

Newburyport Choral Society
Regular Board Meeting
March 16, 2018

Call to Order: President Solomon Berman called the meeting to order at 4:12 P.M. at the Institution for Savings, 81 State Street, Newburyport, MA.

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

Absent: Tom Clark, Margaret McQuillan, John Moreland, Brenda Rich.

Executive Session: At the request of the President Vice President Mary Ann Lachat made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Ralph seconded and the ES was entered into at 4:12 PM. Regular session was re-entered at 4:37 PM.

Announcements: Kerri reported that there have been only 2 applications for the Gillette scholarship. She has not chosen a committee as yet and asked that anyone interested in serving on this committee email her. Joanne noted that the post cards went to the post office today and will be delivered sometime next week.

Consent Agenda: The Minutes of the February 2018 meeting were accepted and approved.

Officer Reports:

VP Report: Mary Ann reported that we have gotten by the first stage of the MCC grant process.

Treasurer's Report: Beth reported that some corrections have been made to the P&L for last year. Carol motioned that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Joanne seconded and it was accepted.

President's Remarks: Solomon noted that is nomination committee time and requested board members to let him know if they intend to leave the board. Darcy Holland cannot chair the nomination committee this year and suggestions were made as to possible chairs.

Committee Reports:

Nurses Advisory: The Board reviewed the proposed advisory and discussed the section on Next Steps. Beth suggested that a strong recommendation to victims to stay on the risers be added as well as recommendations for singers who happen to be next to the person in crisis. It was agreed that a point person in each section shall be identified and that Section Leaders should do this. With these additions, Joanne made a motion to accept the proposed advisory. This was seconded by Mary Dissette and the vote was unanimous. Solomon thanked Spencer Amesbury, Karen Norcross, and Winnie Martin for working on this report.

Contract with Music Director: Solomon thanked George for his professional commitment, and for setting the tone and philosophy during the recent contract negotiations. He also thanked the Past President, and Vice President for their great help, the Executive Board and the Board of Directors for their work during the process. George thanked Solomon and the Board and spoke of great possibilities for NCS based on key principles. For the future we will aspire to present

excellent concerts of culturally relevant programs that will be interesting, engaging and entertaining for members and audience alike and will grow better by building on our strengths, resources and mission.

NB: Kerri MacLennan left at 5:10 PM.

Ongoing Business:

Google Drive: Carol reported that she has created a folder on the shared drive entitled “File Cabinet” where all “shared with me” files will be placed in relevant drawers. This will permit easier location of needed documents. She requested permission to move files to pertinent folders. The Board granted permission to move forward on the project and to move the files.

Riser Safety: Sandy reported that a request has been made by the altos for an additional side rail for the risers and that the Logistics Director was aware of the request. Ralph reported that the railings for both the alto and soprano risers cost \$579 and that they will arrive on Easter Friday.

Ops Plan Review:

Logistics – All OK

Concert Dir.- Membership tickets are distributed; sign up sheets for the reception will be out on the 19th.

Music Director – Pleased with progress. On April 28th the first half hour will be taken up with a talk on Zelenka by Michael Driscoll, Director of the Andover Choral Society.

Revenue – There were 119 on the fall sponsorship list for renewals; there are 50 on the spring and mailings to them have gone out. Only 58 singers are sponsors. The ads are coming along and money is beginning to come in. Mary D. suggested adding a line on the registration form to make it easier for members to become sponsors.

Marketing - Brian presented the marketing plan for the spring and noted that flyers will be available for members to take. Riverwoods in Exeter and Brooksby Village will be contacted about the concert. Anyone with contacts to historical or cultural organizations in the area should let him know.

Singer Protocol: Solomon noted that there needs to be some agreement on concert protocol issues, such as water bottles in concert, singer applause, jewelry worn, etc. He requested the Board’s approval for he and George to determine the requirements. All were amenable.

New Business:

Social Media Policy: On a motion by Ralph, seconded by Sarah and approved by all, the Social Media Policy discussion was tabled for the April meeting.

Summer Sing: Solomon asked for a motion to suspend the rules and appropriate \$1550 for the summer sing. The motion was made by Ralph, was seconded and the vote unanimous.

2018-2019 Programming:

George presented the proposal of programs and their budgets for the upcoming season. The Summer Sing will consist of the Bach B Minor Mass excerpts. The winter 2018 concert, entitled “Peace and Remembrance” will include Charpentier’s Messe de Minuit, various seasonal pieces,

and “Armistice”, a recently commissioned work by Andrew Maxfield. The latter piece is to be premiered across the country in the fall of 2018, with at least one chorus in each state. We will be the only one in Mass. To perform it. The Spring concert, entitled “Voices of America” will consist of music by Andrew Maxfield, Aaron Copeland and Bernstein’s “Chichester Psalms”. The 2019 Summer Sing will be Haydn’s Lord Nelson Mass. Mary Dissette made a motion to approve the proposed programs and budgets. Joanne seconded and the vote was unanimous. The budgets will be sent to the Budget Committee.

Adjournment: On a motion by Joanne, seconded by Carol the meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Starr, Secretary