

Siskiyou Singers Board Mtg 3/19/22

Meeting was called to order 10:16 AM

Present were: Howie, Mary B., Cynthia, Michael, Mark, Laura, Katharine, Rich, Steve and Scott

Send emails to Howie to siskiyousingerspresident@gmail.com, as Howie has several emails

It is phenomenal that we are meeting again in person!

We are a smaller choir, but we are making plans for growth.

Howie is working on updating the SS Handbook, and will send it out when he is finished.

Membership:

The committee finalized everything, and masks were handed out. New members will be courted. Mark thinks we are fine at the number we have now, but would love to have more singers in the future.

Should we buy Mark a headset microphone? To be discussed.

COVID committee: This committee will be disbanded, as the board has become the committee. Scott thanked the committee for their fine work.

Motion: Disband the COVID committee. Motion was passed.

Development committee: There has been another matching grant, \$500 to match a single \$500 donation. Our goal has been exceeded. Both \$500 matches have been matched. \$2600 currently is how much we have from donations, which is \$600 over our original goal. Let's "move the goalposts", to \$4,000. Laura will make the announcement at the next rehearsal.

Cynthia still has pencil pouches to give (for a \$25 or greater donation). Salesforce can be accessed to find out who has made donations, and how much. The pouches have a \$15 retail value, for tax purposes.

Our balance is now \$74,248.42, which is better than last year, but we have some outstanding expenses, which bring us to about the same balance as last year.

P&L : Net \$1,400 in the black, which does not include this week's donations.

Program ad sales:

The team is doing great work, advertisers are returning, we have one new advertiser (White Dental). We maintained relationships with them, we upped the offer, and they responded. Current income from ads is \$3800. There are more pending. RVM is pending, Sue is working on them, as they usually buy the full page back cover. In the future, we will be offering concert sponsorship opportunities. It is unsure what the ask will be- Michael will touch base with Shawn, and work with Laura. The deadline for printing will be the deadline for this.

Trade ads are not included (Secure Storage, Manzanita plus 4-6 others), although they are included in the program.

Printing costs: We have decided to eliminate posters and printed tickets. Postcards will be used in lieu of posters. We will print postcards, for handing out as well as sending to 1900 (snail mail) customers. Programs: we typically print 700, based on 80% capacity, but fewer will be needed at this time. Paper cost are volatile. \$882 is the current projection of printing costs, vs. \$1400 previously. Michael's suggestion is that we print 450 programs.

Motion: We table this discussion at this point, we will print 3500 postcards. Motion passed.

Old business: concert title - Michael and Mark decide this, and is pending. Printing deadlines will affect this decision. "The Beauty of the Words" is the subtitle, title is pending.

2024 Tour report:

Cynthia gave a brief summary:

It is looking like we will go to the Dolomites in Italy, the Alta music festival, with options for extending tour before or after. The upsides of doing this are: sightseeing, socializing, we can use our own music, easy access to the Mediterranean area.

She'd like us to review her report online, make comments.

We will authorize ACFEA again as we had a good experience on the last tour.

Motion: We retain ACFEA, motion passed.

Scott: When we reserve the recital hall, we pay \$1K per day for use, for one or multiple concerts. \$100 per day for access for riser set up/teardown. Labor cost for student stage manager is hourly. We rent a classroom greenroom (one this year as our numbers are down). \$40 per classroom. \$75 parking fee per concert. We would save \$940 total having two concerts on one day.

Read Scott's report to see the options (three).

Two concerts on Saturday, vs. the usual Saturday evening & Sunday matinee? Two concerts on one day is exhausting, and Mark is against it. We might have a smaller audience each time, due to COVID, but people like to choose evening/matinee.

We will forego RVM performance this year.

Motion: We proceed with the status quo, (two concerts). Three naes, six ayes. The ayes carry it, motion passed.

Jim Abdo will mike us for \$525. If we need to be masked, this will be necessary for amplification. Hopefully by our April meeting we will know what the mask & vax situation will be at SOU. SOU's ability to mike us is not adequate. If we are not masked, amplification will not be needed.

Motion: We allow Mark to reserve Jim Abdo for those dates, with first right of refusal. Motion passed. (Mark spoke with Jim at the end of the meeting and Jim agreed to this).

Ticketing/pricing: Mark would love to do a “pay what you can” system, with no printed tickets. He has had a positive experience with this system. Howie will make a statement in his remarks at the concert, asking for donations. It could be on the postcard and on all the advertising. Michael will talk to Shawn and will come up with the wording.

Zazzle is a company that makes custom t-shirts and other items. We could create a Siskiyou Singers store, which provides a small royalty on top of the price of the items. Michael could create a design which can be printed on shirts, hats, hoodies, etc.

Motion: We authorize Michael to create a design for a Zazzle account. Passed

Mark is considering the Mozart Coronation Mass for fall of 2022, with orchestra. Also the Regina Celli. Both are soprano-heavy, which is why the soprano gets paid more than the other parts (\$750 vs. \$500).

Emma McNairy is contracted to sing Poulanc’s Gloria fall of 2023.

Mark sent an attachment with the costs. \$12,425 for each concert with an orchestra, plus another \$4,000 for Emma. This means a huge fundraising effort!

The Carpenter Foundation might be able to assist us with this (fall concert). Their deadline is the last week of April. Scott will pursue this. COVID recovery + a very special piece of music+ our 40th anniversary would be our pitch. We will not know until June if we will receive the grant.

Rich will reach out to Adroit for a possible \$5K donation.

We will be looking for sponsorships for musicians, both instrumental and vocal.

40th Anniversary committee:

We need a committee head, possibly outside the board. Sally might be interested as she is not doing outreach this year, or poster distribution.

If a choir member tests positive for COVID, all members will be notified. There are so many variables here, we will evaluate on a case-by-case basis, in terms of canceling a rehearsal.

April 12 & 19th- auditions for small groups/solos

The new meeting space is perfect. We will do a trade-ad in lieu of paying for a monthly board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:42PM

Next meeting: April 16th