

The Chatham Chorale

Tel: 774-212-9333 www.cchathamchorale.org

Minutes of Board Meeting November 19, 2019

Present: Tom Philips, Joe Marchio, Bud Ferris, Betsy Ferris, Bill Leigh, Mary Giorgio, Cindy O'Leary, Kathy Olsen, Joe Mongelli, Mary Jo Nabywaniec, Pat Antonucci, Shelly Sequin, Lynn Herbst, Faith Little

Guest: Sally Herbst

1. **Meeting called to order** by President, Tom Philips at 7:02 p.m.
2. **Clerk's Report.** Mary Jo Nabywaniec submitted October 15, 2019th's minutes after which followed a brief discussion resulting in noted corrections. **MOTION.** To accept 10/15/19 Chorale minutes with duly noted corrections. **VOTED/APPROVED.**
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Bud Ferris reported that we picked up our first check of the season for advertising, almost \$6000 and another \$700 for participation in a recent Funeral service. Also, our accountant has billed us for work performed back in July and dues for the Arts Foundation are due. Joe Mongelli commented that Bud's highlighting on the Budget Reports is very helpful.
Any specific accounting numbers you might have queries into can be found in the Budget Report of Major Income and Expense Items handed out at our Board meeting.
Bottom line – The Ode to Music concert came pretty close to what was budgeted: \$10,600.00 – FY20 INCOME Budgeted, \$10,449.00 – ACTUALS INCOME to date.
Mary Giorgio brought up the concern of the raise in rent from \$125 to \$325, per concert. **MOTION.** To accept the Treasurer's report as presented. **VOTED/APPROVED.**
4. **Fundraising: Presentation by Sally Herbst.** The principal of this "fun"-raiser is to raise money by selling gift cards. The card would have our logo on it and lines which say, for i.e.:

A gift in your honor has been given to The Chatham Chorale
Gift _____

Then a line to sign:

_____ from Grammy, Aunt Bess, or whomever. . .

Sally presented fundraising ideas which the Board will consider in the future.

MOTION. The Board is in favor of pursuing this kind of a project as one of our 50th Season fundraising pursuits. **VOTED/APPROVED.**

- 5. Director's Report.** Director Marchio reported on our upcoming Christmas Concert, being concerned with the length of the program and with understanding that the Chorale would have only three scheduled rehearsals before it performed on the 21st and 22nd of Dec. Director Marchio handed out a list of the music to (potentially) be performed at this concert and discussed the pieces with the Board. "O Come All Ye Faithful" was to be sung without books. . . Sure On This Shining Night had been sung by the Chamber Singers before but not by the entire Chorale, and was difficult. . . A Christmas Prayer, by Noel Tipton was also going to be a challenge. So we had our work cut out for us. Joe assured the Board that he had every confidence that the Chorale could handle what he was presenting and the Board agreed. Shelly Paquin brought up a concern about extreme vibrato and how it can be managed. The Director suggested having a class, maybe, prior to a rehearsal, in vocal pedagogy/physiology given by an expert in January and/or February to help deal with this. Tom Philips brought to the attention of the Board that there would be no rehearsal on January 2nd and that we would need a rehearsal place for January 9th due to the fact that the Charter School was being used. We'll ask Cal Mutti to inquire about Dennis Union and Father John about Our Lady of the Cape. One last comment about the soloists during the Ode To Music. On Saturday it was difficult to hear them because they were situated behind the Quartett. If they had come out a bit more it would have been much better.
- 6. Review of "Ode To Music" concerts.** Director Marchio constructed a program that was a collaboration of the Chorale, Soloists and the Giocosa Quartett. As much as the audience, as did we all, loved this concert, Director Marchio discussed with the Board the considerable length of this program, the Haydn Mass lasting almost 30 minutes and the Quartett Giocosa piece, 11, much longer that was anticipated. Also when reviewing this concert with the Board, the Director mulled over balance issues and concerns that came into play. Joe mentioned that he realizes the Benedictus could have been cut but with the wish on the part of Board members for more Chorale participation he stressed his concern that there was just not enough time for the Chorale to learn any more music for this concert. This all being said, as usual, the Concert was a rousing success, a financial success and a learning experience on everyone's part. Lastly, Jason Weiler has recorded the "Ode to Music" concert.
- 7. Venue Considerations.** Over the next few months, using two categories, that of Churches and Auditoriums, the first, ideally being suited for the Chamber Singers and the second, the Chorale, look for venues where we can use our chairs and risers, and using Tom's "VENUE CONSIDERATIONS", make a pro and con rating.
- 8. 50th Season: Alumni Weekend (dates, venue).** Monomoy or Nauset M.S look to be the most likely venues for our Fall Alumni Concert. Mary Giorgio will check on availability of November Sunday's at both Monomoy and Nauset. Alumni Choir does part of the first half of the concert. We hold a Saturday rehearsal with dinner on Saturday night. Concert on Sunday. We need SAVE THE DATE card and a way to utilize the mailing list. Bud will check with Kathryn Biehler for the list.

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50th Cont. People to work on the Spring Gala. Lynn Herbst has volunteered.

9. Committee Reports:

Membership. Cindy O'Leary reported:
One resignation: August Vielman.
Two new people, both need to pay.
One person has a special arrangement for dues.
Now: 89 members

Tickets: Faith Little reported:
The capacity of the venue: The Chatham Methodist is 250.
Steve gets 160 of those 250 tickets for Member Sales. Up until concert night, she has no idea how many of those tickets will be available for the public to purchase for seating. Granted 46% of our sales come from member sales BUT some of those sales are purchased by members and then turned in the night of the concert! Faith starts out with 90 tickets for sale to cover Eventbrite, Reserve, Open and Season Ticket holders. Tracking of member sales is a problem.
Betsy noted that in order to write grants she needs the count of all persons in seats. Karen Mutti does that count at every concert.
The wording on Eventbrite will be switched so that people will know even though they can no longer purchase tickets through the service, we are NOT sold out, if that is the case.
The Board is still in discussion over how to handle handing out of member tickets for next year.

Development – Grants: Betsy Ferris reported nothing new on grants.

Development – Sponsorships: Joe Mongelli reported that Rogers Gray, our business that engaged with us for a number of months declined interest in our endeavors. In the future we could try a letter campaign as outreach using a more broadbrush way. And, unfortunately, we've had no contacts from the Chorale.

Scholarships –

- School contacts -

The Board discussed whether or not to expand our Scholarship to include Charter and Private schools. It seemed to the Board that more and more of a mix of economically diverse populations were attending both Charter and Private schools, therefore might warrant the Scholarship as much as the Public Schools.

MOTION. To change the wording under "CHORALE SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS" from "to an outstanding choral musician in each of the Cape's Public high schools." to "to an outstanding choral musician in each of the Cape Cod high schools." **VOTED/APPROVED.**

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Scholarships cont.

The Board members will start next year to go to our Cape High Schools in order to speak with the Choir Directors in order to reinforce our talking points, which are in the process of being developed.

Promotion. Lynn Herbst reported that the poster is completed and will be sent to Merlin tomorrow. Betsy and Mim can proof it tomorrow and an electronic copy will be sent to both Tom and Bill for the Website. Both Janet Robinson and John Ward have taken candid's for the web-site and "*Behold A New Joy*" is the title of The Candlelight Christmas poster.

Contracts. Mary Giorgio reported nothing new in contracts.

Webmaster. Bill Leigh reported that he's finally overhauled the entire web-site. Shelly had concerns about privacy and others said they could not pull up the web-site at all. Bill said it could be the type of device they were using, and wanted them to try it again and get back to him. Lastly, Shelly wanted to know if Bill could make some signs "clickable" - no problem, and Bill will straighten everything, that still has a problem, out with our provider.

10. Other Business. We received a request to have us **perform in a concert series** Tuesday evenings in July and August for 90 – 100 minute concerts.

Discussion followed. Bud mentioned that when the Chamber Singers use to sing in these types of venues, they were a different type of group: they sang more pop-type songs. . . now they sing more classical-type music. Joe, the Director, mentioned that 90-100 minutes is a LONG time. And mostly everyone else said the Summer is out for most people. The answer was No.

Also, profitability The bang for your buck. \$1500 for Nantucket
700 Funeral donation
1000 St. Andrews by the Sea

All well worth it for a number of reasons.

Renting our acoustic shell. The Sturgis Charter Public School would like to rent the Chorale's acoustic shell for 2 weeks a year – one week in December and one in the Spring. The school would be responsible for the equipment, setting up and tearing down as well as returning, undamaged. **MOTION.** To allow Sturgis Charter Public School to rent the Chatham Chorale's acoustic shell for \$200 per use, under the condition that the Chorale does not need it itself and the school picks it up and returns it undamaged. They will also be responsible for setting it up themselves. **VOTED/APPROVED**

Irene Nelson's fundraising project. Notecards. Irene is authorized to spend \$100 towards this project. Once she has things in hand, we'll see how things go. No December meeting.

MOTION to Adjourn. 9:10 **VOTED/APPROVED.**

Commented [TMJ1]:

