

Siskiyou Singers Board Meeting 2/8/20

Present: Rich, Mary VW, Mary B, Scott, Mark, Laura, Laurie, Katharine and Jim

Meeting called to order at 9:08 AM.

Minutes were approved, after a comment by Scott regarding circumspection concerning criticism of any particular person (regarding the ticket master of the last concert, where much frustration was expressed previously). Candid comments should be kept, for minutes to be circulated to the board, but should be “sanitized” to be added to the website. This will be considered in the future. Jim suggested this might be a problem to have two sets of minutes.

Treasurer’s Report:

Same as last meeting, which was only two (?) weeks ago. Bills from SOU hall rental and graphic design are still outstanding. We are ahead by \$4K as there was no orchestra cost this past year.

Development Committee Report:

Still a little under anticipated expenses, better than projected registration (69). Last of ad \$ has come in, donations to date are \$9K short, expect \$2-3K this term after concert. Rotary is a month behind, so grant \$ is expected. Raffle brought in approximately \$1K

P&L statement: Nothing to point out, no changes.

Mary Bergstrom has turned in the oh-so-slow laptop owned by SS, Laura’s husband will figure out what it is worth and then it will be up for purchase.

Artistic Director – Mark Reppert

The group sounds great

- I am happy that we have two generous volunteers, Howie Seay and Keith Baldwin, who have switched to the tenor section
- I really appreciate Laurie Anne Hunter filling in for Mikiko. It is not easy to do.

Workshop is falling into place

- Mikiko will be there for the morning She will miss the afternoon for a memorial service
- We will spend 20 minutes on the “3rd Rehearsal” details including
 - Good rehearsal techniques
 - Costumes
 - Choir info

Howie and Keith will switch to tenor, as we are in need of male tenors this term.

Rich G. will switch to baritone.

Shane Flock will be brought in (for \$100) for the tenor solo in Reconciliation.

Mark has donated \$50

President – Mary Van Wesep

Last month I shared that I was up to date on writing thankyou notes to everyone who had donated money. Well, more people have donated since that writing and, so, more thankyou notes are in order. This is great news!

As of February 6, 2020 we are 69 singers strong: 24 sopranos, 26 altos, 9 tenors, 9 basses and 1 unknown. 7 of the singers are new to the choir and 1 is a returnee from some time ago. The new singers consist of 2 Altos, 4 Sopranos, 1 Bass and 1 Unknown. The new members will be introduced at an upcoming rehearsal. I want to give a shout out to Cynthia for keeping our database up to date.

Membership – Laurie Morey

Cards: are working out well, she needs more, I will provide some. Becca is joining, Shanti is dropping.

Publicity and Programs – Michael Zuzel

No report, other than to say everything in the publicity/publications realm is on track.

Old Business

Archives will stay at Annette's, as she does not want to go out to the storage unit. Her basement is dry. Plastic bins will be provided to replace cardboard boxes. Newspaper clippings, Jim Abdo's recordings, etc. Mary has some extra bins that she will provide.

New Business

June 2021 RVC tour invitation: We are invited to become part of their Canadian tour (not as a group, but as individuals). You'd need to join RVC for two concerts, cost is \$2200, not including airfare to Montreal. The theme is "World Music".

Might we lose members because of this? An announcement might encourage this. We should let this be "word of mouth" as to not endorse this. RVC's new director wants to open barriers between choir (as well as JSCC). Our schedule does not compete with theirs, so it is possible for people to do both.

Siskiyou Singers Choir tour 2022: planning would need to start in fall of 2020. Could we do it during the winter hiatus? This may be too much, with our concerts and the holidays. We could start a week later (late January) to accommodate this. A person needs to be the overseer of this project, before even contacting the tour company (same one as last time, which worked well).

We took an informal vote, and all of us were for it. Italy? Spain? A discussion will be on the agenda the next meeting, and a brief brainstorming at the workshop will occur.

Artistic Director (Mark): Budget for instrumentalist has increased from \$60-75 per service. \$15K would now be \$18,750. Laurie Ann Hunter will be the second pianist on "Stomp Your Foot". We are not going to be able to raise half of the orchestra fee, even at \$15K.

We could reduce the number of instrumentalists or decrease the number of concerts (from 3 to 2). We need a fuller discussion of this (artistic vs. financial concerns). Mark has some ideas, is thinking about it, and will send an email what he has decided (musical selection for fall). To be continued next month.

Mikiko asked if she could be paid an extra \$90 (a one-time fee) to cover rehearsals with soloists: This term it will not be an issue, but will be in the future.

Motion: we pay Mikiko \$90 a term for work with soloists, in any term when there are soloists. Seconded, passed.

Siskiyou Singers Alumni Assoc. (per Suze Hall): She is seeking our blessing to initiate this. It would be an informal support group, and she will be in charge. She may be willing to attend occasional board meetings. To be a member would entail a donation of \$500 to SS.

Motion was made to authorize SH to investigate the formation of an Alumni Association. Passed.

Workshop: Mary VW will open Wesley Hall at 8:00. I (Katharine) will provide fruit. Cynthia & Michael will bring donuts. People will be asked to set up their own chairs (they will be off the racks), Mark will provide instruction for set up.

Recruiting new board members: Laurie is stepping down as of July. We are 12, including Mark, which is a good number. Howie will be asked (Mary VW) and maybe Laurie Ann Hunter. Prospective members need to know that this is a working board. We will need a new membership chair, could be a non-board member, could even be a membership committee instead of one person .

We will lock the church door at 7:30 , and Laurie Morey will be available to let late-comers in.

Meeting was ended at 10:58 AM