

MOSAIC HARMONY
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

Attending (virtual): Mary Butler, Marsha Gallagher, Kurt Jaeger, Teresa McConnel, Jan Callaway, Crystal Jefferson, Sallie Williams, Sabine Creamer, David North.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm.

The Minutes from the 8/11/22 Board Meeting were approved.

President Report and Announcements:

OCTOBER 9 CONCERT: There is a \$700 quote from the sound engineer; this will include 4 solo mikes, and an audio recording of the concert. It will not be live streamed. David asked if anyone knew of someone who might video the concert. As no one did, *Teresa said she would make an announcement at rehearsal to see if any choir members know anyone who could do the video. Sabine shared that Midge was promoting the concert where she lives (Vinson Hall) and many residents are planning to come. *Sabine said she will begin the two week promotion for publicity with Facebook/Eventbrite.

HOW CHOIR MEMBERS CAN ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS: Board meetings are open to all choir members if they would like to attend via zoom. There is usually a link in the choir notes that will take you to the website. Once there, the members need to log in and go to the “Members Only” section. The date will be located in the “Member Calendar” section. The zoom link can be found on the “Bulletin Board” section in the “MoHa Board Documents.” Since Mary will not be at the next rehearsal, *Marsha said she would explain this to the choir during announcements.

IMPORTANT FOCUS FOR 2022-23 SEASON: Mary said she thinks that one of the most important things to focus on during this season will be to do as many concerts as we can. She asked us all to be looking for opportunities for concerts by talking with friends, organizations, etc. Sallie said that a choir member had told her that their church might be interested in us doing a concert. They would need to present a proposal to us. The minimum fee is usually \$1200.

Another important focus should be on community in the choir, including social time and events for the choir. One upcoming event will be the “Fall Frolic” in October that Laura is hosting. Also, we should remind members to try and come 20 minutes early to rehearsals to socialize.

DELEGATION OF JOBS/PROJECTS: *Marsha has agreed to head the Search Committee for finding a new Assistant Director. As the VP Marsha will also support Sabine in preparations for the next annual concert. It will be helpful for her to contact Sue to find out what she has done as former VP to help with that concert.

*Sallie has agreed to help with Fundraising by following up on the ArtsFairfax grant. She has looked through their website at videos, etc. *Sallie will consult with Dick VanDuizend about the grant. *Sabine said she will send Sallie the login for ArtsFairfax. Kurt said that we will not get the final \$300 from last year’s grant, or the initial \$700 for this year’s grant unless the last report is submitted to them.

*Crystal said that she will be looking for opportunities for the choir to be together for socializing.

WEBSITE AND THE WEBMASTERS: Crystal also brought up the point that it would be helpful to have a communication liaison between the Board and Peggy and the webmasters. *David and Mary said they want to continue to help with this, and also coordinate with Sabine, and Laura. Peggy is sometimes frustrated because she would like to know how the Board wants to change the website (mainly the non-member part of the website). David said that he thinks that the website has been improving little by little and that it is a “work in progress” and we just need to keep “chipping away” at improving it. Since paying a professional web designer has been out of our budget range, Brian Dyer (who provides technical help for the website) has been helpful to an extent. *Marsha said she would ask her daughter who does web design, to take a look at our website if she has time. *David asked if he and Sabine and Peggy could get together to write up a brief history of the website, and possibly build a small committee to continue working on it.

INFORMATION FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS: Sallie said that it would be helpful for new Board members to be able to access important Board documents from the past. She asked if we have a policy on what constitutes an important document and where they would be posted. Kurt said that some things are in our Google “Docs.”

SCHEDULING CONCERTS AT UUCF: David said that he had been in touch with Bill from UUCF and he told David that they were booked up on Sundays through the season with choirs practicing etc. So at this point, in looking for dates for our Spring concert of 2023, the date available would be Sat. June 17th, unless a Sunday like June 11 opens up. Also for the Community concert (with other choirs) David asked for Saturday March 25, 2023.

Treasurer Report:

Kurt reported that we received a large anonymous donation of \$10,000 from a friend of the choir. We had also received another \$10,000 in donations in honor of David York. We received over \$3000 in Memberships. Currently there are 61 paid tickets for the Oct. 9 concert (\$1800). So financially the situation looks good right now. The payroll will be less for awhile since we currently don't have the Assistant Director position.

Kurt sent the check to the GW Memorial Theatre for the concert, and *he will get a check to Sabine for the sound engineer to be paid the day of the concert. Jim Price said he will handle the money from concert tickets sold at the door.

Director of Programs and Administration Report:

INTERFAITH WORKS CONCERT: Sabine was contacted by Dr. Rosetta Robinson from Interfaith Works. They are having their 50th anniversary conference on Nov. 1 (7-8:30pm) and they would like us to sing 2-3 songs, either at the beginning or end of the program. It will be held at the Mormon Temple Visitors' Center, where we performed several years ago. They expect to have about 300 people and admission is free. There is a lot of parking at the Visitors' Center. They only have \$750 to spend for us. Kurt said that the last time the fee policy was changed was in 2017, and that the usual fee for 4-5 songs is \$1200, and the fee for a full concert of 8-10 songs is \$2,000. Sabine can negotiate fees with the person requesting the concerts. This concert would be on a night when we would have had a rehearsal anyway, so hopefully the musicians would be available.

VOTE: The Board agreed to accept the request for the concert from Interfaith Works.

Vice President:

Since she will be heading the Search Committee, Marsha would like to have the last job description for the Assistant Director position. *Kurt said he would look for the document and send it to Marsha and Mary.

Membership:

*Kurt said he will update the membership Excel spreadsheet. Teresa suggested the possibility that someone could consider getting in touch with the Music Departments at GMU and NVCC to see if any students who were interested in Gospel music and participating in an inclusive choir, might want to join MoHa if we offered a membership scholarship. Crystal suggested that we might consider making a Student Membership fee that is less than the regular Membership fee.

Director Report:

David said that our first priority now is preparing for the October 9 concert, and that after that we will begin working on the new music for this season. Lyric sheets and audio recordings are on the website. Several of the songs already have the SABB parts recorded. *Kurt said he can work on transcribing some of the music from the audio recordings.

For the October 9 concert, we do not need to have Covid tests done.

Old Business:

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: Crystal has talked with Laura, who had wanted to do a social event over the summer. They are now planning it for Sunday Oct. 16, from 1-4pm at Laura and Neil's home. It will be called the "Festive Fall Frolic." Laura would appreciate as much help and support as possible in planning, etc. *Crystal and Sallie can be at the event and will make a flyer and coordinate the event. Others who have offered to help are: Marsha, Karen Stern, and Joanne. It is possible that they could meet before the next rehearsal at 7pm.

SCORE: Crystal did some research on the organization SCORE. She said that their mission is to work with small businesses. Since 1964 they have worked with 11 million people. They are located in Herndon and have webinars and other resources. Perhaps they could help us with updating our website.

New Business:

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE/ INCREASING MEMBERSHIP: David said that what has worked in the past has been that people have found us through our website, and also by experiencing us in concerts. In the past we have gotten other requests by participating in multicultural festivals. Sabine suggested that we all look for Fall Festivals and other festivals throughout the year. Teresa noted that it is also important that we do concerts in Fairfax County since ArtsFairfax expects that many of our concerts would be in Fairfax County. We need to think about whether we should be doing some concerts for free for marketing the choir. Mary asked that if

*we find possible festivals/events that we might be able to participate in, we should let her know at the next Board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be on Oct. 13.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.