

Siskiyou Singers Board Meeting December 11, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM

Present were: Howie, Cynthia, Michael, Loretta, Katharine, Laura, Scott, Steve, Mark, Mary V.

We watched the virtual choir singing Silent Night.

January 25th will be our start-up date!

This virtual concert will be Mark's last one. Virtual rehearsals will be OK, but we'd need to hire someone to put the concert together, if need be (Howie can find this person). It was a six-week-long grueling experience for Mark, especially the last two weeks before the concert. He is pleased with the outcome ("We did something good and something special").

We will not be singing at the same level as we did before the shutdown, and will need to prepare for a ramping up process.

Howie has been calling previous advertisers, then sent an email. Some responses have occurred. He will continue making calls next week.

Michael: All advertising has been done, also posted on 50 FB groups. JPR spot will be airing starting on Monday, for a whole week. JPR also fills empty slots with our spot.

Treasurer's report:

Our balances are pretty close this year to last year, we have not yet done our fundraising drive. Donations who'll be coming in due to letters that will be going out soon.

Since 2013 reserve fund (saving and CD, \$40K) has been in existence. We have not had to tap it yet. Fundraising and sponsorship have covered our expenses for the past two years so we have not had to tap the "rainy day fund".

"Donate Your Old Car Program" - we discovered that it is simple, any 5019 (c 3) can do this.

It is unknown what kind of revenue this might raise, but we might want to look into doing this.

There is no downside to doing this. Do we want to compete with the other organizations on

The list (JPR, SO PBS, The Craterian, Goodwill and Master Gardener).

The development committee will decide this.

We are also a "Smile" recipient for purchases online, which brings in about \$40/quarter.

P & L : we're in negative territory , because our fundraising effort is just started and we should be back to neutral within a few months.

Development Committee: Fundraising money has not come in yet, and we are assuming a spring concert.

Much to be determined, in terms of advertisement and donations.

COVID committee:

We agreed to resume live rehearsals: vaccinations + boosters with proof. Masks are ready to go, Cynthia has made name tags for them. Registration form will include the requirements to avoid any surprises at the door (Michael is working on this). Members will be reminded to wear their own masks to rehearsal, then will switch to singers' masks.

We are in a good position to resume rehearsals safely. Mark will go to the church to determine the best way to do the social-distance taping (6' distancing), which is complicated by the pews. We will remind people to pull up masks if they fall below the nose. They masks have an inner mask (surgical mask) that is replaceable. People will be reminded to bring their own water bottle as the water fountain is turned off. More breaks will be taken, to allow air change in the rehearsal space. Mark thinks we may only have 40 singers at the first rehearsal, which will be fine for a viable choir. Our risers can accommodate 100 people, so distancing will be possible. SOU will require vaccination status of audience members, and this will fall on Char & Mike and others if they are willing. Ticket sales will be more complicated but this, as we need to confirm vaccination status. We may need to only sell tickets at the door. Scott will talk to Tom Knapp at SOU and get back to the board in January. Our requested dates for 2022 are locked in.

Mark would like to change the dress rehearsal to the night before the concert so we can rehearse on risers. The Tuesday DR is given to us as a freebie, but they may not be willing to do so on a Friday night.

Church dates are confirmed. They have no specific COVID guidelines, as it's up to each group that rents their space.

The church does not have purifiers, nor any opening windows. The furnace fan may be able to be run to enable better air turnover. What is the air turnover time, and can we hook up a HEPA filter to supplement this? Mary will look into this. Should we consider changing to Wesley Hall? Distancing would be easier, even though chairs need to be set up. There are more doors to the outside. Mary will also look into this.

Virtual auditions are best in this situation, as they will be easier on both Mark and the auditioning people. Mark wants to see some sight-reading abilities, but voice quality and tone are more important. Michael will put out a media release to advertise auditions.

We can investigate the possibility of offering a livestream version of our concert, for pay. SOU may have the camera set up but more personnel would be needed to operate them, and the sound system.

Howie shared a video on COVID safety for bands and choirs. Masks, distance, hygiene, time.

Mary V shared a video of Mikiko receiving a bouquet of flowers at her home.

Bunny Lewis's husband Graham has passed away. Michael read an email release from the Chamber of Commerce. Mary will ask Bunny if she would be fine with giving out her contact information so members could send her a card, and to which charitable organizations donations could go. Mary will get and send a card on behalf of the choir.

Motion to adjourn was passed, meeting was adjourned at 11:48 AM.