

**Siskiyou Singers Board Minutes**  
**October 12, 2024 9:00 am**  
**Inga Leed/Andrew Klein, 857 Clay Street – Ashland**

**Board Members Present:** Mark Reppert, Steve Thomas, Michele Kyle, Laura Barlow, Mary Bergstrom, Andrew Klein, Inga Leed, Howie Seay, Scott Nelson, Loretta Barker, Sean Connolly, Jasmin Conley

**Absent:** Mary Van Wesep, Carol Lambie

**Meeting Called to Order at 9:13 AM**

**Approval of September 2024 Minutes**

**MOTION:** *Loretta moved that the September 2024 Board Minutes be approved with one correction – changing the misspelling of Jasmin Conley’s name. Motion seconded by Inga. MOTION PASSED*

**Question:** Are we paying the boy soprano? **Answer:** Yes, \$150

**ACTION ITEM:** *Laura Barlow will contact the Executive Director of the singer’s choir to determine how best to get the money to him.*

**WRITTEN REPORTS**

**Director – Mark Reppert –**

I am very pleased to report that all the auxiliary parts of our concert are falling into place. We are only a few players short of the full orchestra and we are working out other details as well. In addition, we have drums (Theresa McCoy) and bass (David Miller) for the second half of the program.

We also have secured an excellent boy soprano soloist, Avi Vartanian. Avi is a 12-year-old singer in the Piedmont Children's Choir, an excellent group based in Oakland. I auditioned him (and another boy) in September. In addition to his beautiful, clear voice, he was almost memorized and had a very musical feel for the piece. I am really looking forward to this concert.

**President – Steve Thomas –**

I think we can all agree that the Siskiyou Singers December 2024 and January 2025 concert preparations are going very well. Sectional rehearsals have been scheduled, Lorri Whiteside is our Ad Sales Manager, our EMEY Campaign got off to a great start thanks to Laura Barlow and the board is working hard on many varied issues and making some nice progress.

I am so pleased that Michele Kyle is our President Elect and just this last month we onboarded three new members to our team! Carol Lambie, Jasmin Conley and Sean Connolly.

Upcoming, we will need to find a Ticket Manager and volunteer ushers for our concerts. I have full faith that we will be successful in that as well as performing some wonderful concerts!

Thank you all for your dedicated service to Siskiyou Singers 😊

**Publicity – Michael Zuzel – no report**

**Membership – Howie Seay – no report**

**Communications and Connections – Michele Kyle – no report**

**Technology Task Force – Andrew Klein – no report**

**Treasurer’s Report – Laura Barlow**

- **Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2024**

Nothing really interesting. Next month the pre-paid accompanist fee and the Carpenter grant-received-early line items will disappear when I incorporate them into the books for this fiscal year.

- **Profit and Loss Statement as of September 30, 2024**

Shows negative income since there are a couple big bills in September but not a lot of income yet.

- **Development Committee Spreadsheet for FY 2024/2025**

Donations look low because EMEY was not yet off the ground.

- **Fundraising – Development Committee**

I think EMEY is going well. The cookies seem to be a hit. Next week the gift will be small hand-crafted items. There might be more cookies.

- **Grant Application Status**

- Oregon Arts Commission – \$2355 awarded but not yet received.
- Miller Foundation – Submitted by Laura.
- Oregon Community Foundation - Scott
- Carpenter Foundation –\$3000 received.
- Pacific Power Foundation – Submitted by Scott
- Marie Lamfrom Foundation – Scott
- Jackson County Cultural Coalition – Submitted by Scott

## **ACTION ITEM REVIEW**

***ACTION ITEM: Scott will file for a few grants in the fall 2024.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM – Andrew will research water bottles. He will head up a task force to help him in that endeavor. Members of the task force: Mark Reppert, Inga Leed, Michele Kyle.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM – Andrew will write a report on the G4MB transition process. ADDED: This document will be placed on the Google Drive.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM – Mark and Inga will look into what other groups are doing along the lines of having Spanish translation available in programming.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM – Scott will write an inclusion statement and submit to the board for approval.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM – Andrew will review what is presently on the website to determine its currency. He will report his findings to the board.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM – Scott will tell Michael about the board’s motion and that the board does not feel the need to approve what he is doing for publicity for the January 2025 concert.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM: Mary V.W. will put the September minutes on the google drive with help from Howie Seay and Andrew Klein.***

**DONE PENDING**

***ACTION ITEM: Inga will reach out to the Ashland School District regarding the distribution of flyers announcing our Winter Family Concert.***

**DONE PENDING**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **SEARCH FOR AD SALES MANAGER –**

Lorri Whiteside has agreed to take on the role of Ad Sales Manager

### **INCLUSION STATEMENT – Scott Nelson**

#### **Inclusion Statement draft**

I propose the following statement: *Siskiyou Singers welcomes adult singers of all ages, races, ethnicities, nationalities, immigration or citizenship statuses, cultural traditions, religious beliefs (or lack thereof), political affiliations, sexual orientations, and gender identities. We celebrate our differences, seek to enhance our own and our community’s diversity, and strive to maintain an atmosphere of friendship, acceptance, safety, and artistic collaboration.*

The board approved the above statement with the following changes:

- Take out the parenthesis in sentence one
- Change ...religious beliefs or lack thereof... to ...religious beliefs or none....

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **SISKIYOU SINGERS EMAIL ADDRESS**

Much discussion about what this will look like and who is involved.

***ACTION ITEM: Andrew will keep Michael Zuzel in the loop regarding above changes to the email address and will inform Michael that the board wants a simple program for the December concert.***

### **SISKIYOU SINGERS PHONE NUMBER**

Scott needs to provide Grant providers a valid email address and phone number when applying for a grant. That piece of information sparked a lot of talk about who is responsible to answer the phone. The previous ticket manager, Loretta Barker, stated that she, when serving in that role, was told to be the one to check the phone messages. According to Loretta, the phone number is in the Ticket Manager's notebook. However, it is not the Ticket Master's job, according to the job description.

Scott shared that it is the President's job.

Howie proposed switching the phone system to Google Voice that would allow an easy transfer of phone messages to SLACK.

***ACTION ITEM: Steve will start checking the phone messages***

***ACTION ITEM: Howie will look into switching the phone to Google Voice***

***ACTION ITEM: Mary B. will provide Howie with a recent phone bill***

***ACTION ITEM: Mary B. will talk to Mary V.W., Ticket Master, about getting the instructions on how to access the phone number.***

### **DECEMBER AFTER PARTY**

The choir will go out for pizza after the December concert

### **JANUARY 2025 AFTER PARTY**

We want to have the party in a home. Location to be determined.

***ACTION ITEM:*** The party committee will figure this out and get back to the board with a decision.

### **READ/REVIEW NEW ACTION ITEM COMMITMENTS –**

Mary Bergstrom read aloud the *ACTION ITEMS* established in this board meeting.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** –Scott **MOVED** that we adjourn. Sean **SECONDED** the motion.

**MOTION PASSED**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: November 16 - 9:00 AM - Sean Connolly – 250 Harvard Place, Medford**

### **DANIELLE'S PRESENTATION –**

This presentation is today, October 12, following the board meeting. It is scheduled for 12:30 – 1:30 PM