

**Siskiyou Singers Board Minutes**  
**April 18, 2020 10:00 a.m. – Noon**  
**Zoom conference**

**Board Members Present:** Mark Reppert, Mary Van Wesep, Cynthia Tank, Katharine Lang, Laura Barlow, Mary Bergstrom, Michael Zuzel, Scott Nelson, Rich Gleitsmann, Jay Morse

**Board Members Absent:** Howie Seay, Laurie Morey, Jim Gleaves,

Meeting was called to order 10 AM. The minutes from last month were approved.

**Treasurer's report:**

There is not a lot of difference from last month, the balance looks good. Shawn's bill from the fall has been received, but not for spring term, nor the SOU bill.

P&L statement: Outstanding amount of about 10K expected expenses.  
5K overages for expenses for the year. We made money this year!

*To access the full profit and loss (P&L) report, contact treasurer Laura Barlow*

**No Development Committee report**

**Director's Report:**

- Our virtual "Life's Not a Cabaret" project seems to be going fine
  - 18 signed up
  - The trouble with "virtual" is that I don't have any idea how things are really going
  - I am going to experiment with an actual Zoom rehearsal--I think it can be done.
- I'm in the process of securing soloists. We need SATB.
  - There is an agenda item because of it.
  - We're moving along
- I like it that we continue to communicate during this strange time. I have been receiving many communications from choir members throughout the last month.

Mandy Light will be our soprano soloist for the fall concert, Shelly Cox will be our alto. \$600 for the outside musicians (Mandy will get \$1200 as she will sing two pieces).

**President's Report:**

I am, once again, up to date on writing thankyou notes to everyone who has recently donated money.

August will mark the end of the first half of my presidential term. The time has flown by. It is time for me to find a successor. The four-year term breaks down as follows:

- |               |                   |                                |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| - Year 1      | - President Elect | - <i>learning the ropes</i>    |
| - Years 2 / 3 | - President       | - <i>active duty</i>           |
| - Year 4      | - Past President  | - <i>available when needed</i> |

I encourage everyone currently on the board to have an open mind and a willing spirit. The presidency just might be in YOUR future.

### **No Membership report**

### **No Publicity and Programs report**

### **Old Business**

#### **Action Items:**

- 1) Michael re: how to pay Shawn. He is not interested in flat rate contract, will continue to bill us hourly. Spring season billing will be \$800-1000, about half of what it normally would have been.
- 2) Program ads: Jay sent out spreadsheet, reimbursements (not many have asked) requests sent to Mary B. Two still have not responded. All those asking for refunds have received them already. Most are OK with moving ads to fall program.
- 3) Scott: Rotary grant \$\$ balance refund (for missed outreach). Scott will communicate with them the following: After cancellation of 2 outreach performances we have a small balance left over. It is unlikely that we will be able to perform any outreach performances in the fall, so we will return the remaining balance to Rotary.
- 4) Mark: RVC tour. Email with more information will be forthcoming.

#### **Meeting Minutes in regard to Treasurer's Report:**

Some choir members asked to see full financial report in an email. What to include? We will include a synopsis of the report in the minutes.

**ACTION ITEM:** Cynthia suggested we put a note on the Member's minutes page that reads: to access P&L (profit & loss report), email Laura. (singers can get more details by contacting Laura)

#### **Workshop Venue:**

Methodist Church- stay there? All voted for this option. It is convenient, locale wise and economic as we already have a relationship with the church.

**ACTION ITEM:** All workshops will be held at the Methodist Church

#### **Holiday Concert – 2 or 3:**

As Friday and Saturday are never full houses, expenses are higher with three (rental hall and hired musicians). Ticket sales might be down anyway, as the virus situation could still be with us. We are the only group who does three, the rehearsal process is more important anyway. Mark is neutral on the change. There are many pros and cons. Looking out on a full house is uplifting!

**MOTION:** We move to a two-concert system for fall 2020; Saturday evening, Sunday matinee. Motion passed.

Scott brought up that there might be a fall virus rebound and we cannot count on even having a fall concert. We need to brace ourselves emotionally and financially for no rehearsal and no concert, and we need to be fiscally conservative (pull back on printing & design, etc.).

### **New Business**

#### **Plan for over budget expenses:**

Planning for over-budget expenses. Mark asked Laurie Anne Hunter for a recommendation of an outstanding soprano, and she suggested Emma McNairy for a future opportunity as a soloist. Emma asks for \$1K per performance, as she is a rising star in opera. She would be open to something in 2022, and she & Mark talked about Haydn's "Creation" (not for Xmas, though). The conversation will continue, to tie Emma down to a time slot, hopefully a time where she would also be in the states for other concerts (perhaps a RV Symphony concert?). Shall we consider this option (a big star, who costs a lot more)? The development committee would need to do substantial work on this plan. If the word gets out that we have a very special guest, this would increase our audiences, which should offset the increased expenses, as it did for our spirituals concert, which were very well-attended.

Might we explore a joint effort with the Symphony? Intriguing, but it would be a symphony concert, and they already have their own chorale now. We are in exploration mode;

**ACTION ITEM:** Mark will continue to research options.

We need to have a contingency plan for the fall, given uncertain times, maybe a scaled-back concert of Xmas music, and aim for a bigger concert, with orchestra, in the spring? We need to be flexible in these uncertain times.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:02 AM.**