

Holland Chorale  
Board Meeting  
Monday, April 12, 2021, 7 pm  
Via Zoom

Attending: Terri Borgman; Tom Busa; Jenny DeGraves; Jay Gainforth; Jean Lemmenes; Betty McLarty; Maura Reynolds; Pam Wells; Carol Zeh

Absent: Julie Anderson; Patrick Coyle; Mihai Craioveanu; Ruth Hofmeyer

Jean called the meeting to order at 7:05.

- Minutes for the March 1, 2021 board meeting were approved.
- There were no additions to the agenda.
- Executive committee & president report (posted separately). Discussion points:
  1. Development consultant update. Executive Committee has been considering this position, and conversation has begun. They will present a report to the board in May.
  2. Board recruitment update. Jean will meet with Sarah VandenBrink to talk about serving on the board. Mihai has contacted Mark DeWitt but has not yet had a reply.
  3. End of season overview. So much uncertainty this year! So many changes, often monthly! We have much to celebrate. Our financial situation is good. Decisions about paying staff, continuing with concerts (even if virtual), and so much more were challenging, but in hindsight these decisions were good. The creativity and positivity of board, staff, and singers have been impressive.
  4. FYI-current projects/events in planning stage:
    - MCACA. Final report will be sent by the end of May.
    - Possible SVOG Grant (Shuttered Venues Operations Grant)—see below
    - 2021-22 season is in the planning process—see below
    - GNFS
    - Adventures in Harmony
- Treasurer's report (posted separately)
- Artistic director report (posted separately). Many things are still uncertain, so Patrick's proposed schedule for 2021-2022 may need to be modified:

**Tentative Season 62:**

*August 31-October 4 - Fall Rehearsal/Concert period*

- 6:30 - 7:45 Sopranos/Alto
- 8:00 - 9:15 Tenors/Basses
- September 16 - Grand Night for Singing (Individuals and ensembles performing)
- October 3 - In-church performance for tenors/basses TBD
- October 4 - Adventures in Harmony (sopranos/altos)

*October 12 - December 12 - Holiday Rehearsal/Concert period*

- *All singers rehearsing/performing together if feasible - otherwise continued smaller group rehearsals.*
- *December 12 - full-group concert. (Hope Vespers is likely to be December 4-5; Holland Symphony likely to be December 11.)*

*January 11 - March 27 - Winter Rehearsal/Concert period*

- *All singers rehearsing/performing together.*
- *March 27 - full-group concert.*

*April 30 - Beethoven 9th Symphony with Holland Symphony*

*Late April/Early May - some church and school run-outs to do some connection and relationship building. A lot of our singers would like to see us doing more community outreach projects like this. Currently thinking we offer a church service or one-hour concert to Community Church of Douglas and Calvary Baptist for their generosity to us this season.*

Discussion: Until Adventures in Harmony, men and women will rehearse separately; rehearsal space is not yet determined. Women will prepare for Adventures in Harmony; men may present a concert that same weekend. March 27 spring concert may be Beethoven to Beatles, postponed from season 60. Consensus was that not having a concert in May was a good idea. Instead, support was offered for reaching into the community through trips to schools or offering thank you concerts to the churches who opened their space for our rehearsals. Perhaps the whole chorale would not sing in these: singers could be volunteers. The Artistic Committee has not yet met as a group, though Patrick has spoken with several members individually. The Artistic Committee determines the season.

- Operations manager's report (posted separately) We may not be eligible for a SVOG Grant. While the Chorale has lost ticket sales, the percentage of the Chorale's budget impacted by COVID has not been large. Our situation may not make us qualified for this award.

It was moved and seconded, "That we not pursue the SVOG grant since our preliminary investigation suggests that we do not meet the parameters of this award, and we prefer to focus on the MCACA grant." The motion received unanimous support.

West Ottawa has been reserved for Adventures in Harmony, with Fellowship Reformed as a back-up. Again, much remains uncertain about whether large groups will be able to gather indoors.

- Working Board Updates:
  1. Operations committee chair: Carol Zeh
  2. Communication/Marketing: Carol Zeh We may need to promote one concert at a time, rather than announce the entire 2021-2022 season. Carol will promote the April concert via Mail Chimp. Carol will also bring to the board meeting in May a recommendation about how to continue Music Mondays—weekly, monthly, twice a month, something else??
  3. GNFS Co-Chair: Terri Borgman Lots of positives: planning to send out a "save the date" card in May.
  4. MCACA - Betty McLarty (Team Manager)

5. Adventures in Harmony: Pam Pierson (Betty is contact person)
6. Special projects support - Jay Gainforth No report
7. Librarian report: Ruth Hofmeyer (& Jo Meeuwsen) Several singers mentioned to Carol that they still had music from last season. Betty will contact Jo Meeuwsen about how to collect it.
8. Ticket manager: Ruth Hofmeyer & Terri Borgman No report
9. Good will ambassador: Terri Borgman. Jean will email to Terri the names of those who should be sent thank you notes.
10. Individual fundraising coordinator: Mihai Craioveanu No report
11. Other grants: Jenny DeGraves No report
12. Strategic planning champion: Tom Busa No report
13. Fall fund raiser: (open position)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25, moved by Tom seconded by Carol.

Next Concert: Spring Concert – Sunday, April 18, 2021

Next Meetings: Executive Committee—April 25, 2021, 4pm (via Zoom) - note date change  
Board Meeting—May 3, 7pm (via Zoom)