

Holland Chorale
Board Meeting
Monday, April 11, 2022
7 pm via Zoom

Attending: Keon Atkins; Tom Busa; Patrick Coyle; Jenny DeGraves; Steve Hook; Casey Lampen; Jean Lemmenes; Betty McLarty; Maura Reynolds; Carol Zeh

Absent: Julie Anderson; Mihai Craioveanu; Mark DeWitt; Sarah VandenBrink

Jean called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

1. Mike suggested one change to the minutes of the March 7 board meeting: “Mike has agreed to be nominated as vice-president” rather than “Mike agreed to be the next vice-president.” Tom supported the amended minutes; Jenny seconded.
2. There were no additions to the agenda.
3. **Executive Committee and President’s report**

- a. Board member update and vote. Two board members were nominated and introduced themselves. Carol moved that Casey and Steve become members of the board. Mike seconded this motion.
 - i. Casey Lampen: representative of the Artistic Committee and chair of *Grand Night for Singing*
 - ii. Steve Hook: Goodwill Ambassador

Jean announced that Julie has stepped down as treasurer effective July 1, 2022. Jean has been talking with Chorale member Marty Amon about serving as board treasurer for one year as we work to find a local person with financial experience who can join the board as treasurer. Julie has left the books in fantastic shape.

- b. Future staffing recommendation from the Executive Committee (posted separately). Mike and Tom laid the groundwork by making suggestions about future staffing; the executive committee considered their suggestions and crafted the posted recommendations. Jean discussed all five recommendations, explaining their rationale, and past experiences in the Chorale. Mike and Tom offered further comments: Tom appreciated the clear way Jean presented the recommendations; working with Mike, he learned a lot about the Chorale and its history. Mike recognized the large amount of work Carol and Jean had done, especially during Covid; he mentioned that names for the operations manager and the current operations committee of Chorale singers were easily confusing, but had very different responsibilities. Carol reminded us that, though the responsibilities are different, the operations manager should work with the newly-renamed membership engagement committee (the former operations committee). Jean hopes to get the job posted soon. Mike wondered where the job would be posted. Jean suggested: Facebook, email blast, website, Lakeshore Non-Profit Alliance, *Indeed*, local colleges, *Handshake*. Patrick reminds us that Grand Valley has a graduate program in non-profit organizations. The Executive Committee brought the staffing recommendations (posted elsewhere) to the board and moved that they be approved (so no

other motion is needed); Tom seconded. After the job is posted, Jean will reach out to others to join the interview team along with the Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

- c. Budget preparation for 2022-2023. As she prepares the new budget, Julie will reach out to some on the board about financial needs for their work (Patrick, GNfS chair, et al.).
 - d. Future meetings of the board. Some suggested alternating between Zoom and in-person board meetings or making Zoom an option for those who cannot attend. Jean suggests that in-person meetings often invite more substantial brainstorming. First Reformed has offered us space to hold board meetings there. Jean suggests that the May 2 board meeting be in person at First Reformed, with Zoom available for those not able to attend in person.
 - e. Current projects/events in planning stages
 - i. MACC (formerly MCACA) grant due at the end of May. Mike and Betty will work together, and Patrick will write the narrative.
 - ii. Events in the planning stages: *Adventures in Harmony*, *Grand Night for Singing*
4. **Treasurer's report** (posted separately) No report since Julie was not able to attend.
 5. **Artistic director's report** (posted separately) Patrick had hoped that Kimberly Adams our clinician would have responded as to her availability for *Adventures in Harmony*. He hopes that Tuesday, October 3 will be the date, and West Ottawa the site. Wednesday, October 4 is the student count day, so that date is not appropriate. Patrick intends to have the schedule and venues for 2022-2023 Chorale season set at the May meeting. Patrick has contacted choral directors in Grand Rapids and Muskegon about possible coordination. Patrick was delighted with and proud of the March concert and the response of the audience.
 6. **Operation manager's report** (posted separately) 261 attended the April concert; 231 full price-tickets were sold. Betty and Julie will meet to reconcile the finances. Betty reminded us of the LakeShore Non-Profit Alliance courses; since we are members, typically the board can attend at no charge. Jean hopes that one of the new hires will be able to attend classes like these and share the info with the board. Since many of their classes meet during the day, attendance of other board members is not always possible. Jean announced that Betty is willing to help while we are in transition and will help orient the new hire; Betty will be paid at her normal rate. The board is grateful for Betty's generosity.
 7. **Working board updates:**
 - a. Operations committee chair: Carol Zeh No report.
 - b. Communications/Marketing: Carol Zeh
 - c. Philanthropy service: Mark DeWitt
 - d. Community engagement: Sarah VandenBrink. There was discussion about the survey results from the April concert: Carol suggested including lighter warm/fuzzy pieces in each concert. Casey suggested sharing the results of the survey with the singers. Jean will check with Patrick about doing this.
 - e. Diversity, equity, and inclusion: Keon Atkins is brain-storming and reaching out to others as he adjusts to his new role.
 - f. Strategic planning champion: Tom Busa
 - g. GNfS chair: Casey Lampen has spoken with Terri Borgman and Connie Tuma, previous chairs. Casey will put together a committee to plan (Jean, Connie, and Patrick will be involved). Jean and Casey have ideas for others to be involved. The Executive Committee highly recommends that the date be Thursday, September 22 at Windmill Island. Jean

outlined other possible dates in September and pointed out difficulties with each. Jean will talk with Patrick tomorrow; if he approves, Casey will move forward with a reservation.

- h. MACC grant: Betty McLarty and Mike Pikaart
- i. Good will ambassador: Steve Hook
- j. Individual fundraising coordinator: Mihai Craioveanu
- k. Legal and grant assistance: Jenny DeGraves

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:10pm.

Next Concert/Event: April 30, 2022 with Holland Symphony, Miller Center, Hope College

Next Meetings: Executive Committee TBA

Board meeting May 2, 2022, 7pm at First Reformed Church, with Zoom available for those not able to attend in person