

Newburyport Choral Society  
Regular Board Meeting  
October 15, 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, Tom Clark, Mary Dissette, Brian Greenberg, Mary Ann Lachat, John Moreland, Maryellen Moreland, Brenda Rich, Beth Rogers, Phil Smith, Sandra Starr, and Carol Yunker.

**Absent:** Joanne Johnson, Ralph Johnson, Kerri MacLennan.

**Announcements:** Mary Ann reported that she and Pam Fenner discussed NCS' participation in Amesbury's 250<sup>th</sup> and thought of asking the mayor to be a guest conductor. A formal letter of interest will be presented to the Amesbury mayor by Brenda and Pam Fenner. Funds for this will come from the Margo Irish account if he decides to do it.

**Consent Agenda:** The minutes of the June 2018, September board meeting and the August meeting on the CRM were approved.

**Officer Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:** Beth presented the Treasurer's report and explained some points. Carol motioned to accept the report; Mary D. seconded and it was accepted.

**Director Reports:**

**LCC Grants:** Brenda reported that as of October 11<sup>th</sup> 8 grant requests had been submitted. A cover letter was sent to Amesbury requesting funds.

**Registration:** Maryellen reported that we have a total of 138 registered singers; 90 registered online on the first night. There were several problems with the system that need to be dealt with. Two hardships spoke to her. Solomon announced that the Executive Committee will be meeting to deal with policy about financial hardship and mandatory ticket purchase. Maryellen expressed the need to have internet access at the church by January.

**Individual Sponsorship:** Mary D. reported that the sponsorship letters are out and that she will need a team to help with follow-ups. She intends to focus on previous, now lapsed, sponsors and will need some help tracking them down and following up. Another effort will consist of outreach to previous tickets purchasers as well as to current non-sponsoring members. Email blasts will be used to both groups. Mary would like to also identify those members who have connections to potential donors. Tom suggested that a night be designated for everyone to bring in the names of new contacts. Mary Ann suggested that there be a table set up at break to highlight the sponsorship program.

**CRM Update:** Carol reported that tech support from Neon is excellent. She requested and received permission to remove the "Just Give" button from the website. A list of system problems needs to be generated so they can be addressed. Maryellen asked about training.

**Ongoing Business:**

**Summer Sing 2018:** Carol pointed out that there should be a leader and team identified to organize the Summer Sings prior to the summer. Maryellen would like to see George's comments on this year's Sing.

**Ops Plan Review:** The Ops Plan was reviewed.

**85<sup>th</sup> year Celebration:** Solomon asked for some ideas about the 85<sup>th</sup>. Carol mentioned the flowers the chorus wore for the 80<sup>th</sup>. John suggested involving former members and directors. Maryellen suggested having a party in January. Mary D. also urged a party/gala with live entertainment. A commissioned piece was suggested. Town declarations and a state proclamation were suggested. It was agreed that the subject would be taken up by the Executive Committee.

**New Business:**

**2018 Poster:** The submitted poster was reviewed, discussed and accepted.

**Adjournment:**

**Veterans' Services Collaboration:** John reported his discussion with Kevin Hunt, who handles veterans' services for several communities, relative to the Armistice piece we will be singing. Several suggestions were made on possible collaboration. Solomon, Mary Ann and John will take the matter up with George and report back.

**Member Survey:** Mary Ann reported that the member survey will be given out and completed at break in two weeks.

On a motion by Sandy, seconded by Carol the meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM. The next meeting will be November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Johnsons'.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Starr, Secretary