**Pemigewasset Choral Society**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**Zoom Conference**

**May 4, 2021**

**In Attendance**: Robbin Addams, Deborah Corr 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:** Sarah Bunkley

**Approval or the Minutes for the March 29, 2021 meeting:**

The minutes were approved with minor grammatical/spelling changes. Susan Scrimshaw will send Kay a copy of the minutes with all the needed edits.

**Director’s Report**- Will Gunn

Will has been working with Dan Perkins on the concert logistics. They will be meeting with the sound company next week to do a sound walk through.

The singers’ sight line will be reversed from what it is at our rehearsals. The singers will be on the flat stage-like ground in front of the amphitheater’s stone stepped seating and will face the audience with their backs to the river. Will and Dan will plan the spacing and the levels of the risers.

The risers are to be borrowed from the high school. A rental truck will be used to ship the risers. They will secure the risers in the truck overnight between concerts. The cost will be split with the Master Chorale.

Discussion:

Plymouth Park and Rec could move the risers in the Plymouth Town dump truck. Robbin could ask them about this.

The risers would be more secure in a closed U Haul Truck.

Maybe Park and Rec could store the risers in the Senior Center.

It is not expensive to rent a truck.

The concert should be very COVID safe. It is being held outside. All the singers will be wearing masks and a high percentage of them have been fully vaccinated. Furthermore the risers will be strategically staged for social distancing.

As a double-check Robbin has confirmed our concert times and rain date times with Parks and Rec. The amphitheater is booked for us.

Will will do the final walk through (where we will stand) on the Monday before our concert. The sound people will come a few hours early on the Saturday of our concert for set up and a sound check. The concert call for the Saturday concert will be at 4:00 PM.

A question: Is one hour long enough for our rehearsal times?

Will programmed the concert knowing we would be practicing for an hour at each rehearsal. Will is comfortable with that time frame for learning the music.

Will has been closely following the CDC guidelines, which call for one-hour choral rehearsals. Will says no choir he knows of is rehearsing unmasked. The CDC guidelines are constantly changing. So far “mixing vaccinated and unvaccinated singers without masks is not good”.

We will continue to follow the CDC guidelines.

Will is working with Dan Perkins on a collaborative concert with the PSU Chorale for next spring 2022. They are working out dates with Susan Hastings for a 14-week rehearsal span, with two concerts. One concert would be in Franklin and the other in the Hanaway Theatre. Pemi will pay for the orchestra costs. By having PSU students singing with us we may be able to waive the renting of the PSU building.

We would need to fundraise to pay for the cost of hiring the orchestra.

We would not be able to hold a concert at the Gilford venue. There is not enough space in their church for the orchestra and the choir.

In the Fall 2021 we would have our usual 3 concerts at Gilford, Franklin, and PSU.

Could we require choir members to be vaccinated? Maybe PSU will require it. Private organizations can require masks.

We could have the following language:

“If you decide to join Pemi you need to be vaccinated to protect all of us.” We would not directly ask who is vaccinated.

Choral singing is a high-risk activity.

**President’s Report**- Ann Nichols

We need to get black masks for our up coming concert. Will has a link where we can order them, costing $15 for a box of 10 masks. It was decided that we will order 60 masks. Eileen will place the order.

Marilyn passed around old attendance sheets (from last semester) to get an idea of how many singers we might have participating in our concert.

Val Sargent passed around the list amidst the sopranos, Jan Panagoulis for the altos, Marilyn for the tenors, and Logan for the basses.

Discussion:

We had 48 singers at Monday night’s rehearsal. A few members are just joining us now.

Maybe Ann could say a few words at the beginning of rehearsals to get singers attuned to our concert plans. Ann says a group email to members seems to be the most effective communication tool.

What is the cut off for when people can no longer join us? Will says if they are comfortable learning the music, he does not want to turn people away.

On March 1st 68 singers signed up for Pemi on our zoom registration.

David Williams, Music Director of the Plymouth Congregational Church would like to have all the music organizations in the Plymouth area share with each other what music pieces they are planning to perform. He is trying to prevent song duplication within the same concert season.

Ann has put together a tentative fall 2021 rehearsal schedule.

Gilford will be disappointed not to be hosing the Spring 2022 concert

Pemi Board Meetings will resume being held at the Pease Library in the fall.

Our next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, June 8th on zoom. This will be our last meeting before the concert and our last meeting before summer.

Will says there will be no rehearsal on Memorial Day.

Ann is drawing up contracts for Wiil and Laura for next year. We will be resuming their pre COVID full year contracts: $13,000 for Will, $4,000 for Laura.

**Vice Presidents’s Report**- Marilyn Pomerantz

Carol Stockhausen needs to be included on the in memoriam list.

Marilyn and Susan Schrimshaw need to create a mailing list for Dan Perkins. Dan will be incorporating our list with his mailing list and will then send out postcards advertising out concert. Marilyn will clean up the list and send it to Susan.

**Treasurer’s Report**- Deb Corr

Deb sent out her Treasurer’s Report to the Board Members via email.

Deb is compiling the budget for next year and had a few questions and concerns.

There is no money in her proposed budget for a rehearsal accompanist. Will is hoping to have a student intern. We should plug in what we paid our last intern (Anna Templeton).

Deb sent out a $1,000 bonus to Will.

Deb will put forward a final budget and put it out for an email vote.

The revenue shortfall will increase by $7,000. Susan is confident that can fundraising can cover this.

**Nominating Committee**- Dan Hale

Mary Hazelton will be joining the Pemi Board as Secretary in June.

**Publicity-** Anita Ross and Logan Ross

Susan Chadwick and Susan Scrimshaw met with Dan Perkins. They have worked out that the written program will be a trifold on legal sized paper. Dan will produce it.

They need to make a list of the people who bought ads. Dan did not give them a printing deadline. It is a simple program and should not take long to print.

Rosemary D’Arcy, Sue Chadwick and Logan Ross will work on a press release.

**Wardrobe**- Eileen Curran-Kondrad

Dan Perkins would like to have all the singers dressed in black.

For men: black shirts and black pants.

For women: black shirts and skirts or pants.

Black shirts are a new wardrobe requirement for the men. Many may need to go out and buy one. Suggested guidelines: the black shirt can be button-down or polo. It can be long or short sleeved.

Will says, “Wear something that empowers you to be a singer that’s the color black”.

Women will not be wearing the spring scarves. It is enough that we will all be wearing black masks.

Ann will send out wardrobe information to our choir.

**Other**

It was suggested that we have stadium cushions available for audience members. We could have the logos of both organizations printed on the cushions and we could ask for a $2 donation for each cushion. This could be an incentive for people to make donations.

Susan Scrimshaw plans to set up a table with signs that say, “Please Support Us”.

Dan Perkins has concert signs going up at PSU.

Suggestions: encourage people to bring picnic snack or supper to the concert.

Get Alex Ray to set up a table

WMUR did nothing with Peter Adam’s video footage of our “eagle” rehearsal.

Rosemary D’Arcy, Anita Ross and Sue Chadwick are working together to build up our membership.

Dan Hale says he contacted Jonathan Santori. The Swift Scholarship was awarded this past year. We have no information on who it was awarded to. As per scholarship stipulation, PSU is supposed to inform the Pemi Board as to who the recipients are and to have the recipients come to meet the Pemi Board of Directors at one of our Board Meetings.

We need to get the scholarship information on the Pemi website.. We also need to improve our communication with the PSU Scholarship Committee.

Bob Swift is pleased to see how well Pemi is doing.

The Board thanked Kay for serving as the Secretary of the Board over the past 8 years (from April 2014 to May 2021).

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

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