

MOSAIC HARMONY BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

The Minutes from the 10/14/21 Board meeting were approved.

Addition to Agenda: discussion of FORMAT OF REHEARSALS. David said that we would go back to the format we had for in-person rehearsals (pre-covid) of singing for about an hour, then a break for announcements (and any information from the Board, etc.) and Joys and Concerns. Then we would have singing again until about 9:00pm and then do "Make Us One" at the end. *Mary and Sue would discuss what would be included in the Board information.

*It was stated that the Board should periodically discuss our Covid policies as the pandemic situation continues to evolve.

*It was decided that Teresa should add Darren to the distribution list so that a copy of the Board Meeting Minutes would be sent to him each month for his information.

Treasurer Report:

Kurt reported that the designated donations for the DoD position have come in. He said that financially we are close to where we were at this time last year and we are 'okay' at this time.

Membership Report:

Lisa reported that there are currently 49 PAID MEMBERS: 36 singing members (8 sopranos, 16 altos, 8 tenors, and 4 basses, and 13 supporting members). She said that Crystal Jefferson is returning to the choir. *Lisa said she would be working on the Membership Directory. She would like to indicate which members are on the SAG (she will ask Laura who the current SAG members are). Lisa said she would talk with Kurt about improving the Directory. Sue added that *Kurt is going to be bringing the "Square" to rehearsals so people could pay for memberships or donations while at rehearsals. Jim Price will come to the next rehearsal to review using the Square with Sue. *Sabine was asked to put this in Choir Notes.

Concert Coordinator Report:

Sabine spoke with Denise Clark at HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL about the MLK celebration in January. If they do an in-person event, they would like us to come. Sabine told her that we could also do a virtual concert if needed.

The date for the TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Racial Justice event (Yvonne McIntyre's church) is set for Sunday May 1. David and Darren are both available. Sabine has a conflict that day, and *Sue volunteered to stand in for Sabine on that day. David noted that Sue and Laura have been very helpful assisting Sabine at concerts.

Sabine has not heard back from FT. BELVOIR about the possible virtual concert. *She will call them again.

Director of Development Report:

Related to the grant from FAIRFAX ARTS COUNCIL Muriel reported that she had made many calls to Kimber Craine who had been the grants' administrator. Eventually she was told that he had retired and they were looking for a replacement. She was told that the reason that our grant was reduced was because we did not provide a plan for virtual programs/concerts. David asked about the deadline for the grant (March) and the workshops in Dec/Jan. *He said that he and Darren had been planning to create a 'package' that could be submitted. Kurt said that we have to make sure this year to find out all that is needed through the workshops and make sure we deliver the necessary information.

END OF YEAR APPEAL: Giving Tuesday (Nov 30) is the first day of this Appeal. Muriel has proposed 'levels of giving' to be put in the newsletter, our website, and printed materials (Diamond \$5000, Gold \$2500-4999, Silver \$1000-2499, Bronze \$500-999). She said that she would like to ask each choir member to give three names with contact information and the levels that we should solicit. She is hoping for 20 donors at \$500, 10 donors at \$1000, 5 donors at \$2500, and 5 donors at \$5000). The goal for the end of the year giving is \$35,000 (including pledges). Donors names would be listed in programs, etc. It was noted that Laura had already put in requests for donations for Giving Tuesday in the upcoming Newsletter. *Muriel will send her Levels of Giving etc to Sabine/Laura to be included in the upcoming Newsletter. Muriel said there are currently 600-700 names on our mailing list. *She said she would be willing to make calls to some of them. Kurt noted that last year's End of Year Appeal brought in \$925 from the mass mailing list campaign.

POPCORN SALE: Muriel proposed that we do another popcorn sale during 4 days in November. Kurt reported that the last sale in March of this year resulted in \$8965 in combined sales and donations (\$4700 in sales; \$4200 in donations). Sue wondered if we would be able to get that much again during this time. Teresa and Kurt were concerned that a popcorn sale near the same time as Giving Tuesday and the End of the Year Appeal might be too much for people, and perhaps would be better for sometime in 2022.

Muriel's written report included updates on TWO OTHER GRANTS which were submitted and for which we are awaiting a decision: the AMFund Grant for \$10,000, and the Pivot Foundation Grant for \$10,000 which closed on Oct. 30.

President Report:

SECTION LEADER JOBS: Mary sent a letter to the Section Leaders telling them she would like to hear what they think their jobs are, and to update that since the information on the bylaws on this seems outdated. *She hopes to set up a zoom meeting with them sometime in the next month after Thanksgiving.

SUCCESSION PLANNING: Mary has talked with David about a plan for when he 'retires' for how the choir would proceed to find a successor for him. *She would like to assemble a Committee to discuss this, including any Board members and regular choir members.

ETHNOGRAPHY: *Mary would like to do a project to explore the history and current status of MoHa, including the thoughts and concerns of members (how things are going; what are the problems; what makes members happy, etc.). She is thinking of doing this on zoom with two focus groups of 6-8 people in each group. Sue suggested that Mary talk with the choir members about this and give them some dates and times for discussion.

Director Report:

VIRTUAL PROJECTS: David and Darren have talked about getting our virtual projects out into the world. They feel very strongly about this since we are a 'message-driven' choir. Kurt said that he thinks getting them on YouTube etc. could generate more donations, concert opportunities, etc. David thinks that one of the videos should be on the first page of our website. Teresa agreed that the One Humankind video was very well done and could be on the homepage.

VOTE: David and Darren have the Board's backing to put the virtual recordings on the web etc.

MOHA PHOTOS: Sabine added that she had talked with Dennis Bertsch about the possibility of doing new MoHa Choir photos for the website, etc. Dennis agreed to do this at no charge. *David will talk with Sabine about this.

Old Business:

STORAGE: Kurt reported that instead of Google Cloud Storage, we now have a Drop Box account for recordings, etc. Sabine, Peggy, and Kurt will handle this.

WEBSITE REVISIONS: Lisa suggested that a Committee of people could work on the website "Who We Are" section, e.g., adding photos and info about who the Directors are, the Musicians, etc. *She has suggestions for revisions. *David volunteered to work on the Homepage together with Darren, Sabine, Muriel, and Peggy, with Lisa's revisions.

MASKS: *Sue will ask at rehearsal who else needs a mask, or a change in the mask size. It was suggested that we should have 5 extra Medium sized masks on hand for new members etc. Kurt had ordered three black regular masks for the musicians. *He will pick them up from the UPS store and bring them to rehearsal. There are still logo patches left so these can be glued on for the musicians.

New Business:

PROMOTIONS: Mary brought up the issue of whether the Board needs to reinstate a Board member to be in charge of Promotions. We discussed that Sabine is already doing a lot of these things, promoting the choir, and handling new concert opportunities, etc. She can also handle the social media aspects. The Board has to decide what it wants to do with these marketing platforms. Sabine thinks that her role should be communicated to the choir so they will know what is going on.

COVID POLICY RE. MASKS: Lisa also wanted to discuss our 'mask on' policy during rehearsals, during singing, announcements, etc. David explained that he will keep his mask on while teaching the songs during rehearsals. The Board agreed that all of us should be masked when making announcements, talking etc. If needed, questions/comments/joys and concerns can be repeated by someone near the microphone so that the members participating virtually via zoom can also hear them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm.

VOTE by EMAIL: After the November Board meeting the Voting Board voted by email on 11/29/21 to approve the changed rehearsal schedule for Dec. and Jan. that was proposed by David and Darren.

