

**BOARD MEETING Minutes**

**Monday, March 8 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

1. **Approval of February Minutes**
   * 1. Motion to approve February Minutes: 1st John Thompson, 2nd Hannah Best, motion passed
     2. Motion to appoint Winona Krieger as acting secretary: 1st Tim Bonds, 2nd John Thompson, motion passed
2. **Treasurer's Report** (Marti Smith)
   1. February Treasurer’s Report
      1. Copy to be provided at later date
   2. Budget Update
      1. Insurance has been paid for the year. John reported that no discount is available due to COVID 19.
      2. Bill for PO Box has been received and will be paid.
      3. Funds from efforts through Amazon Smile and Ralphs were $18.00 and $2.00
      4. Attorney fees have been requested for advice on contract details. John said it would be good to have attorney clarification.
      5. Marti offered concerns about cash flow issues arising from low membership and low ticket sales due to restrictions from COVID 19. Tim said a break even report is necessary at this time.
      6. The question was posed that perhaps the Civic Arts Plaza may be able to negotiate so that VVC need only cover the venue’s variable costs. John said he’d confer with Civic Arts Plaza and get back to the board with findings. Alternative performance sites were discussed with regard to the holiday concert, though all are hopeful that the Spring Concert will be back to normal.
3. **Board Members’ Reports** 
   1. **President** (Bonnie Hicks)

1. **Contract**

i. Bonnie shared the ABC test criteria outlining employment definitions.

ii. John suggested that we provide existing contract for review.

iii. Bonnie said she would email a copy.

2. **Vaccination policy**.

i. Bonnie raised the question of whether or not Village Voices Chorale will make it mandatory to be vaccinated and/or require testing prior to rehearsal. Nicole outlined some of the CDC guidelines regarding safety for those who are fully vaccinated and those who are non-vaccinated.

ii. There was discussion about options to rehearse for those who are not vaccinated and the consensus was that it would be at one’s own risk and on a voluntary basis but that VVC can take risk minimizing measures such as spacing out chairs, improving ventilation and leaving doors open. Singers can be reminded to dress accordingly.

iii. Gloria added that we can add the option to have temps taken and the task might be assigned to a volunteer and we might also sing while wearing masks.

iv. Hannah concurred that the VVC may not want to require vaccines but it may still want offer PPO and other mitigation based on CDC guidelines that are in effect at the time we begin rehearsal—including masks, hand sanitizers etc.

3. **Elections**

i. Due to pandemic restrictions effecting elections, Bonnie hopes that current board members will consider staying on for another semester. John added that we could still have elections at a later date.

**B. Membership** (Tim Bonds)

i. Tim relayed that twenty-six members in his section were positive about participation but noncommittal about what a comfortable environment will look like. Gloria added that despite being somewhat afraid, people want to return.

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

1. Update on COVID Relief Funding

i. Governor Newsom has passed a bill that will provide funding for non-profit and cultural organizations. Nicole added that while round three closes March 11, round four opens March 16 and she is hopeful that VVC can get funding from that and/or possibly from subsequent rounds.

1. **Director Report** (Gloria Hilliard)

1. Donating

i. Go to <https://villagevoices.org/donate>. Click on “Donate” at the top of the screen and then the “Donate Now” button.

ii. We need to approve the fall music by July to get the discount.

iii. Carrie Eiberg will donate her dress back to VVC.

iv. Gloria described how the Music Pizazz Camp is managing its procedures in light of the pandemic.

1. **Concert Master** (John Thompson) No news this time

**F. Publicity** (Hannah Best)

i. We need an updated roster.

ii. Many views of the post about the Amazon Smile and Ralphs fundraisers (157).

iii.Email *open response* rate went from 57% to 44%. Overall VVC has a high interest but noncommittal rate.

iv. Some products on Smile don’t qualify for charity contribution.

v. New content is needed to drive more activity on FB. Hannah voiced concerns about having lost members who had large family engagement.

vi. Tim posited four questions about membership. a.) How many people would we like to have in the Village Voices? b.) When is the best time for a membership drive? c.)Who is our target audience? d.) What do prospective recruits need to know?

vii. We should schedule another meeting for ordering music and creating a recruitment campaign.

viii. Tim planned an email discussion forum—a series of rhetorical questions about membership for next month.

1. **Graphics & Programs** (Katie Phillipson) Not in attendance
2. **Secretary** (Winona Krieger)

i. Marti will continue with donation letters, Winona will take and distribute minutes.

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

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

**Next Meeting:** April 12th (tentative) Board to brainstorm about how it visualizes the Village Voices going forward.