

MOSAIC HARMONY BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021

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

The Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MINUTES: Teresa stated that Kurt had added Darren to the Board email address so that he would get a copy of the Minutes each month. We discussed whether this would send more email to Darren than needed, adding to his workload, or whether it would be better to just add him when the Minutes are sent out. Kurt said that he told Darren that he had added him, and that Darren said it was fine. Teresa also asked whether it was helpful to continue Lisa's suggestions about the Minutes (to underline the 'action items' that needed to be done; and capitalize subjects of paragraphs). The Board would like to continue these additions to the Minutes. Teresa said that she would add any Board votes/decisions that happened between Board meetings, at the end of the next month's Minutes.

The Minutes of the 11/11/21 Board Meeting were approved.

**Treasurer Report:**

Kurt had emailed the monthly statements to the Board. He reported that we received close to \$1000 in donations from Giving Tuesday. The budget is proceeding as expected for this time of year. SAG had asked him to tell them about our current budget.

**Membership Report:**

Lisa reported that we currently have 41 paid singing members, and 17 paid supporting members. There are not photos for some of the people in the Directory. \*Sue asked Lisa to send her the list of who needs photos, and she will contact those people, as well as asking Ron Staley if he would take their photos.

RECRUITING: \*Lisa asked if she could have some time at the next meeting to talk about recruiting. She would like to have some kind of paper information to have for when we have in-person concerts etc. to leave for recruitment purposes. Sue said it could be as simple as a flyer. \*Sabine said she could do this and Lisa said she would work with her on this. \*Sabine also said that she could put something on our videos on YouTube about contacting us if interested in the choir. She also suggested that it would be good if choir members could click "Like" when they view the videos. And she wondered if David could put a few words about each song that is on YouTube.

MEMBERS USING TECHNOLOGY: Lisa was concerned that some of our members may still not know how to use the website well, e.g., for 'Learn the Songs' etc. Sue suggested that they could contact 'Webmasters' for help. Sabine said that she has also offered to help anyone who needs it, and Kurt or Peggy could help as well.

**Concert Coordinator Report:**

HOLY CROSS MLK EVENT: Sabine reported that Holy Cross Hospital decided to make their MLK event virtual. \*Sabine will ask how many of our virtual recordings they would like for the event. \*David said he could go 'live' on their virtual event and introduce us. Sabine said she does not think we should charge them for the videos since they are now on YouTube.

“FEELITLIVE”: Sabine had sent us an email about a company (“FeelitLIVE”) that is launching “ChoirGram” (for people to pay to send choir videos etc. for gifts). She sent an email for more information, but did not hear back from them.

CONCERT VENUE: Sabine found out that Capital One Hall is booked for 2022. It holds 1600 people so would be too big for us for a concert.

UPDATING OUR PHOTOGRAPHY: Sabine said that Dennis would tell us when he is available for photography for the choir. \*Mary said that she or Sabine would be in touch with him. \*Kurt said he also knows someone who is a good photographer and would get in touch with him to see if he would be willing to photograph the choir.

HARMONY WEEK: Interfaith Council is spearheading this during the first week of Feb. Last year they used some of our virtual videos. David said that Interfaith has ‘picked up the ball’ on Harmony Week. \*He asked Sabine to ask them what we can do to help them this year so that we can remain partners with them on this. Sabine also said that Interfaith will post our events on their website if we want them to.

### **Director of Development Report:**

Muriel was not able to be here due to an awards ceremony she was attending. She had sent a report to the Board. \*Muriel would like to apply for a grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts (application due date is Feb. 1). She stated that she is still waiting to hear from the AMF Grant, and the Pivot Grant. Muriel reported that a holiday Appeal email went out to members at the end of November, and would be repeated in December. \*On Dec. 6 she began making calls which she would continue to make until the end of Dec. She is requesting that members and Board members submit names of friends/family for solicitation. (There was some discussion by Board members that they were not comfortable giving out friends/family names since these people had already been donating to MoHa.)

FAIRFAX ARTS COUNCIL: Sue and Dick vanDuizend participated in a Zoom sponsored by Fairfax Arts Council “Arts Community Conversation” held this afternoon. The purpose was to have Arts groups connect with one another, and to tell about the Arts Council workshops, new staff, etc. Sue said it was a very worthwhile workshop and that she liked hearing what other groups were doing. She shared information about our singing masks. Another group reported that they had had a concert at the new Capital One Hall. Sue said other groups reported that the price of printing programs had doubled and that many groups are not doing paper programs at this time. Over half of the groups said that they would like Marketing support from the Fairfax Arts. Sue reported that Fairfax Arts will advertise for us on their website and can help with Google Grants.

Kurt said that he thinks that we received a Google Grant when Amaris was in charge of Promotions but he does not know if it was ever used. Sabine said that she had an email conversation with Muriel and that Linda Sullivan is the Director of Grants now. Sabine said that our information is up to date on their website now. \*Mary said that she would talk with Muriel about going to the workshops in January and following up with our grant with them. \*David said that he and Darren would be working on ‘packets’ of 3 and 4 songs to be available when needed to support grants, etc.

## **President Report:**

SECTION LEADERS' MEETING: Mary reported that a Section Leaders' Meeting would be held on Jan. 11 at 6:30pm. \*Kurt said he could make it available on Zoom as well. \*Mary asked us if anyone has information about Section Leaders jobs, etc. to please send to her.

SUCCESSION PLANNING: Mary said she was planning on working on the Succession Planning in January. She said that David had agreed to be on a Committee, and \*she requested that any Board members who would like to be on the Committee, to please let her know.

ETHNOGRAPHY FOCUS GROUPS: Mary said she had gotten many good comments from the Focus Groups so far. \*When she is done with the groups, she will analyze the information and write it up.

## **Director Report:**

WEBSITE UPDATE: David said that Peggy and Sabine had done research on the "Who We Are" section of our website but he had not done his yet. Apparently, we are currently using the 'High School' version of the website and there might be other models which could give the website more 'pizazz.' Sabine suggested that we ask our current website support person, Brian Drier to help us. Kurt said we could send him our information and ask him for an estimate for updating and improving it. David suggested that we could ask at rehearsal if members would browse the websites of other choirs and let us know any features that looked really good that we should consider for our website (e.g., user-friendly features, new tabs, etc.) \*Kurt said he would announce this at the next rehearsal. There was a discussion of whether we should solicit more people to be on this Website committee. It was decided that three people is probably optimal (David, Sabine, and Peggy).

## **Old Business:**

GENOUT CALENDAR: Kurt noted that Laura had sent out an updated GENOUT calendar. The plan is to use the Unitarian Universalist Arlington facility for the Jan. 8 joint rehearsal. Sabine said she had contacted 25 places looking for a space. Their fee is generally \$1200, but they would let us use it for \$165. Lisa suggested sending them a Thank You note.

VOTE: The Board authorized a payment of \$165 to UUA for facility use on Jan. 8 (will be covered by donation for GENOUT purposes).

COVID POLICY REVIEW: It was noted that we need to keep the same policy as GENOUT since we are rehearsing and singing with them this year. And we will need to have the same policy as theirs regarding vaccination status for audiences. Also, we have heard that other choirs are following our same policy. \*Mary will report to the choir that we have reviewed the policy and there are no changes at this time.

CONCERT VENUE: David reported that he and Darren are very concerned that we have not yet found a venue for the MoHa June 12 joint concert. He stated that since we have the large anonymous donation for GENOUT activities, the price should not be a problem. Sabine said that she is confident that we will find a place that is the right size for us. She said that many venues are not ready to open because of Covid. The Reston Community Center is a possibility but Laura and Eddie think it is too far. Sabine said that for 2023 we could apply through Fairfax Arts to use the Capital One Hall facilities for \$1950.

PROMOTIONS: Teresa wanted to followup on Sabine's interest in letting the choir know that she is the person who is doing Promotions for the choir at this time. \*Mary said she would call Sabine to discuss and make an announcement about this at the next rehearsal.

BYLAWS: Lisa suggested that we should review the Bylaws as some things are unclear, e.g., supervision, review of personnel, etc. Kurt said they were last reviewed in 2017. We need to draft whatever revisions we decide on and present at the Annual Meeting to the choir in June. \*Sue suggested that we all review the Bylaws (on the website under 'Bulletin Board') before the next board meeting and make a list of what might need to be changed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm.

### **Voting Decisions Made by Board via Email after this meeting:**

1/3/22 - There will be no in-person rehearsal on 1/4/22 but there will be a virtual Town Hall Meeting at 7:30pm. The joint rehearsal with GenOut on 1/8/22 may also be virtual.

1/8/22 - The two remaining rehearsals for January, 1/11 and 1/25 will also be virtual only.