

Market Street Singers Board Meeting – October 21, 2015

October 21, 2015 at the home of President Kate Riordan
Call to order: 7:03 pm

Present: Marilyn Varas, Kate Riordan, Kim Stickney, Brandy Rinck, Jean Bowman, Gary Woods, Gloria Chenoweth, Patty Stedman, Chris Vincent, Annamaria Taskai

Guests: Barbara Lay, Mitchell Fund, Zsolt Taskai, Elaine Mathies, Jenna Magee and Deborah Sallee

Accepting the minutes from the last meeting

The minutes of the August 19, 2015 meeting were accepted via Doodle Poll on September 25, 2015.

1. Treasurer's Report – Kim

Kim was presenting the updated budget for the next year. The Board will vote via Doodle Poll about the final version. According to Kim, the number of the people who are not paying contributions grows. Due to this issue and because we have a lot of new members, the Board agreed that reminding members of how greatly we rely on contributions and how they can pay it will be a regular part of the announcements from now on again. Zsolt mentioned that we should let people know that they can set up recurring payments on PayPal. Barbara brought up the idea of designated contribution. The Board agreed to get back to that idea later.

2. Fundraising Committee

The Board came up with some ideas for new fundraising replacing the bags (license plates, water bottles and mugs so far).

3. Special Events

The Board decided that we are not going to do the Festival of Favorites this year but next year. As for now, each event has an organizer (Silent Auction and Annual Meeting – Gloria, Annual Picnic and Rummage Sale – Patty). Patty offered that she would train the next person who will be in charge for the Rummage Sale once she knows that she won't do it again.

4. Silent Auction – Gloria

The Board set the date for the Annual Meeting and Silent Auction: Tuesday, 7pm November 10th 2015. Gloria will be in charge of everything else but the finances – that task will go to Kim. She needs help; Marilyn, Barbara and Annamaria volunteered to take the money for the auction items. Gloria agreed to take care of the pizza project. She will email Sarah about that.

5. Electronic Payment

The Board considered adding electronic payment to our cash and check options. According to the experience of the concert volunteers having a credit card reader would be beneficial for the choir even with the 2.5-2.75% fee. The Board decided that we will not use this option for the upcoming silent auction because it is too close but will set up an account and order the device soon. We will use it mostly at concerts not just for collecting suggested concert contributions but for fundraising purchases as well and on the upcoming rummage sales. Details will be worked out after the annual meeting. Motion to set up a credit card reader for the choir – Marilyn motioned, Brandy seconded it. All approved.

6. Award

Director's Award will go to Ingrid Verhulsdonk, the Board's Award (previously the President's Award) will go to Beth Baily.

7. Stepping Down and New Board Members

No change in officials.

Members stepping down: Jean Bowman and Patty Stedman

New members: Mitchell Fund – Brandy motioned and Kim seconded it

Barbara Lay – Kim motioned and Gloria seconded it

8. Concert Volunteer Coordinator

Zsolt Taskai volunteered to be the volunteer coordinator at concerts.

9. Chris' Announcements

a.) The Seattle Office of Art & Culture Civic Partners Program Grant

After some previous discussion with Cathy Palmer, Chris reported that they both would like to question the benefit of this grant. Although the grant is generous and has many advantages, including the amount increasing in the future, the application process has become increasingly difficult and time consuming. Although we have much incentive to continue applying into the future, Cathy and Chris are suggesting that we open this matter up for discussion. The Board will invite Cathy to a future meeting to address these concerns.

Chris also asked about the promises that were made when we had the discussion about racial equality, a new initiative included in this last grant application. He recalled that we had made several suggestions about things that need to be done to fulfill the guidelines set by the grantors. These have not been implemented. Chris agreed to send the grant proposal narrative as a reminder of what was discussed at that time.

b.) Executive Director

Chris presented his idea of hiring a paid executive director sometime in the future. Since Kate is already doing the majority of the work would come with this job, Chris suggested to consider Kate for this position. We also agreed to start looking around to see how other choirs at our size who already have this position work.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 16, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.