

MOSAIC HARMONY
THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2022

Attending (virtual): Mary Butler, Sue Price, Kurt Jaeger, Teresa McConnel, Lisa Wysocki (by phone) David North, Sabine Creamer, Muriel Evans-Buck.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm.

The Minutes from the 12/9/21 meeting were approved. Kurt suggested that they continue to be sent to board members in both PDF and Pages format.

Treasurer Report:

Kurt stated that we cannot get the PPE loan this year, so that we will probably not break even unless we get funds from concerts and/or grants. Kurt said that before Covid we were in a good position with \$60,000 in reserves. Muriel reiterated that we cannot get the Pivot grant this year because we got the PPE grant last year. Sue reminded us that in previous years we had held a "No Sweat" fundraiser where the choir was told the amount of money we needed to raise divided by the number of members, and members were asked to give what they could toward that amount.

Membership Report:

Lisa reported that we currently had 43 singing members, and 18 supporting members. She said that she and David had contacted some of the former members to see if they were going to return. Kurt said that some members have contacted him about online support. *Mary said that she would call Eddy Nalls to see if she needed help contacting sopranos.

RECRUITING: Lisa stated the need for a handout related to recruiting new members before our in-person concerts, and asked if any other board members would want to help with that. *Sabine said that she and David are also continuing to work on that.

Concert Coordinator Report:

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK/MONTH: Sabine browsed the IFC website and noticed that many of the events were already posted. She suggested that we get our events posted soon and told us the options for submitting things virtually (i.e. a video at the beginning of the ceremony, or a group of songs on their website). David suggested that we do both things and he said he could create a virtual concert with 5-7 songs, he would introduce each song, and Darren had the software to put them into a 'video package'. He suggested that maybe Feb. 2 could be our concert and asked Kurt if he could help figure out how to Livestream on that date. *David said he would aim for Jan. 30 to have the package ready. He said that since MoHa was one of the first groups in our area to become involved with Harmony Week, he hoped we could have the activities within the first week of Harmony Week, and proposed that we ask to do both the opening ceremony, and the concert package. He said this could possibly also help us with the Fairfax Arts grant.

OTHER CONCERT EVENTS: Sabine reminded us of the Joint concerts with GenOut on April 23 and 24, as well as the dress rehearsal on April 22. The next opportunity would be the Freedom Forum Awards night event on April 28 at the Anthem Theatre in DC. They were referred to us by the IFC. We would perform one song around 8pm during the ceremony and possibly one other song. They would pay our full concert fee of \$1500. *Sabine said she would followup with them and see if she could do a site visit beforehand. The next in-person

singing event would be May 1 at Yvonne McIntyre's church for their Racial Justice Sunday. Sabine has not heard back yet about the fee for this. *David said he would be talking with Yvonne about how many and which songs.

VENUES FOR JUNE 12 CONCERT: Sabine and Sue made a site visit to the GW Memorial Theatre in Alexandria. It seats 350-380 people, and would cost \$1600 for an entire afternoon and a performance. We could do a dress rehearsal the same afternoon, since the Theatre is not available the day before. Sabine was unsure about the wifi in the building and if the concert could be live-streamed or not. There is a stage, and no risers and we discussed if the choir and band could be separated and David said that the band could not be on the stage if the choir was on the floor. Risers are not available but Sabine said that GenOut might be able to provide risers. The building is wheelchair accessible and has elevators. We would be allowed to have refreshments and/or water in the lobby. *David said he would be available to do a site visit soon. He thanked Sabine for all the work she has done to find a venue. Sabine also said that she had just gotten a phone call from the Vienna Baptist Church (in Fairfax Co) that they could also possibly offer their venue to us. *She will followup on that.

"FEEL IT LIVE": Sabine did some more looking at this new website/company that supplies 'choir grams' to people with the purpose of getting more money for the choir. She said it was very new and she was not sure if it would help us. Kurt suggested waiting on this.

Director of Development Report:

VA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS: *Muriel asked the Board if we wanted her to submit the grant to the Va Commission for the Arts. The Board unanimously said YES.

FAIRFAX ARTS COUNCIL: *Muriel said she would join Sabine in attending the Arts Council workshop on Jan. 20.

JI SOLUTIONS: A donation of \$2500 has already been made with \$2500 more to be donated at the end of this quarter. Muriel said that Sylvia Johnson, who is running for a MD Senate seat, would still like MoHa to sing at her inauguration.

OTHER DONATIONS: Thank you letters have been sent out to all nonmember donors along with the One Humankind video. Muriel has received many positive comments about the video. *Muriel said she would make phone calls to the remaining donors for whom we do not have email addresses. *Muriel asked if she should send the appeal letter and video to the 'bot' list/ Constant Contact, and Kurt said that she should do that.

Vice President Report:

MOHA JUNE CONCERT: Sue brought up the many things that have to be decided about the June 12 concert including: the time, cost of tickets, program (paper or not) and vaccination status of the audience. She said that in the past we have sold tickets online at EventBrite and the usual price was \$25. She said we needed to decide if we were going to go to the expense of a paper program, including getting ads for it. David said that because of Covid the program should be not more than 75 minutes with no intermission. We also used to do a '50/50' raffle so we would need to decide whether to do that, and if so maybe sell the raffle tickets at the registration table in the lobby and draw the winner at the end of the concert. The venue has a mask policy (and more information about Covid policy is on their website). We do not know if we would have to provide our own security volunteers for checking IDs and vaccination status or whether they would provide that.

After some discussion, it was decided that : the concert would be at 5pm, and the rehearsal would be at 3pm that afternoon; there would be no intermission; we would only sell water at the door; we probably could do a '50/50' raffle; we were still unsure about a paper program.

Sue mentioned that Shana had asked if there was any interest in changing the fabric of the scarves before our concert. The board members said that this would not be a good time to take on the additional time and costs that would require.

President Report:

ETHNOGRAPHY REPORT: *Mary said that she was in the middle of the data analysis and that she will report her findings when that is finished.

SUCCESSION PLANNING: Mary said she has now recruited 8 people to be on a committee including Board members Sue and Lisa. David, Christian, and Darren would also be on this committee. *It would begin in February.

*Mary said she would do the announcements at the next rehearsal.

Old Business:

COVID AND REHEARSALS: We discussed what should be done about the next rehearsals in terms of in-person or virtual related to Covid (and weather).

VOTE: It was decided that the next rehearsal on Feb. 8 would be virtual, and that *we would decide at the next board meeting on Feb. 10 about the next rehearsals, and would announce the decision to the choir on Feb. 11.

New Business:

PAYMENT TO UUC ARLINGTON: Kurt stated that he had already paid the fee to UUC for using their facility on Jan. 8 for the joint rehearsal with GenOut and we had to hold that virtually instead. *Kurt was thinking about leaving the fee paid and checking with Laura and Eddie to see if we will use it for a future rehearsal.

JI SOLUTIONS VIDEO: Muriel showed a short video (created by her daughter) about our business supporter, JI Solutions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.