**Pemigewasset Choral Society**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Zoom Conference**

**January 11, 2021**

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

**Absent:** Susan Chadwick, Logan Ross

**Approval or the Minutes for the November 16, 2020 meeting:**

A typing error was noted. Allan made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Susan seconded the motion.

**Director’s Report**- Will Gunn

Will would like our structure as an organization to be reviewed. Are we an inclusive organization?

in our membership

in the audiences we appeal to

in the venues we select to perform in

in the music selections we chose to perform

We have been singing music composed and arranged by “dead white composers”. We have done a good job in the past with music variety. We need to look at our systemic attendance policies and membership fees, making sure they are inclusive and encourage diversity. Our concert content could be more diverse in terms of age, religion, and race.

We need to have small diverse group planning sessions. This could be a topic for a retreat this summer. Members of the Board agreed that these issues should be discussed.

**President’s Report**- Ann Nichols

What will our spring concert look like?

PSU is still on break. Their facilities will probably remained closed to community groups.

The Lakeport Opera House has just completed a major restoration. It can accommodate a 600-member audience. We should look into performing there in our near future.

Will’s thoughts about spring singing:

The vaccine rollout will not change things much. It looks like we could be “back” in the fall. Hopefully we can start with outdoor rehearsals in the Plymouth amphitheater and plan to have a concert there in mid June. We would wear masks and adhere to social distancing. Many of us may be vaccinated by then. The concert would be shorter and include easy to learn songs, many of them sung by Pemi in our previous concerts.

Some members of Pemi are discouraged by zoom rehearsals and are waiting for the resumption of live participation. Others feel the zoom rehearsals are a comforting way to keep us together and to keep us singing.

Should we have a July 4th concert guessing that we will all be vaccinated by then?

Solstice might be a good time for a “Season of Light” concert.

Robbin was asked to find out that plans Steve Rand and Alex Ray are making for the spring use of the amphitheater. And discussing proposed dates for our practicing and performing there.

Further discussion ensued that included length of daylight, warmth, and inclement weather.

Susan moved that Pemi resume zoom rehearsals on March 1st, that outdoor rehearsals begin on April 5th, and to tentatively schedule a Solstice concert. Sarah Bunkley seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Further logistics such as membership/music fees, a flexible attendance policy, and possible live streaming of the outside rehearsals will be discussed in a future meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report**-Deb Corr

The grant period (June 1st to December 30th 2020) is now closed. Deb is working on a final report for the grant. We spent the full amount of the grant. Our revenues were low. Thus we stayed within the grant’s guidelines.

We have enough money, “a good cushion“ to carry ourselves forward through this downtime.

Anita moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Eileen seconded and the motion carried.

**Publicity Report**- Anita Ross

Because we are having a truncated season we need to scale back with light marketing and a simpler program flyer. In our program we will want to honor the people who had given us money for ads in the spring concert (the concert was canceled), and have a list of remembrances for those members we have recently lost.

We need to wait for Robbin to check on dates for the amphitheater venue before we go forth with further publicity. We will need to have a meeting in Feb to firm up our plans.

There was not much on Facebook about our December zoom singing. We need to have more of our plans and activities put out on our Facebook page. Anita will remind Logan to put up more information.

**Fundraising**- Susan Scrimshaw

The recent December donor letter brought in $6,400. Three of the donors contributed at the $1,000 level. Contributions from fall donors will be recognized in the spring concert program. It is important that we thank the donors individually as well as recognize them in the program.

Susan is planning to look into applying for a Moose Plate grant for Pemi.

The citrus fruit company has put together a COVID friendly way to sell their fruit. It was decided not to sell fruit this year. We will looks at a citrus fundraiser for next year.

**Website-** Allan Stern

Allan has been keeping the Pemi website up to date. He has taken down the fall information and will put up the plans for the spring.

**Library Report-** Sarah Bunkley

“All is normal in library land.”

The boxes of music are insulating the outside walls of Sarah’s barn.

The *Christmas Song* scores that Will borrowed have yet to be returned to our library.

**Other**

Dan says he is talking to Peter Adams about the tape recorder and tapes. Bob Swift and Frank Demers have both given permission for Pemi to use their arranged music pieces that Pemi has sung in the past. We will only need permission for music pieces that are not in public domain.

The next Board meeting will be on Monday, February 15, 2021 at 6:00pm on zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 6:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

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