

Holland Chorale
Board Meeting
Monday, August 2, 2021
7 pm, via Zoom

Attending: Julie Anderson; Keon Atkins; Terri Borgman; Tom Busa; Patrick Coyle; Mark DeWitt; Jean Lemmenes; Betty McLarty; Maura Reynolds; Sarah VandenBrink; Carol Zeh

Absent: Mihai Craioveanu; Jenny DeGraves; Jay Gainforth; Ruth Hofmeyer

1. Jean called the meeting to order at 7:03.
2. Minutes of the July board meeting were approved as submitted.
3. There were no additions to the agenda.
4. **Executive Committee and President's report**
 - a. Welcome to Keon Atkins, new member of the board. Jean will talk more with Keon about his role on the board.
 - b. MCACA report: Jean had hoped to listen to a review of our MCACA grant but was detained at a doctor appointment. She listened to reviews of other groups and was encouraged that the negative comments about other groups were areas the Chorale had worked on improving.
 - c. Development report:
 - i. The Prince Foundation will discuss our request for their season sponsorship at their board meeting at the end of August.
 - ii. The businesses that sponsored tables in 2018 and 2019 have been contacted about being table sponsors for Grand Night for Singing this year; Jean and Carol have talked about other possible table sponsors.
 - iii. Jean has contacted possible sponsors for both Grand Night for Singing and Adventures in Harmony.
 - d. Board involvement at Grand Night for Singing: the board is asked to be involved at a financial level appropriate to each member—table sponsorship; tickets; donation, etc. Jean has asked any board member unable to support the gala to contact her since she does not want lack of finances to be an impediment to attending.
 - e. Brian Carder honorarium gift. Brian was honored by Hope Church when he retired as choir director: he has given his honorarium to the Chorale. Patrick suggested that a sextet/octet might sing at Hope Church in gratitude. Carol suggested that the honorarium be used to purchase music (a label could be attached indicating that Brian's gift paid for the music). The board likes Carol's idea; Jean will contact Brian to see if he approves of buying music with his gift.
 - f. Covid guidelines for 2021-2022. Jean consulted Jenny before discussing these guidelines with the Executive Committee in July. The board suggested that #5 in the draft be moved to #3 and that a statement be added that "These guidelines are subject to change based on state regulations and data." At Jean's request, Keon shared his extended family's experiences with Covid; his perspective is important as we consider the guidelines. It was suggested that #4 be amended to read: "Those who are sick *or exposed to someone who is sick* should not attend rehearsals or concerts..." These Covid guidelines were approved.

- g. Current projects/events in planning stages
 - i. 2021-2022 season
 - ii. Grand Night for Singing
 - iii. Adventures in Harmony
- 5. **Treasurer's report** (posted separately) Julie is working to wrap up fiscal year reports. Our financial situation is good.
- 6. **Artistic director's report** (posted separately) Patrick is excited about the upcoming season. He expects that it will take time to "find our stride." Having smaller events before the first concert will help with our transition and rebuild our technique and our blend. Patrick is pleased with the music chosen for Adventures in Harmony by our clinician from WMU, especially since many of the singers will be new to choral singing. The pieces Patrick has chosen for Chorale sopranos and altos will showcase the Chorale and will also be part of the holiday concert. The schedule Patrick submitted to the board is for the fall season only; he will get information about the rest of the year to singers later this month.

Patrick wonders if an air purification system (I-wave is being used locally) should be investigated, perhaps with First Reformed. Jean and Patrick will discuss.

- 7. **Operation manager's report** (posted separately) Betty reported that both table sponsors and ticket requests are coming in.

Betty wrote a grant to the Macatawa Area Coordinating Council for support of Adventures in Harmony. \$3,000 was awarded.

8. **Working board updates:**

- a. Operations committee chair: Carol Zeh. Carol is following up with singers to learn their intentions for the season.

August 31 is scheduled for a Chorale reunion. Menu will be simple: pulled pork, salads, chips; we supply paper products and any desserts. Perhaps some of Brian's honorarium could be used to cover some of the cost. Possibly board members could contribute.

Carol is working on a season announcement piece to distribute at GNfS.

- b. Communications/Marketing: Carol Zeh. Carol has had some response for digital ads.

Carol will contact Pam Pierson about Adventures in Harmony: posters, sponsors, etc.

- c. GNfS co-chair: Terri Borgman. Terri is excited about the venue. The committee will meet with Windmill Island August 20; Patrick and Betty plan to come as well. The committee had a taste test last week in Grand Rapids and is pleased about the menu. Jean will talk with Terri during the week about sharing information about donations at the event.
- d. MCACA - Betty McLarty (Team Manager)
- e. Adventures in Harmony: Pam Pierson (contact-Betty)
- f. Special projects support - Jay Gainforth
- g. Librarian report: Ruth Hofmeyer (& Jo Meeuwsen) Music has been coming in. A date has been set for filing.
- h. Ticket manager: Ruth Hofmeyer & Terri Borgman
- i. Good will ambassador: Terri Borgman
- j. Individual fundraising coordinator: Mihai Craioveanu—no report

- k. Other grants: Jenny DeGraves
 - l. Strategic planning champion: Tom Busa
 - m. Other fund raising (open position)
9. Jean will continue to talk with Sarah, Mark, and Keon about their new roles on the board.

Next Concert/Event: Grand Night for Singing - Sept 16

Next Meetings: Executive Committee—Jean will contact committee members to find a date/time
Board Meeting September 13, 7pm (via Zoom)