

MOSAIC HARMONY
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

Attending (virtual): Marsha Gallagher, Kurt Jaeger, Teresa McConnel, Jan Callaway, Crystal Jefferson, Sallie Williams, Sabine Creamer, Laura Romstedt (SAG), HeyJin Kong, Karen Stern (visiting Board candidates).

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

The Minutes of the 4/13/23 Meeting were approved. It was decided to attach a summary of the 5/4/23 Voting Board meeting decision (about the Assistant Director position) at the end of the May Board Minutes.

President Report:

Marsha reported that Laura Weiss has accepted the offer for the Assistant Director position. Marsha has left a voicemail inviting Laura to attend the next rehearsal on May 16. Although Marsha will not be there, David and Kurt will welcome her. The choir can then vote on her confirmation.

SAG Report:

SAG TIMELINE OF EVENTS: Laura Romstedt provided a written timeline for SAG activities for the end of this season and for the 2023-24 season. This includes a 5/24/23 meeting between Laura and Nikki and Tema leaders to talk about the partnership and how we can help. On July 12 SAG will be meeting to discuss upcoming plans with GenOut and Tema, and to strategize for increasing MoHa membership. *Jan will attend this meeting to represent the Board and report back to the Board. Laura reported that HeyJin will be volunteering to assist with some of the GenOut alto section practices during the 23-24 season. SAG will meet again in the Fall to continue plans for increasing MoHa membership, and to discuss outreach to an underserved group. Other events and activities were listed in her timeline. It was decided that the Board did not need to vote to approve these events at this time, but would vote as the dates come up. Laura wanted to give the timeline so it would be taken into consideration in planning other events or performances during the season.

I CAN DO EVENT FROM 5/6/23: Laura reported that the I Can Do event with MoHa and GenOut on 5/6/23 was very successful. 8 GenOut youth and parents participated and about 17 MoHa members. Everyone seemed relaxed and shared stories about themselves. They also enjoyed a night of Karaoke. She said that it was a very heartwarming event.

THANKS TO SAG: Sallie asked that Laura tell the SAG members how much the Board appreciates their efforts. Their thinking ahead can also help us with grants. Laura said that SAG is filled with “worker bee” members who want to help with strategic planning and making connections with other groups. They want to assist the Board in these ways since the Board is very busy with the ongoing administering and running the choir.

ARTS FAIRFAX GRANTS AND SAG: Sallie reported that she and Midge had gotten together to discuss the Vinson Hall residents as part of an underserved group in Fairfax County (one of two groups identified in the Ticket Subsidy grant). Sallie said that Arts Fairfax also requires the underserved group to have a financial need. “Underserved” also means an “inability to access the Arts.” Laura said that SAG can do research on underserved groups in Fairfax County. One such group could be “Second Story” a place for homeless teens in the County. Laura said that

we also need to decide if we will keep the relationship with the same underserved group each year, or change groups for the grants. Sallie said that we can broaden our audiences and create more relationships that are in line with our mission. She suggested that we try again with the No. Va. Mental Health Institute since they are definitely an underserved group and we previously had an ongoing relationship with them. Sabine said that she has reached out to them each year in the last few years and offered a free concert. They have not taken us up on the offer yet, perhaps due to changing chaplains (our previous contacts). *Sabine said that she would continue trying to reestablish the relationship. Marsha also suggested Wounded Warriors and Veterans living in Fairfax County as other possible underserved groups.

Treasurer Report: _

Kurt reported that we had a good month financially since we received the full amount we were eligible for from ArtsFairfax (\$3,000). He also said that ticket sales were starting to come in for the June 17 concert. Kurt said that someone had donated a free ticket for the concert and that *he would announce this at rehearsal to see if someone knows a person who could use that ticket. Kurt said he had made a proposed budget for the 23-24 season for the ArtsFairfax grant application and that *he would revise that so that we could look at it at the next Board meeting.

Membership Report:

Jan reported that she would be getting together with SAG in July to discuss ways to increase membership going forward.

Programs and Administration Report:

Sabine said that now that she is back from vacation she will continue working on the items on her worksheet in preparation for the June 17 concert. Crystal said that she had received the contract from Unity for June 17 and it was ready for Sabine to sign. Related to the June 19 concert at MedStar Washington Hospital, Sabine said that there is a possibility that the date might change, but it probably will stay on the 19th. She has already announced this concert event to the choir.

Director Report:

Since David was not able to be at this meeting, he had sent written notes to the Board. He said he is in the process of establishing communications with the new Assistant Director who is working on re-balancing her current commitments to be ready to start with MoHa. The June 17 concert order of performance is now set and communicated to the musicians and the scripting for the Concert Announcing Team has begun. Related to Section Leaders, David said that more development and investment is needed and he hopes that the new Assistant Director may be able to help with that.

30th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT: David reported that he and Kim Moss are investigating the Schlesinger Hall at NVCC for a venue. David had said that he wanted a venue with 800-1,000 seats for this event. They were told that reservations cannot be made until June 12, 2023 for the 2024 date. The Board discussed whether having the concert in the City of Alexandria would be a problem for the ArtsFairfax grant. Sallie said that according to the surveys from the March Community concert, about 80% of attendees were from Fairfax County and she thinks it would be similar for the 30th Anniversary concert.

Grants Report:

Sallie sent a written report to the Board giving the status of current ArtsFairfax grants. She submitted the Operating Support Grant on 4/24/23 requesting \$10,000. The announcement about that grant will be in August. Related to the Ticket Subsidy, Sallie submitted a request for 30 tickets for Vinson Hall residents. The awarding of that grant has not yet been announced.

Old Business:

Marsha asked if anything further had happened about advising Mary Butler or her family that she had been relieved of her position as Board President. Teresa repeated that she had spoken with Mary's family member who had strongly recommended that we not talk with her about this directly, because of her continuing medical situation.

PREPARATIONS FOR SPRING CONCERT: Kurt suggested that related to Volunteers, a similar number of Volunteers as we had for our October concert would probably be what is needed. *He said he would send a list of Supporting Members to Sabine. *Sabine will work on getting Volunteers signed up. Sallie said that we need to hand out surveys (for ArtsFairfax) again at the June 17 concert. Marsha suggested that we get Venmo for ticket sales because that is what many people are using now. Kurt said that we already have PayPal but that *he would also check into Venmo. *Teresa said that she or another Board member should talk with the choir at each rehearsal about the importance of selling tickets for the concert.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Teresa said that there are currently three Board candidates, with one more possibility. She said that according to the Bylaws, notice of the Annual Meeting (when candidates will be voted on) needs to be sent to all choir members from 10-60 days before the meeting. *She will send out this notice in June.

New Business:

SECTION LEADERS: Jan said that since we now have SignUp Genius, it helps in knowing which members will be coming to events/concerts. Sallie said that when she became a Section Leader, Sue Price gave her a written description of Guidelines for Section Leaders. Sallie had emailed us a copy of that. She said that the Tenors have even had some additional sectional practices which have been very helpful. This list should be given to the Section Leaders by the next Board. Teresa suggested that the new Assistant Director could possibly help with this.

ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: Discussion of agenda for Annual Meeting for 6/27 (each Committee chair, etc. prepares a brief summary; new budget).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

David asked Sabine to start the new season calendar on the first Tuesday after Labor Day, September 5.

QUESTIONS FROM VISITING BOARD CANDIDATES:

Board meetings will continue to be virtual on Zoom.

At the July Board meeting, the old Board members will be present at the beginning of the meeting along with the newly elected Board members. After business is concluded, the Board members who are leaving the Board will leave the meeting and the new Board members and

continuing Board members will stay on the meeting to discuss roles/officers for the new Board. The new Board officially starts on August 1.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

BOARD DECISION VIA VOTING BOARD MEETING ON 5/4/23

On 5/4/23 the Voting Board met to discuss a personnel matter. It was decided and voted on to offer Laura Weis the position of Assistant Director at a somewhat higher monthly salary, and to accept her offer to help in securing additional funding through possible grants.