

Newburyport Choral Society  
Regular Board Meeting  
January 16, 2018

**Call to Order:** President Solomon Berman called the meeting to order at 7:06 P.M. at the Institution for Savings, 81 State Street, Newburyport, MA.

**Present:** Solomon Berman, George Case, Mary Dissette, Sarah Hall, Joanne Johnson, Ralph Johnson, Mary Ann Lachat, Penny Lazarus, Kerri MacLennan, Maryellen Moreland, John Moreland, Brenda Rich, Beth Rogers, Phil Smith, Sandra Starr, and Carol Yunker.

**Absent:** Tom Clark, Anthony Grassi, Brian Greenberg, Margaret McQuillan.

**Announcements:** John Moreland reported that he has been asked to be on the board of the Newburyport Chamber Music Festival.

**Consent Agenda:** The following were accepted and approved:  
Minutes of the November 2017 meeting, report on the Horse Chestnut Tree, website “Quality Control”.

OFFICER REPORTS:

**Treasurer’s Report:** Beth reported that the Meerkat check for online ticket sales was incorrectly sent to the Newburyport Chamber Music Festival; that is being rectified. She has a check for \$240 from Just Give and is seeking information about the donor. Carol motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Joanne seconded and it was accepted.

**VP Report:** Mary Ann spoke of the planning process and noted that some duties have shifted. There will be an email to team leaders this weekend identifying priorities for this term which will be shared at the next meeting.

**President Remarks:** Solomon thanked everyone for a successful concert and reception.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

**Membership:** Sarah reported that 125 singers have registered so far with 7 completely new. She noted that we need to encourage members to use the form on the website.

**Revenue:** Joanne spoke for Tom Clark, reporting that there have been 10 signups for the VIP card and that Laura Bentley will be at rehearsal for the next 2 weeks. The corporate sponsorships and the ads are doing well with 3 new business sponsors and at least 2 full page ads. The spring campaign has been streamlined and includes more general members. Mary Dissette thanked everyone for support in the quest for individual sponsors and is working towards the spring goals. She asked Phil whether all sponsor tickets can be used for one concert, which they can. Analysis and discussion of this was tabled for a later meeting.

**Actions re:**

**Directors:** Solomon read and accepted Anthony Grassi’s resignation from the board.

**Committees:** Solomon reported that on his recommendation to and approval by the Executive Committee, the Music Director was given a \$500 bonus for our successful season.

Solomon reported that there has been some restructuring of groups into four committees, all of which report to the Executive Committee.

**Grants team** – Directors of Media, Logistics, Vice President, and Brenda Rich.

**Information and Communication/IT** – Directors of Fundraising, Sponsorship, Media, Membership, Outreach, Concert Manager, President, IT, and John Moreland.

**Two Standing Committees:** Social Media with the Outreach Director as chair and a Medical Advisory team to make protocol recommendations.

**Ops Plan:** Mary Ann discussed the Ops Plan for the next 3 months.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Grants:** Mary Ann reported that grants have been submitted to multiple banks, each for \$3000. The MCC Gateway program is being investigated as well as their project grant. Brenda reported that grant requests have been submitted to 8 towns and that 6 have responded, 4 with positive responses.

**Dates:** A motion was made by Ralph, seconded by Beth to hold the Summer Sing on August 27<sup>th</sup> with an alternate of August 20<sup>th</sup>; the retreat on June 16<sup>th</sup>; and the annual meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup>. The vote was unanimous.

**Announcements:** The Board should expect an Executive Session at the next meeting.

**Adjournment:** On a motion by Ralph, seconded by Mary the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Starr, Secretary