

MISHAWUM CHORAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 9, 2018

A meeting of the Mishawum Choral Society Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018, in the music room at Woburn Memorial High School. In attendance were Bob Clay, Chris Ferguson, Brian Gilbertie, Brian Girouard, Renelle Hebert, Peter Hobson, Linda Lue Leiserson, MaryEllen Murray, Myrna Tichenor, and Loretta Tocio. Absent from the meeting was GBCC Task Force member Bob Forgione.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m., and the following agenda items were discussed:

GBCC Fundraising Meeting Review with Bob Forgione

The Board discussed the handouts distributed by Brian Girouard earlier in the week from the November 18 GBCC meeting attended by Task Force member Bob Forgione. Chris Ferguson commented that the pages which emphasized the value and importance of donors who contribute small amounts (“Make Sure You Engage Small Donors” and “Make Your Awards Interesting,” which referenced Kickstarter) had particular relevance for our organization.

While it was agreed that there was a lot of valuable and useful information contained within this presentation, it was the consensus that presently, MCS does not have the manpower or the financial resources to engage in many of the fundraising activities noted. Therefore, the Board decided to keep this information on file as a resource for potential future use.

Flipcause –Flipcause, a fundraising service for small and volunteer nonprofits, was also briefly discussed. President Brian noted that, while they do offer some convenient services, at \$100 a month (paid annually), it would be too expensive for MCS to use them, as we would need to secure a significant amount of additional revenue to justify the cost.

Patreon - Chris indicated he will be putting together a Patreon webpage presentation for the Board to preview. Patreon is a subscription content service.

Mid-Year Financial Review

Treasury Report - Bob Clay provided a brief overview of our current monetary resources. Right now, we have roughly \$6,000 in our treasury. He stated we have realized about \$4,000 in inflows and outflows from our recent concerts. Currently, Bob is doing all the recordkeeping by hand, and is working closely with former Treasurer Bob Vieira to obtain and compile all of our fiscal information. Once he captures this, he will input the data into a new software program that will be used to create a current financial report, which he will present to the Board at a later date.

Tax Filing Status - President Brian expressed concern about tax filing. Bob indicated that our tax-exempt status has been filed, but our non-profit tax form still needs to be filed.

Dues Collection – Bob indicated he will speak to the chorus during this evening’s rehearsal break about membership dues.

Banquet

Presently, there are no plans in place for this year’s banquet. Renelle Hebert commented that attendance for this affair has been down the last couple of years. President Brian said he wants to determine the interest level of members in having a banquet this year. In order to do this, he will create a questionnaire that he will

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either e-mail to the group or have them complete online via a link asking them to indicate their preferences for a banquet this year. He said he would tell the membership during rehearsal break that they will be receiving this information. He also stated he would consider telling the chorale that we won't hold a year-end celebration this year if he finds there is no interest level in doing so or if no one offers to help organize the event. Bob asked if a pot luck dinner with a venue might be considered as an option. Linda Lue Leiserson also offered to speak to the membership during rehearsal break to ask if anyone would be interested in helping plan this year's banquet.

Board Positions

Nominating Committee -Linda Lue also volunteered to chair a nominating committee that would be created to help fill our Board positions. She suggested adding four or five more people to form this committee. President Brian, Myrna Tichenor, and Peter Hobson volunteered to serve on this committee with her. In addition, Linda Lue said member involvement in this committee would probably entail two to three meetings and would last about four to six weeks in duration. She suggested that these committee members meet at a restaurant. Renelle proposed bringing this topic up with the membership to see if any of them would be interested in joining this committee.

Other Business

Restaurant Night - Restaurant night is scheduled for February 5 at Gloria's Pizzeria in Winchester. Although there is limited seating available at Gloria's, participants will have the option of either eating at the restaurant or purchasing their food for take-out.

Google MCS Calendar – President Brian sent the Board a link to the MCS calendar he created in Google. Some members stated they had difficulty trying to access this calendar on their cell phones. Brian said he would resend the link to those who had difficulty adding it. Chris said that as an option, this calendar could be embedded on the MCS website.

Faure Requiem Music – Brian Gilbertie said that the Faure Requiem music he ordered from Spectrum Music has arrived and is ready to be picked up. Bob Clay said he would give Director Brian the necessary funds from the treasury (in the form of a check) to purchase this music.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 6.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Loretta Tocio
Secretary