

Holland Chorale Board of Directors Meeting Monday, November 6, 2023

Meeting at First Reformed Church, Holland (Zoom Link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8463935488?pwd=elhFditvQUpkd2I5L09mV3pkOTdrdz09>,
passcode 1234)

Membership:

Executive Committee: President - Mike Pikaart (2025-1st); Past President - Carol Zeh (2024-2nd), Vice-President - Jenny DeGraves (2025-1st), Treasurer - Norman Donkersloot (2026-1st), Secretary - Joanne Meeuwssen, (2026-1st)

At-Large Directors: Jill DeVries (2025-1st), Steve Hook (2025-1st), Casey Lampen (2025- 1st) , Sarah VandenBrink (2024-1st), Seth Getz (2026-1st), Nola Tolsma (2026-1st)

Staff: Patrick Coyle (Artistic Director), Jennie Reyes (Operations Manager)

Absent With Notice Jennie Reyes, [Sarah VandenBrink](#), [Casey Lampen](#)

Call to Order


Additions to the Agenda

Approval of Minutes from [October 2, 2023](#) - Minutes approved

Executive Committee - did not meet in full since last board

[Artistic Director Report](#)

The holiday program is in place. It has been a very busy but successful fall. Jennie and Patrick are preparing for the Holiday and February concert. They will meet next Wednesday to debrief AIH.

AIH was a big success and a very positive experience. Mark Stover did an incredible job. There are normally more singers for treble than for tenor/bass. Tenor/bass used all the risers available. We will need to be creative for staging next year with the treble choir. There were approximately 150 students in attendance. We have a lead on a good clinician for next year. There is a need to find a good venue.  The Jack Miller possibly will only be available in the Spring.

Is it time to stop getting t-shirts? It is used as a gift. We could have a conversation with the teachers. Do the students appreciate getting the shirt? A few students didn't wear the shirt because it said Loud and Proud. Sometimes an issue is made out of something that is not an issue. In the future we can just say Adventures in Harmony on our shirts. What's important is that the students have the musical experience. We want them to be there.

There is a short window of time to get ready for AIH. The teachers really like having AIH in the fall. What is challenging is the teachers do not communicate until the last minute if they plan to have their students attend.

As choral programs are still rebuilding their program after COVID, AIH is used at the entry level for many students.

Do we promote what the Chorale does with AIH well?

One thing we could do is a followup with the clinician. That person could go to the individual schools.

Chanticleer was overwhelmingly positive. There were ticket platform issues. The platform didn't support the layout of the theater.

Our first conference on Saturday, November 4 went very well. We will need to integrate those that were not in attendance. It is recorded, which will be helpful.

The lunch was amazing. It created a good atmosphere for the members of Chorale to get to know each other better.

[Operations Manager Report - october](#)

Overall, we are happy with Ludus

Upcoming: Do we need a licensing agreement? Who is going to record our concerts? If we don't have someone recording, it is a moot point. It is recommended that the Christmas and February concert be recorded but not the cabaret.

Treasurer's report ([Statement of Activity](#) and [review of current cash position](#))

Statement of Activity and review of current cash position was reviewed and discussed

Current business

Budget checkup

Development committee meets next week Thursday, Nov 16 (Nola Tolsma, Jenny DeGraves, Casey Lampen, Dan Beerens, Que-Lan Engels).

It's exciting to have a development committee established. We need direction of who we are contacting. How do we ask, we do ask and when to ask. It will be great to have a committee that will give more direction.

Working Board Reports/Updates:

It can be confusing when donations are made. Is it a foundation, individual or corporate. What is important is that someone is acknowledged. What goes in the program is what makes the donor happy. Haworth Helps is a good example.

We need to schedule a time to stuff envelopes. Perhaps next Monday. Mike said he can send a letter to encourage volunteers to help out. It will include the card for our Christmas program. - Put under communications/marketing

Communications/Marketing

Grants - Year end reports for big MACC (MEDC) and little MACC (Mac Area Coord Council) were submitted.

Grant reports went out

GNFS Chair & Artistic Comm Rep (Casey)

Community Engagement (Sarah):

- The post-evaluation form for the CEP grant we received for the Painted Piano Project was completed and has been submitted on behalf of the Holland Chorale
- The Painted Piano was moved this month from the lobby of the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts to the northside location of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Holland (583 Riley St).
- I submitted dates to the coordinator about Dickens Carolers. They absolutely LOVE the idea and want to move forward with it.
- Other than future programming the Painted Piano Project is, essentially, complete. The coordinator and I are going to have an in-person meeting to discuss what a relationship would/could look like. I'm more comfortable having this discussion in-person so I can gauge their level of interest.

Goodwill Ambassador (Steve Hook)

Working on thank yous for AIH.

Is there any reason to do a formal letter to anyone at the college or just a thank you. A letter will be good idea

There will also be thank yous going out for all that contributed to the Chanticleer concert.

A thank you to Keon will be important. Keon Atkins is stepping back from the Board.

A thank you to Joe-to-Go should also go out.

Member engagement - Jill (share out soup recipes?!?)

It was a positive experience. It was helpful to grow the community aspect of Chorale

Jill is working on a "who am I" sheet, so we can get to know each other better.

Are there things we can do to help Jenny out? We could have someone that handles things that happen during rehearsal. It would be part of the membership engagement committee. She is so busy and we appreciate her so much.

Upcoming board meeting dates:

Dec 4

Jan 8 (*exception to 1st Monday rule*)

Feb 5

Mar 4 (note correction to previous agendas!)

Apr 1

May 6

Jun 3

Chorale Google calendar:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=aG9sbGFuZGNob3JhbGVhZ21haWwY29t>