

MOSAIC HARMONY
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 14, 2023

Attending (virtual): Crystal Jefferson, Jan Callaway, Jim Price, Claudia Stallings, Karen Stern, David North

Not Attending: Sallie Williams, Hey-Jin Kong

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

The Minutes of the 8/20/23 Board meeting were approved. Sallie will forward the Minutes to the webmasters for posting on Moha's website.

Rehearsal Discussion

There were questions regarding the 2023-24 rehearsal schedule. The question came up of rehearsing on Halloween since it was thought that Halloween's rehearsal had been changed to October 24. Also, there are currently no June 2024 rehearsals on the member calendar. There are currently 18 rehearsals before the June concert. Crystal will contact Sabine to clarify the final rehearsal schedule for the season. The question of why the September 5th rehearsal ended at 9:00 instead of 9:30 was discussed. Our website lists the time as 7:30 – 9:30 and members have expressed they want to do more singing. Future rehearsals will run the full two hours. There was discussion of a situation in which the choir rehearsed a song that newer members had no music for and were unfamiliar with. The song had been in Mosaic Harmony's repertoire a long time ago. Going forward, the directors will distribute lyric sheets prior to practicing songs.

Membership Report: Jan

Jan and Jim are coordinating on membership status. To date, sign-ups include twenty-five singing members and six supporting members. There will not be a newcomer swag/gift. There is a newcomer discount of \$30 in effect until the end of October. If new members want to take advantage of the discount, they will pay by check since our website isn't set up for two-tiered payment. There was a discussion of the new member drive thermometer display at upcoming meetings. Jan will check with Nikki about the status of the thermometer display.

Community Building Report – Crystal for HeyJin (unable to attend)

Community building efforts are off to a good start. Several members have volunteered to be on the Community Building Team. Plans are underway for the member and guest social known as the "Festive Fall Frolic" on September 23, 2023, at the home of Laura and Neil Romstedt. Volunteers will also support upcoming joint community building events with GenOut and Tema Choirs.

Concert Team - Karen/David

Karen is working with Kim to finalize the 30th Anniversary Sponsorship Package for use in soliciting large corporate sponsorships. It will be finalized by November 1. Karen attended a branding webinar that had some relevance but was geared more to businesses than to non-profits. Moha's next performance will

be at the Fairfax City Fall Festival in front of the main stage at 1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. There was a discussion about the 30th Anniversary Concert ticket pricing. Members have expressed concern that the early bird/regular price of \$30/\$40 is too steep. The decision to finalize ticket pricing was tabled until Crystal can get input from the full board. Crystal will send an email asking for board member opinions on appropriate ticket prices for the 30th Anniversary concert. There was discussion of projected costs to stream the 30th Anniversary Concert at Schlesinger Hall. The projected \$15,000 cost (per draft fundraising map Kim presented on 9/1/2023 via email to the board) will be underwritten by corporate sponsorships. There is a potential concert at Annunciation Catholic Church in DC. Sabine is working with Frank Conlon, Annunciation Music Director, to confirm the status and will let the board and choir know the status soon.

Fundraising Report – Claudia

There is an upcoming breakfast with MoHa staff (David/Laura W/Sabine) scheduled for September 20th at First Watch in Fairfax. Claudia (fundraising), Sallie (grants) and Crystal have been invited to brainstorm ideas for fundraising such as yard sales, raffle tickets, a silent auction, swag sales, sponsorships, and restaurant sponsorships. Claudia reported that MoHa has received no new sponsorships this month. An interesting new grant opportunity came from Dick Van Duizend, who previously handled MoHa grants. Dick supported TEMA choir with grant writing. TEMA choir received an operating support grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts for \$2,500. Crystal has asked Sallie whether MoHa might apply for this grant and whether the ArtsFairfax Ticket Subsidy Grant is limited to events taking place in Fairfax County. Sallie will follow up with VCA grants and clarify ArtsFairfax ticket subsidy guidelines. The Do Tell Mama fundraiser will be held again this year in January at the home of Jim and Lauren Ramenofsky. Claudia will connect with Lauren Ramenofsky and Laura Romstedt regarding plans for Do Tell Mama.

Treasurer Report – Jim

August reports show that MoHa had positive cash flow. Jim moved that we formally approve the proposal from Kurt allowing him to purchase a new laptop that will enable trouble-free participation in Zoom rehearsals. Kurt will purchase the existing laptop from MoHa. The board approved the motion to fund a new laptop purchase.

Wrap-up - Crystal

The next board meeting will be on 10/12/23 at 7:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm

