**Pemigewasset Choral Society**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Zoom Conference**

**September 21, 2020**

**In Attendance**: Sarah Bunkley, Susan Chadwick, Deborah Corr, Eileen Curran-Kondrad Will Gunn, Dan Hale, Kay Hanson, Ann Nichols, Marilyn Pomerantz, Anita Ross, Logan Ross, Susan Scrimshaw, Allan Stern, Sara Willingham

Absent: Robbin Adams

Sarah Bunkley moved to accept the minutes. Marilyn seconded the motion. The minutes of the August 24, 2020 meeting were accepted as presented.

An addendum: after the August 24th meeting had adjourned, Ann and Will decided to have the tenor and bass zoom rehearsals meet at 7 pm instead of the 6:50 pm time reported in the minutes.

**Director’s Report**- Will Gunn

Will will continue directing the weekly singing with a focus on rote learning.

Sometimes it is hard for the participating singers to hear the words.

Will is looking into having special guests from the Concord Chorale and another guest collaboration with a choir in Salisbury. So far he has scheduled one of the sings on November 23rd. The other special guest collaboration will be scheduled some time in mid October. (Will is working out the details on this.)

Will will get an email to Ann about the guest choir events so that she can send it out on the Pemi calendar. The calendar sent out to members from Ann via email earlier this week is the accurate one. This calendar has us meeting on Monday nights through early December.

Feed back on last week’s zoom sing:

For Will, it must be like being on a stand-up comedy show without an audience.

AJ told Marilyn that it was much more fun than he’d anticipated.

It felt good to see each other. Though we couldn’t hear each other.

It felt good to sing.

It was like a private choral lesson with Will.

Will cannot hear other people singing.

Participation: 39 soprano/altos, 20 tenor/basses

Will says there is a new hardware piece being invented that would enable us to hear each other sing. He will look into getting the hardware when it becomes available.

Carol and Rob Stewart were involved in an isolation choir. They sang major works remotely with 70 people who were from all over the world.

Ann thanked Will for investing his time and effort into this very different format for directing choral music.

We need to continue to invite our friends to sing with us. Press releases in the local papers have been sent out. The attendance policy stated in our Bylaws has been waived for this semester.

**Treasurer’s Report**- Deb Corr.

Deb told the Board members that she appreciates being a part of our team. “Everyone does their part to pickup the load and help.”

Deb thinks we’ll be able to meet the requirements of the grant.

So far we have had $500 come in in September from music fees and we have had 2 small donations.

Part of the grant is for revenue support for next year’s expenses.

$17,250 needs to be spent between March 1st and Dec 31st.

The following are possible expenditures:

new music- especially copies of *Requiem for the Living*

boxes for the music scores

stamps and stationary

insurance (to be paid all at once…not the usual staggered payment plan)

Susan Scrimshaw says we need to raise another $5000 for us to stay within the parameters of the grant requirements.

Sarah Bunkley says she is “glad we have numbers people on our Board” and trusts that Susan and Deb will be able to guide our organization through fulfilling the parameters of the grant.

Deb has received the check for the grant from the State.

**Publicity** – Anita Ross, Logan Ross

Press releases have been sent to the local papers. We all need to spread the word about our zoom singing.

**Fundraising**- Susan Scrimshaw

We may need to raise as much as $7,000 to $10,000 to sustain the chorus for the future times if membership fees are not paid. Susan knows of some people in the past who have been very generous to our chorus. She could send them a personal note asking for their continued support. Paying the Music Fee is voluntary this year. Last year we raised $17,000, needed for the expense of having an orchestra.

**Website**- Allan Stern

The musical scores are now available on the website for downloading.

The website has received quite a few hits.

**Library-** Sarah Bunkley

If there is enough money in our budget, Sarah would like to buy another large metal mouse-proof cabinet to store the boxed music scores in. There is still much more music that has not been contained.

COViD19 shortages have kept the box company from being able to fill Pemi’s order for the small boxes (for storing music scores). Sarah Bunkley is temporarily using some of her Tupperware tubs for storage.

Deb would like to see what music Will wants to buy before we allot money for Sarah to buy a new cabinet. Susan Scrimshaw thinks we could afford both the cabinet and the new music. Sarah Bunklry will check the cabinet prices. She will then get back to the Board for an approval vote via email.

**Other**

It was suggested that new bowties and scarves could be purchased for our wardrobe if there is excess monies for expenditures. Sarah Bunkley says that fabric store inventories are low due to supply shortages incurred during COVID19. Susan Scrimshaw has a donor that would fund the expense of purchasing fabric for new scarves.

Will reminds us that we need to be thinking toward next semester (March through June) and making a contract with PSU. We need to make sure Pemi has a place on their calendars.

The Colonial Theater in downtown Laconia is being refurbished. In the past it was a grandly ornate movie theater/opera house. It will be open to not-for-profit organizations. This may be a new concert venue for Pemi to consider using. It is in a good central area for a concert. Parking would probably not be an issue for an evening concert.

Carol Stockhousen has died unexpectedly. We will miss her voice in the soprano section. Her name shall be placed amidst the people we need to acknowledge on the remembrance page on our Pemi website.

The next meeting of the Pemi Board of Directors will be on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 5:00 pm on zoom.

Will will send out the zoom link

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Kay Hanson, Secretary for the Pemi Choral Society Board of Directors