tickets at the Silent Auction, is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 6th, at Sarah McCoy's house.

6. Awards (Chris V., Kate)

Recipients of the Director's and President's awards have been chosen; Kate will give names to Russ to produce certificates. After discussion, board members decided that no Board award would be given this year.

7. Budget (Cassie)

Cassie reviewed in detail the figures that Ken and she had developed for the draft 2015 budget. Kate reminded board members that TMSS should be generating more expenses devoted to programming, as non-profits are rated on the percentage of their expenses devoted to their missions. Board members discussed different modes for acknowledging the excellent job done by TMSS staff members—cost-of-living increases, cash bonuses, gift cards. The board will settle on a budget at the October meeting, and will present the budget to TMSS members at the annual meeting.

8. Bylaws review (ALL)

Kate had distributed the revised bylaws before the meeting, and had asked members to review them carefully; she thanked Brandy for having taken the lead on formatting all the wording changes. Cathy asked about the minimum number of board members proposed (3) vs. the number of officers (4); although not currently an issue because of the number of board members, such a situation would be dealt with by consolidating the secretary and treasurer positions into one. As there are currently plenty of choir members on the board, there is also no reason at this time to specify a percentage of choir members to be included on the board (an issue raised by Chorus America). Jaime moved that the revised bylaws be adopted, Cassie seconded the motion, and the board unanimously adopted the revised bylaws.

9. Artistic Director's Report (Chris V.)

Chris V.'s report was devoted to a detailed review of the Tenth Anniversary Concert, presented at Ballard High School on Saturday evening, September 13th. He discussed the factors that he feels led to the extremely disheartening situation of TMSS members' (and audience members') being kept waiting in the BHS parking lot for more than an hour after the auditorium was to have been opened, a custodian's being absent, and lighting's not being turned on in the BHS parking lot. Regardless of these stressors, and the fact that the concert began a half-hour late, to allow for belated rehearsal, Chris V. felt that TMSS members were able to stay focused and present an excellent concert. The opportunity to sing in a real concert hall, with choral shells and risers, and a well-trained staff (BHS students) dealing with sound and lights, is, according to Chris V., a "growth issue" for TMSS. Chris V. also reported that the payment for the hall rental had been returned to TMSS. When Cassie asked whether the student staff had been paid for their work, Chris V. said that he did not know whether they had been paid and that payment was not something TMSS could control.

Chris V. asked for board members' advice about whether to try to reestablish a relationship with Ballard High School, in the hopes that future concerts might be presented at the facility, or whether instead to investigate other venues, which might well be outside Ballard. After discussion, board members advised that Chris V. pursue both avenues of inquiry.

10. Announcement

Chris V. announced that "Seattle Sings," an event sponsored by the Greater Seattle Choral Consortium, will Take place on Saturday, October 19th, the day after the rummage sale. The event will be announced in the Gazette.

Adjournment: 9:02 pm,

ACTION ITEMS:

Kate:

- Give names to Russ for production of Director's and President's certificates
- Forward revised bylaws to Chris B. for posting on the website
- Confirm plans for Annual Meeting with Gloria as committee head

Cassie

- Continue drafting of 2015 budget with Ken, to present at October board meeting

Patty, Tom, Jenna

- Arrange for rummage sale posters and flyers; distribute at first rehearsal Sept 30th

Jaime

- Contact Sarah McCoy to approve Dec 6th date for Board Social

Upcoming

October 17 th /18 th	Rummage Sale
November 11 th	Annual Meeting & Silent Auction
December 6 th (tentative)	Board Social
December 13 th	Holiday concert
December 14 th	Echo Glen concert

Next meeting: October 30th; location TBD