



**Village Voices Chorale**

**BOARD MEETING Minutes**

**Monday June 28, 2021 7:00pm**

Hosted on Zoom by Bonnie Hicks

**In attendance:** Hannah Best, Tim Bonds, Bonnie Hicks, Gloria Hilliard, Winona Krieger, Nicole Singer, Marti Smith, John Thompson

**I. Approval of March Minutes**

- i) Motion to approve May Minutes: 1st John Thompson, 2nd Hannah Best, motion passed.

**II. Treasurer's Report (Marti Smith)**

**A. June Treasurer's Report**

- i) Shared with board members via email.

**B. Budget Update**

- i) Marti requested that we establish a subcommittee to help with the budget.
- ii) John and Tim volunteered to be on the committee.
- iii) Bonnie suggested that VVC look at the financial numbers to see where it can save funds and that perhaps there may be savings on producing the programs.
- iv) Marti recommended that the subcommittee go line by line through the budget to identify possible savings.
- v) Gloria added that after the meeting VVC will have a better understanding of the budget.
- vi) Marti said she'd be happy to have the subcommittee meetings over zoom.
- vii) Marti reported that she had paid the storage fee and that VVC was issued a refund of \$100.00 from the insurance.
- viii) Bonnie asked what the total balance of funds is currently.
- viii) Marti reported that it is \$12,073.00 which is \$4000.00 more than last year's balance and that \$800.00 was from two donations and the *(unused?)* scholarships.
- ix) Bonnie noted that the committee does not need to vote on the treasurer report.
- x) Marti reported that with the storage unit paid, the net profit is \$3,700. She added that she had contacted the attorney about the contracts and the attorney will get back to us. The attorney fee is \$380.00
- x) The first subcommittee meeting will be Tuesday June 29 at 7:00 p.m.

**III. Board Members' Reports**

## A. President (Bonnie Hicks)

### 1. Member Participation

- i) Bonny reported that VVC had a decent turn-out for Monday's meeting. Tim said there were seventeen people.
- ii) Bonnie said it sounds like the majority of the people want everyone in the VVC to be vaccinated and that she had spoken with Chris and Chris said she is ready to start. Bonnie said that she had let Chris know about having to be vaccinated and that Chris said that it is no problem.
- ii) Hannah is no longer able to do publicity and John would like to step down as well.

### 2. Policies for the New Semester

- i) Singers who are fully vaccinated can participate without a mask. Bonnie reported that she had contacted the general manager (*of the church?*) who said that since we do not start until August, we have time to decide more about our policies.
- ii) Tim said that for groups of less than 5000, including performers and audience members, venues will ask about vaccinations.
- iii) Gloria said at the Walt Disney Hall is asking for proof cards.
- iv) Marti added that it is her understanding is that is up to each venue.
- v) Tim added that requiring vaccination proof may mean we will lose some members.
- vi) Bonnie said that VVC should state its policy and then see how members feel about VVC requiring proof. She added that if singers want to wear a mask they can, but that VVC is not going to *require* masks or social distancing. She continued by saying that VVC should ask people if they are going to return and then set the terms.
- vii) Gloria added that we may lose a few participants either way.
- viii) Tim made a motion that VVC's policy for 2021 be "Per the CDC guidelines, singers who are fully vaccinated are invited to come back and can sing without a mask."
- ix) John asked about people who have already had COVID 19?
- x) Marti said that VVC should go with the policy of the CDC.
- xi) Nicole and Hannah pointed out that the number of people in VVC who have had COVID 19 is small.
- xii) Tim added that this exception can be addressed as the year gets underway.
- xiii) Bonnie asked about young singers whose parents are the ones stipulating vaccination.
- xiv) Bonnie and Gloria agreed that the policy should be sent out right away along with the program so that VVC can use feedback for budgeting decisions.

## B. Membership (Tim Bonds)

- i) Tim asked when VVC should hold auditions and how many people it can audition on August 1<sup>st</sup> and August 8<sup>th</sup> if it is about ten minutes per person?
- ii) There was discussion that VVC can audition about a dozen per audition night.
- iii) Tim asked if there any conditions to auditioning.

- iv) Gloria said that sight reading is necessary but in some cases if singers have a nice voice and are willing to learn than VVC will have some flexibility but it can't take people who will alienate other singers.
- vi) Tim asked about the recruiting message that VVC sends out. Hannah said we have a message that we have used in the past and asked if VVC wants to include a message about vaccinations. She continued that messages are sent via email, social media and the Acorn the week of the 19th and the 26 (*is that July?*)
- vii) Gloria said that in the past, a member had written a letter to the editor and it had created a lot of interest. There was discussion about a current member writing a letter to the editor(s) of the Star, Acorn and other local papers. Bonnie added that young people are more apt to respond to Facebook posts.
- viii) Bonnie asked if VVC can pay for boosts on Facebook and added that they had done that for the pre-school where she works and the boosts really work.
- ix) Hannah said that posts on the Arts Council etc. have been effective and that boosting the posts is something she would like to do.
- x) Tim added that many of these platforms might work and asked if Craigslist and Nextdoor would also be good.
- xi) Hannah said that after the email goes out and we get our responses we can reach out accordingly.
- xii) Bonnie said that Tim can reach out to community colleges as well, and that our target is not someone who wants to be a professional singer but rather people who can sing and love to sing. Tim volunteered to help write some editor letters and said he'd reach out to some community colleges.
- xiii) Hannah said that we have reached out to community colleges in the past and that they haven't unsubscribed yet so there may still be some interest. She added that perhaps VVC can reach out to some church choirs.
- ivx) Bonnie said VVC needs to be really transparent about dues and obligations regarding the fee and purchase of the dress.
- vx) Nicole said she feels that the cost to be in the VVC is a great value. Winona agreed.

### **C. Ways and Means (Nicole Singer)**

- i) Nicole said she had an idea for a raffle fundraiser at the concert. There was discussion about the rules for raffles being somewhat prohibitive.
- ii) Gloria said we could do a raffle among our members.
- iii) Nicole said she was hoping to reach outside the group.

### **D. Director Report (Gloria Hilliard)**

#### **1. Financing for Music**

- i) Gloria said that a vote on spending for music was not necessary at this time but that there are three pieces of music which she has already

ordered and the down payment is \$400.00 but if VVC buys now it will save \$8.00.

- ii) John motioned to buy the music now. Tim seconded the motion.
- iii) Bonnie asked about any extra musicians we will need for the upcoming concert.

**E. Concert Master (John Thompson)**

- i) John said that if attendance is restricted than costs will be adjusted accordingly.

**F. Publicity (Hannah Best)**

- i) Hannah reported that she plans to write a draft for social media and after group review, post it and boost it.

**G. Graphics & Programs (Katie Phillipson) No news at this time.**

**H. Secretary (Winona Krieger) No news at this time.**

**IV. Old Business (No new notes)**

**Motion to close the meeting:** Bonnie Hicks, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting:** July 26