

ChoralArt

Board of Directors Meeting –Minutes

June 10, 2020

Attending: Melissa Rodrigue, Carolyn Paulin, Christy Commeau-Pierce, Gail Knowles, Marshall Green, Barbara Kapp, Virginia Pomeroy, David White, Larry Rubinstein, Peter Plumb, Richard Sullivan, Mark Johnson, Elizabeth Serrage, Darrell Leighton, Sam Wilson, Bob Russell, Robert Stoddard

Mark called the virtual Zoom meeting to order at 8:05 AM and asked everyone to report on their experiences during the shutdown.

Minutes: Minutes of the March meeting were accepted by vote with the correction that Marshall Green was present.

Consent Agenda was accepted by vote

Finance report -David reported that we are recommending adoption of the Covid 19 principles adopted by PSO (see attached). It was approved by unanimous vote. Regarding our next season, we had hoped to do *Considering Matthew Shepard* (CMS) in September, which will not be possible. It is recommended that we postpone this, not cancel. The following year is 50th Anniversary, which is already full, so it is recommended we postpone CMS to March 2023.

CATC – Would need to begin rehearsals in September, which is not feasible. Would also need to commit to Brass Quintet, which we cannot afford to do. Possibility of doing something smaller, perhaps with a smaller group in smaller space.

Epiphany – Probably need to cancel, but this is a smaller group already.

PSO – *St. Matthew Passion* in January is not going to happen. They are working on alternative programming.

Opera Choruses with FOKO in the spring – no decisions yet.

In summary, all concerts for coming season are cancelled.

Financial report shows a large operating loss, with not much help in sight. Ticket holders (about \$3000) for CMS will be refunded if not donated. Grant money of \$14,000 may need to be repaid.

We have a “Bare Bones” Budget for next year as we will collect no ticket sales or fees. It was moved by Barbara, seconded by Sam, that we furlough our staff, employ the music director at an hourly rate, continue all memberships and ask members to continue to pay membership dues voluntarily. The motion was passed unanimously with Bob Russell absent. All performing musicians are experiencing severe financial hardship. It was moved by Richard Sullivan, seconded by Robert Stoddard that we:

1. Postpone *Considering Matthew Shepard* until March of 2023, and cancel Christmas at the Cathedral, Epiphany Celebration, caroling opportunities in retirement communities, and the Messiah sing.
2. As of July 1, 202 furlough ChoralArt staff and suspend normal operations. We will compensate our accompanist at \$250/month.

Other compensation in the interim may be considered on an hourly basis as required for any services deemed necessary.

3. Volunteer efforts may continue as approved.
4. Reassess the above in three months (+/-) or as the current situation may change in the interim, with new action as required to be made by the Board at its first regular meeting of the season.

The motion was passed unanimously with Bob Russell absent.

It was moved by Carolyn, seconded by Christy, that the Executive committee shall administer the 2020-2021 season budget to include basic organization maintenance functions. Limited expenditures to support a modified ("ideal") performance schedule as may become possible and alternative promotional activities as may be proposed is further authorized, the amount of which shall be proportionate to potential gain. The motion was passed unanimously.

Music Directors Report – Bob reported, considering the trials of the current and coming year.

New Business

A Covid 19 Response task force and Strategic Planning committee will be working to develop ideas and plans for these rapidly changing times.

It was moved Carolyn, seconded by Larry to adjourn and the motion was passed unanimously. Our next meeting is scheduled for 9/10/20 at Bob Russell's home if possible.

Elizabeth Serrage

Secretary