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| Concord Chorale Board Meeting Minutes  Sunday, June 7, 2020  Virtual meeting via Zoom  Present: BJ Entwisle, Les Combs, JaneMcClung, Susanna Minard, Lee Leppanen, Sue Desrosiers, Debi Clark, Ruth Heath, Elibet Chase, Shelley Kesselman, Doug Phelan, Jenny Cooper, Jane McClung, Tim Platt, Liz McLellan. New board members attending: Roger Wellington, Lissa Jones, Carl Thunberg. | |  |
| AGENDA | MINUTES | ACTION ITEMS |
| 1. Approval Minutes of    1. Board Meeting 4/19/20 2. Music Director Report – Jenny Cooper    1. Proposal for next fall – virtual choir    2. Statement for web site (BJE too) 3. Finance Committee RH    1. Probable 20-21 budget 4. Fundraising/Foundation/Grants Update SD/SM 5. President’s report BJE 6. Ops/Membership/Venues update DY/TP 7. Governance Update LL 8. Marketing and Communication Update DP 9. Other business | BJ bid farewell to departing board members: Elibet, Doug, Deb Y., Les, and ?.  MOTION: Approval of minutes motion by Lee. Second by Deb Y. Approved unanimously.  Corrections to previous minutes:   1. Amendment to previous minutes: Announcements will continue to go through regular methods – Google folder, portal, C-Notes. 2. Spelling of Debi Clark’s name corrected.   Jenny reviewed her proposal for the fall. Concerts could be by donation or open to the public. The purpose is to add structure, stay connected to each other, and connect with audience. Also, we will develop our choral skills and musicianship.  Green dates on Jenny’s document indicate potential guest artists that would allow time for Jenny and Molly to work behind the scenes with technology putting recorded voice parts together. The guest artists could be a rotation of NH conductors or a composer or poet from another area. There is a four-week cycle of learning and performing the piece.   * Introduce piece * Independent voice part * Record ourselves and that will be compiled * Then there is a week of for editing while chorale is working with guest artist   BJ brought up the issue of those who would struggle with recording themselves.  Jenny responded that she will provide detailed directions that should make the process easier. This would also be an opportunity to use our Tech Posse - One option would be to have someone set up and those who need help could come to them.  Rehearsals will include more than just learning your part. There will be some additional easy-to-learn pieces. Molly will be recording rehearsal parts and accompaniment tracks. A few voice parts can be laid over so it feels like people are singing with others.  Lee asked about when the schedule would start. Open rehearsal would be first Wednesday of September. We could hold an open sing.  BJ thanked Jenny for her work in organizing a virtual fall.  Statement for the website  A recommendation was made by Jenny and BJ that the Chorale Board develop and post a statement on the website in response to the recent protests against police violence and discrimination of Black Americans. Jenny explained that this was brought up by seeing others on FB voicing concern that some organizations were silent about these national events. BJ took comments from the Board on the statement and will develop in the next week or so to be posted on the website.  The budget has been reviewed with an eye to paying our staff members their full salaries. Ruth presented the treasurer’s report that included budgets for two scenarios, just a May concert and no concert in 2020-21. Grants helped us quite a bit. We are still trying to collect outstanding dues, as well as some music fees.  On the expense side, we saved by not paying soloists and other typical expenses. We did provide a scholarship to a high school student and donated funds to the Music School. We have not paid the full amount of the commission because we don’t have the orchestral scores. This comes out to a $150 loss for this past year, which is remarkable.  Lee asked about the ads that were paid for both concerts but only got one ad. We will work with those advertisers going to forward for remuneration. It is possible that many will opt to consider it a donation.  Projected income for next year. We are hoping that sponsors will continue to support the Chorale. Many of the numbers in the projected budgets are based on guesswork. The Finance Committee is considering that dues not be charged and, instead, people make donations. We will continue to fund raise, as usual. The budget is focused on in-person concerts not on the option of money being raised through virtual concerts.  Ruth will need to add in orchestra costs for a potential May concert. Jenny updated $8,000.  Meredith suggested some cost-saving strategies with outreach such as limiting mailings to those who have supported in the past. Meredith asked about interest growth, and Ruth clarified that it is not included.  If we do not have a concert, we would still have enough to survive through the following year. Doug asked if there is a point at which we would have to restructure. BJ suggested that we have a reserve of $30,000.  Ruth offered a shout out to the finance committee for their good work.  Susanna reported that earnings from grants are difficult to predict overall. She explained that some donors may have shifting priorities due to the pandemic. The Group will continue to explore all possibilities. Ruth suggested that the numbers in the budget be lowered to $5,000 based on this information.  BJ went into executive session including new members.  MOTION: Jane made a motion that we pay full salary to our staff members. Seconded by Shelley. Motion passed with one abstention.  Discussion ensued on whether to eliminate or reduce dues in the fall and hope that people provide their usual donations. Dues are currently $60. Another option is to ask people to pay what they can. The new board will take up the discussion in August and make a decision.  Governance mentioned that we still need someone for publicity. For now, some members will pick up pieces, but finding someone will be ongoing.  New website is up and final changes are being made. Feel free to provide feedback to Doug.   1. Meredith stated that an email ask for contributions will go on in the next week. 2. Sue D will email Elibet with information on Amazon Smile. 3. Tim asked about how fall auditions for new members will occur. 4. Susanna will need a budget asap for a grant they are currently writing | BJ will fine tune statement for posting on website. |

Respectfully submitted,

Elibet Moore Chase, Secretary