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| Concord Chorale Annual Meeting Minutes  Wednesday, June 10, 2020  Virtual meeting via Zoom  Present: 66 members | |  |
| AGENDA | MINUTES | ACTION ITEMS |
| 1. Call to order 2. President’s opening remarks 3. Music Director’s remarks 4. Reports from Committee Chairs (Ops, Marketing and Communication, Fundraising, Governance) 5. Finance Report - Treasurer Ruth Heath    1. 2019-2020 Financials    2. 2020-2021 Budget 6. Nominating Committee: 2019-2020 Slate: Officers and new Board Members 7. Any other business 8. Adjournment | Meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM.  BJ welcomed the group and recapped the year and offered words of encouragement. We are well-poised for virtual rehearsals in the fall. We have posted a statement on the website regarding recent social turmoil. We are moving ahead optimistically – we have great leadership, and we are going to do our work online. We are fully paying our staff for this coming year. We will work on other ways to stay in touch during the summer. Summer social events might be a group viewing and discussion, go into a parking lot and sing together, or singing in small groups.  Thanks to outgoing board members: Tim Platt, Susanna Minard, Doug Phalen, Les Combs, Elibet Chase, and Deb Yeager.  Jenny shared her excitement about the coming fall as a way to connect with one another, our audience, and to provide solutions to the current situation. Proposal is a general plan that we will prepare a 30-minute virtual concert to be presented in January. We will prepare four virtual choir videos, and Molly will present a solo performance. We will learn one piece in each month, and we are going to hire a professional video editor.  Four pieces of varying styles focusing on what we can find success with and what sets the right tone. We are hoping also to be inspired with the music. Jenny is working on the overall theme: either being up all night or waking up. Jenny is also hoping to take advantage of being online, which gives us access to guest artist who can participate online. This will give Molly and Jenny a week to work on the videos. The four-week cycle includes sectionals, and Molly will provide parts. Singers will be offered the option of singing through their parts so that there will be track that allows singers to sing with others. We will determine how best to “sell” the concert that will be presented in January.  Community Sing serves two purposes: give us something to sing and sight read at the beginning of a rehearsal. There are four or five songs that have been sung in the past as well as four or five more. The second purpose is to develop a repertoire of songs to sing impromptu – in a parking lot or to a neighbor.  There is an opportunity with the virtual program to have former members to return and participate. In addition, if you feel overwhelmed by technological challenge, we will designate members to assist with recording the music.  Questions for Jenny:   1. When does recording occur: In the third week. 2. Community song book status: it is not ready yet. 3. Clarify January concert: We will be preparing throughout the fall for that. 4. Membership dues: The board is working on the dues question. Since we are still paying everyone we need to consider, but dues may be less. We may decide to offer a free concert. BJ acknowledged that finances are different. We still want people to be part of the group and understand the responsibility of that. 5. How will we record: If you don’t have a camera? Jenny has been troubleshooting with her students and will provide instructions and support. We may have a location in Concord where people could come and record. 6. Will virtual concert be available online or will people be encouraged to tune in live: We have not decided this. People may host viewing parties, for example. 7. Is anyone else in NH doing this kind of work: Two courses will not run in the fall, one for the entire year. Another has proposed three levels of participation. Our structure seems unique.   Molly’s hello: Good to see everyone! Very excited to be participating. Molly has been doing similar things with her church choir and finds that it is really fun. It is different but very cool. It is great that we are figuring things out.  Deb Yeager reported lauded the Ops team for their good work over the year. Thank you to Les for his work on venues. Membership – we had great turnout for open sings. Tim did a great job keeping everyone organized. Shelley did a great job with the House. Monique managed the tickets and did a great job. Hospitality is a well-oiled machine, and we appreciate their efforts for saving the environment. Chris Howard, excellent job with music. Carl Thunburg great job as historian. Deb appreciates work she has been able to do on the board. Most rewarding – and toughest year – ever!  Marketing and Communication:  Doug shared special thanks to Jenny for her hands-on help with marketing and communication. New website is up with tweaks going on. Doug expressed thanks for everyone’s work on this. Thanks to Rob Mack for photography, as well as Katie Griffiths. Doug encouraged others to participate in the very active Chorale Board and hopes that someone will be interested in getting involved with publicity.  Fundraising (Sue Desrosiers) came in under budget slightly but are still working on it and hope to reach the goal. There will be a challenge sent out by email this weekend. Still working on the annual appeal. In addition, Grants have been tremendous bringing in twice as much in grants than was budgeted last year. Amazon Smile account is set up so please choose the Chorale as your non-profit of choice. Kudos to Meredith, Binnie Wells, and Liz for their support.  Governance (Lee Leppenan) – BJ and Lyn participated in the Governance Committee. By-laws changes were worked on as well as a policy manual change.  At this point we have a minor deficit. We made a couple of donations into the community – for scholarship and to the Music School – as is consistent with our mission. There have been two budgets developed: no concert and one concert. Both would result with a deficit. There is a lot of guesswork involved. Finance committee met six times this year in an attempt to get a handle on the budget numbers. We were in excellent shape financially at the beginning of the year. We also put funds, a loan, into the NH Community Loan Fund. We experienced an increase in assets so despite potential future losses, we are in good shape. Ruth reviewed the budget on screen. We have savings to weather the entire next year.  Questions:   1. Donations include for the risers and a donation from Richard Longley’s family. Jane informed the membership that she will be in touch soon about sponsorships for next year. 2. What will happen to the Playbill add income. Ruth explained that Playbill ads will pay forward. It has not been determined what will happen with Playbill in the next year. We need to see what transpires in the future. Advertisers names will be posted on the website.   Lee reminded the membership that elections of leadership happen every year, but board terms happen every other year. Lee listed the slate of new members.  MOTION: BJ motioned that we accept the slate as offered. Motion was seconded by Chris Howard. Motion passed unanimously.  Jane McClung offered up round of applause for BJ.  Liz McLellan thanks all for responding to age group.  Susannah gave Liz M a big round of applause. Thanks for take me out to the concert program.  Motion for adjournment by Carl and seconded by Ruth. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM. |  |

Respectfully submitted,

Elibet Moore Chase, Secretary