

The Chatham Chorale

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

Minutes of Board meeting January 21, 2020

Present: Tom Philips, Joseph Marchio, Bud Ferris, Betsy Ferris, Bill Leigh, Joseph Mongelli, Lynn Herbst, Mary Jo Nabywaniec, Christine Vancisin, Kathy Olsen, Pat Antonucci, Faith Little.

Absent: Mary Giorgio, Shelly Sequin, and Cindy O'Leary.

1. **Meeting called to order** by President Tom Philips at 7:03 p.m.
2. **Clerk's Report.** Clerk, Mary Jo Nabywaniec, submitted November 19th, 2019th's minutes, after which followed a brief discussion resulting in noted corrections. **MOTION.** To accept 11/19/19 Chorale minutes with duly noted corrections. **VOTED/APPROVED.**
3. **Treasurer's Report.** Bud Ferris, the Chorale's treasurer, submitted a thorough **FY20 Budget to Date and FY20 CONCERTS BUDGET REPORT** (Date: January 17, 2020) listing the budgeted amounts compared to the Actuals (what was realized) for Concerts 1, 2 and 3 and for Concerts 4 and 5. **MOTION.** To accept the Treasurer's report as presented. **VOTED/APPROVED.**
4. **Director's Report.** The Director, Joe Marchio, handed out the Draft Season 2020-21 Concert Program. Before addressing the Draft, Joe reported that Jung Ho had called him with a proposition; knowing it is our 50th anniversary, did we want to perform with the CSO as part of this event? There were two options available: join the CSO in the April Concert (Flight), maybe do: Leonardo's "Flying Machine" . . . No. or join them in January with their Passport concert and do Kodaly or maybe, Liszt. January would work for us, the dates being the 20th and 21st. Joe also noted that it might be a select group that performs at that time.

Concert #1 would be held during Alumni Weekend, on Sunday, Nov. 15 @ 3:00 p.m. Two Beethoven pieces, in honor of this composer's 250th birthday, have been among those chosen for this program: Meeresstille und Gluckliche Fahrt, Op. 112 and "Hallelujah from Christus am Olberge, Op.85. (The full body of suggested performance pieces are listed on the "Draft Sheet". If you would like to view this entire draft program, please ask a Board member.) The proposed venue is Monomoy H.S. and both Joe and Maggie Bossi are the planned conductors.

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Concert #2. The venue for this concert would be the newly renovated First Congrega-

tional Church of Chatham. There will be room behind the sanctuary for the Chorale to enter from AND both the risers and seats can be left in place once they are set up for the duration of the rehearsals and performances. Concerts will be Sat., December 19th @ 2:00 and 5:00 and on Sun., December 20th @ 2:00 and 5:00. (Once again, a list of music is available upon request.) Among the selections, Dan Forrest's: Silent Night will be featured, as well as the Huron Carol with full orchestration. Lastly, this concert will once again be sung by both the Chorale and Chamber Singers.

Concert #3 – Handel. The Chamber Singers, Julian Petrallia, on organ and a small instrumental ensemble will celebrate Handel on Sat., March 20, 2021 @ 3:00 and on Sun., March 21, @ 3:00. The venue is First Congregational Church in Chatham.

Concert #4. The second half of the program is slated to be Dan Forrest's Requiem for The Living. It's the piece that put Dan Forrest "on the map". It uses organ and a small Chamber orchestra, plus. . . the 3rd movement focuses on the Hubble Space Telescope! The Chorale would have to buy the scores for this piece: \$15 apiece (Chorale members could buy their own scores. . . – that's an option, too). This piece is 40 minutes long. The other "half" of the program is TBA. Venue: First Congregational Church, Chatham Date: Sat., April 17 @ 3:00 and Sun., April 18 @ 3:00.

Benefit Concert: 400 Years of Great Choral Music will be held at First Congregational Church the weekend between Mother's Day and Memorial Weekend. (Joe will contact Allison Bevin to ensure there is no conflict between choruses.) The Church is celebrating its 300th anniversary, so all these birthdays should feed into one another nicely. The Chorale and Chamber Singers will make up the singers for this program and the music will range from Baroque and Plainchant to Jazz and Broadway.

When the Director began his presentation of the Draft Season, he stated that he did not know the Board's budgetary thinking when it came to the season. Now that the Board has listened to plan, it accepts the Draft as a starting point will look at the cost of the program.

5. 50th Anniversary Projects

Alumni concert weekend: Bud Ferris reported that On Sun., Nov. 15, 2020 our first Concert of the season will be held. Alumni will be invited to join the rest of the Chorale in song being led by both Joe and Maggie Bossi. This will be held at Monomoy H.S with a dress rehearsal for full current Chorale on Friday evening, Nov. 13 and current **singers and alumni** on Sat., Nov. 14 from 1:00 – 3:30. After the Sat. rehearsal there will be a reception for **all** singers. This reception will be **held in the high school cafeteria and will be** catered and paid for by the Chorale. Alumni **could** be offered half price tickets for their seats for that concert and there could be a section **of the auditorium reserved** for alumni. A "save the date" **notice** will be included with the spring appeal letter announcing the 50th season and the alumni **concert**. A second notice with details of the alumni concert weekend, including how to purchase tickets and how to sign up to sing,

will be included in one of the fall mailings (annual appeal or season brochure). There was some discussion about accommodations for alumni including the possibility of staying with current members. Bud will get Alumni Concert Planning Committee together to discuss this.

Chorale Annual Banquet: Tom Philips, President, proposed that we keep our regular Chorale Annual banquet – for current Chorale Members – Chris Vancisin: individual Beef Wellington, Salmon. Invitations to, so far: Joanie, Maggie and Donald. Take a chance on the scrimshaw basket of Chris's.

Spring Gala: Lynn Herbst, Christine Vancisin and Pat Antonucci working on committee To see if this is feasible.

6. Review of December 2020 concerts

Nantucket: was successful. The Chorale had a good group that participated. Jung Ho was happy. We sounded better in Nantucket than we did at BHS and we would recommend that we would do it again. Plus. . . we made \$1500.00.

7. Committee Reports:

Membership: Cindy O'Leary (absent). Tom Philips reported that we have 2 prospective new member, one of which is Chris Allen.
Auditions are coming up in June. Tom will be asking Joe if he intends to be using auditions as a vehicle to achieve his desirable size and balance for the Chorale.

Tickets: Faith Little, Chair of Tickets, reported that the capacity of the Christmas Concert's venue: Congregational Church of Chatham, was 250 and that Steve's people, Chorale member get 160 Open tickets of that number. That leaves Faith with 90 minus the 13 season tickets that are already sold and need seats, so that means she has 77 available seats to sell. – spread out among Eventbrite, Open seating and reserved seating. (For this Christmas concert the ratio of sold seats went: 175 Open seats and 75 Reserved.)

Bill Leigh will shut off Eventbrite a week in advance (whenever Faith wants it.)

Tom Philips suggests that we get together as a group and discuss the process and try to come up with a solution. Faith, Tom, Pat, Mary Jo and Bud.

There was a question as to whether there was any negative feedback on the increase in price for reserve tickets. The answer was "no": 75 out of 250 seats were reserved – with no complaints of pricing.

Development: Bud Ferris entered the grant information on the Budget report:

Grants: Year to date, South Shore Music Circus: \$2,500. . . general support

Other Grants:

500. . . CC Foundation;
Chatham fund for
Ode to Music #1

Betsy Ferris, Chair of Development, reported the Committee we would not apply to Cape Cod 5 until later in January.

Fundraising. Betsy recommended that we broaden our reach when it comes to our donation strategies. **The Board then discussed** the fundraising suggestion from Sally Herbst: **that we encourage people to donate to the chorale in honor of someone and provide the donor with a card s/he can give to the honoree acknowledging the donation made in his/her name. Donors will be appropriately thanked and recognized through the usual process.**

Scholarships: Joe Mongelli presented: Talking Points for Teacher Meetings. (Hand out). Why would we want to do this? One goal would be to build a younger audience. Another would be to bring choir directors on board with us in order to get students interested in what we are doing. We could meet with the directors once or twice a year, encourage free student attendance at our concerts, make them aware of our scholarship program, and encourage selective opportunities for students to perform with the Chorale. An example meeting conversation: "Here's what we're doing. . . kids come free. . . we offer a great scholarship program. . . a musician who wants to pursue a musical education couldn't ask for a better role model. Can you help us in our endeavor?" - But, use your own words. If you have any suggestions, please get back to Joe or Shelly. **MOTION.** In favor of the draft, Talking Points for Teacher Meetings. **VOTED/APPROVED.** Looking forward to the final report.

Promotion: Lynn Herbst, Chair of Promotion, reported that there were nice ads in both The Chronical and Cape Cod Times **for Candlelight Christmas.** Lynn is working on the **promotion for the** March Chamber Singer's concert now.

Contracts: Mary Giorgio is working on the contract for Monomoy for next year. Other than that, all the contract work is completed.

Webmaster: Bill Leigh. Membership is updated. Minutes are up on the website and the Messiah Sing poster is up. He will take down the "using period instruments" section from the previous concert and we will be up to date.

Other Business: Chorale photograph will be taken at the Benefit Concert. Everyone will be notified so that they can be in the picture.

Tom Philips reported to the Board that a memorial concert was in the works for Ann Diers, a faithful supporter of the Chorale, and suggested we be a part of this "celebration".

A nominating committee is being formed. Gene Sink will be the Chair and we are looking for two members who would like to join the committee. If you would like to join, please tell Tom.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 p.m.

