

Holland Chorale Board Meeting  
Monday, October 3, 2022, 7 pm  
First Reformed Church and Zoom

Attending: Keon Atkins; Tom Busa; Patrick Coyle; Jenny DeGraves; Jill DeVries; Steve Hook; Casey Lampen; Jean Lemmenes; Mike Pikaart; Jennie Reyes; Maura Reynolds; Sarah VandenBrink; Carol Zeh

Absent: Julie Anderson; Mark DeWitt;

1. There were no additions to the agenda.
2. Minutes of the September 12, 2022, board meeting were approved as submitted: Jean moved; Casey seconded.
3. **Executive Committee and President's report**
  - a. DeVos Capacity Building Program: first intensive session "The Cycle and Artistic Planning" was an overview of the cycle and some insight about how we might want to update our Mission Statement.
  - b. Development status:
    - i. Gentex, Padnos Foundation: for *Considering Matthew Shepard* Carol hopes to hear from Gentex soon; Padnos application is in process.
    - ii. Fifth Third: April concert (*Let our Love be Heard*). No response yet.
    - iii. Macatawa Bank: general concert or season sponsorship. No response yet.
    - iv. Haworth: Holiday concert. Jean reported that Haworth will get back to us next week; \$1,000 was requested.
    - v. Request Foods: Holiday or April concert. Jean reported that she would contact Request again next week.
    - vi. Macatawa Area Coordinating Council CEP grant for *Painted Piano Project*. Sarah has written the grant proposal, due October 4 (tomorrow). It's no longer clear that Benjamin's Hope will take the piano; this was a surprise and a disappointment. The contact will meet with the executive director and inform Sarah tomorrow. If the organization decides not to take the piano, Sarah may submit the grant request without a recipient or may request an extension since the change happened so recently. If Benjamin's Hope doesn't take the piano, we may contact Boys and Girls Club, Culture Works, or Escape Ministries: all work with children and teens. The grant asks for a list of other funding sources: Patrick suggested a possible fund raiser (still in the planning stages) to support the project.
  - c. Continued search for treasurer
4. **Treasurer's report** No reports this month; Julie hopes to have a report for November.
5. **Artistic director and Artistic Committee's report** Patrick believes the Artistic Committee needs a "reboot." He will contact current committee members to see if they intend to serve. He hopes to have a meeting with the group on Sunday, October 23. Patrick was pleased with *Grand Night for Singing*; he appreciated having the stage. *Adventures in Harmony* been challenging, and communication has been difficult. Students, however, will have a great experience with Dr. Adams. Carrie Ledet has been a terrific liaison for the day. Patrick suggests we establish a group of local

music teachers to be a sounding board and lay groundwork for future involvement with the Chorale in local schools. Patrick has invited all the teachers who sent students to *Adventures in Harmony* for lunch October 15.

6. **Operation manager's report** (posted separately) Jennie has had a busy month.
7. **Working board reports and updates:**
  - a. Operations/communications/marketing: Jennie Reyes
  - b. MACC grant: Mike Pikaart. Jennie and Mike are working on the final report due in a few weeks; they are waiting for a missing item.
  - c. GNFS chair: Casey Lampen. The committee met last night. Some things to improve: greeters would have been good to welcome guests and direct them to the dinner; more lighting was needed; linens were delayed. Positive ideas: the stage was wonderful; the sound system was great (thanks to Casey's father for setting it up); the length was great; \$500 was raised in the raffle; 93 attended. Some things to consider: should we continue to hold a fundraiser in fall (need to consider that this event has provided "seed money" for our season) or spring? At a different venue? Set a committee several months in advance? Have a timetable for the preparations so things are not rushed? Casey announced that \$18,165 (gross) was raised; our net was \$9,938. Thanks to Casey for chairing.
  - d. Community engagement (including AiH): Sarah VandenBrink
  - e. Diversity, equity, and inclusion champion: Keon Atkin. Keon will talk with Patrick about groups to contact. It will be important for diverse groups to know about the Matthew Shepard concert and possibly set up informational tables at the event. Maura will send Keon a list of groups to contact; many have emails.
  - f. Strategic planning champion: Tom Busa. If possible, Tom is interested in attending the DeVos session about strategic planning; Carol will let him know about the dates.
  - g. Philanthropy service: Mark DeWitt
  - h. Good will ambassador: Steve Hook. Several names were suggested for Steve to contact with thank you notes.
  - i. Legal and bylaws: Jenny DeGraves. Jenny has been reviewing our bylaws and has found some inconsistencies. We need to be intentional about how we classify board members (member and at large). Jenny, Carol, and Jean will meet to discuss the history and suggest updates.
  - j. Membership Engagement: Jill DeVries. Jill is learning her new role. She is sending emails reminding singers to use the attendance email to report absences (rather than calling Patrick or Jennie). She and Jennie have crafted a new, easier to use attendance form. To limit the number of announcements, Jill will tell singers that they should let her know if they need to make an announcement. We don't want too many announcements; we don't want rehearsal time to be lost.
8. By unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

Next concert/event: *Adventures in Harmony*—October 4, West Ottawa Performing Arts Center  
Next meetings: Executive Committee: October 30, 2022  
Board meeting: November 7, 2022