

MOHA Board Meeting – April 8, 2021

Location: Zoom call.

Attending:

Vlc Duca Cora	Mary Butler	Bill?
Rosemary Duca Cora	Kurt Jaeger	Sabine Creamer
David North	Reggie Ott	Lisa Wysocki
Muriel Evans-Buck	Bill Forster	

The meeting was called to order at 7:05

Eddie and Laura

Will we be stepping on any toes if we go directly to the Gen Out Chorus rather than going through the DC Gay Men’s Chorus? Idea of the SAP was to go directly to Gen-Out. Director Gen-Out is also the associate director of the Gay Men’s Chorus and has been the director as long as it has existed. Eddie is nervous that going to the GMC first might be perceived as going over the head of the current Gen-Out chorus.

What was the vision for how we would cooperate with them? They looked at a number of choruses. GenOut is a good fit – a youth organization. Part of the discussion was that everyone is busy. So, there would be an ambassador from each org to discuss what we might do together. Mentoring for example. Collaborative process. Meeting maybe of reps of both choirs on a Saturday just to start a fellowship. Also, we could invite them to sing with us at the Spring concert.

One of the things we want to do is to spread our message to younger people. Gen Out is already doing this. It’s a relationship that is an easy fit. A good place to start. We’re looking closely at Vision 2025. They talk about diversity and inclusion. Identify a group that is different from us. Explore how are we different and how can we build diversity together. We also looked for a mission that was directed at diversity and inclusion. We considered 45 different choruses. We than checked websites.

The next one in line is the Message in the Music. They don’t sing but gather groups together in the African style. One was a youth choir. The second African American.

Action Items

We need to do Board nominations. We need four new members.

The By-Laws specify that we have election of officers at the first meeting. It wasn't done this way the last time. To be on the board, you don't have to be a singing member. Supporting members are eligible.

Development (Muriel Evans-Buck)

Update on big donors. We send out 4691 requests for donations and got 4224 responses.

We will go for a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Lessons learned from the popcorn sale. It would have been good to have more participation. How do we assess how we did? Lisa suggested a survey; Muriel recommended Survey Monkey.

Financial (Kurt Jaeger)

The financials look OK. We are still losing money, but we have the reserves.

We got the SBI loan. We must spend 60% of the loan on salaries to have the loan forgiven. This should be no problem.

Promotions (Bill Forster)

Bill showed an example of what he would like to post on social media as reflecting the choir's ongoing efforts. He pointed out that he received help from another member in producing this example but that he does not have the skill to replicate it for other songs. He asked for help. After members of the Board noted their approval of the example, Sabine offered to provide the help Bill was requesting for future postings. With the help of Sabine a report was generated on social media to celebrate the completion of the song, "I Believe in the Humanity of Humanity " virtually. He will attempt to do the same for the number "Be the Answer "are underway.

Fundraising (Reggie Ott)

Nothing to report.

Membership (Lisa Wysocki)

Lisa wants to stop recruiting singers in the next newsletter, restarting in September. She will send a Thank You out to people.

We discussed whether to continue to meet over the summer. David would like to keep going. No decision was made. We will make this decision at the May 18 meeting.

President, Vice President Report (Vic Duca Cora, Rosemary Duca Cora)

The committee to look for replacements for four retiring board members consists of Vic, Rosemary and Mary. They will call to look for people. A notice was emailed to the membership during the first week in May.

We discussed whether to continue meeting virtually for monthly meeting with in-person meetings at the Annual Meeting. We voted to keep meetings virtual for next year except for the Annual Meeting.

Sabine Creamer

Jim Robson is ready to come on for production of videos.

He will charge \$500-550 for both videos.

We will send raw video files with audio attached. This will help Jim match them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36.

Next meeting is on May 13.