



Harrisburg Gay Men's Chorus

Annual Meeting Minutes

August 05, 2019

Location: Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

Attending: Kyle Junk, Doug Wentz, Steve Creps-Rougeau, Ted Neal, Chris Aulbach, Robb Papapietro, Kyle Weary

Absent: Marlene Kanuck

Chorus Members: Jeffrey Ballard, Tim Coleman, John Compton, Eddie Diehl, Seth Hammond, Allan Jespersen, Mitchel Kanagy, Vince Kinser, Bob Nease, Fred Warner

1) **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by President Kyle Junk.

2) **Welcome:**

- Kyle J welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for coming.

3) **Approval of Prior Annual Minutes**

- Approval of the August 19, 2018 Annual meeting minutes were approved with all voting in favor, except for the secretary who abstained.

4) **President's Report**

- Kyle J reviewed the highlights and ongoing projects from last season
 - We contributed to the National AIDS Memorial in San Francisco
 - We hired Kyle Weary as new Artistic Director
 - We're sending representatives to attend and support the Keystone Business Alliance and attending the Leadership Roundtable of area LGBT organizations. We hosted one of Keystone's mixers in November.
 - Groups of us attended "Newsies" and "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" as social outings.
 - We hosted a "Sharing Our Caring" dinner at MCC of the Spirit and participated in the Highmark Walk for Healthy Communities supporting Alder Health.
- Kyle J reviewed upcoming plans for 2019-2020
 - We're planning to attend GALA 2020 in Minneapolis.
 - We're searching for a new accompanist.
 - We're looking to participate in the Gettysburg Ghost Tour around Halloween.
 - We're looking to participate in the Transgender Day of Remembrance in coordination with the Central PA LGBT Center.
 - We're looking forward to future social events especially with our brother chorus, the Baltimore Men's Chorus.

5) **Treasurer-Finance Committee Report**

- Steve handed out and reviewed the printed reports.
- Refer to the following documents:
 - HGMCP201819preliminary
 - HGMCBalanceSheet20182019Preliminary
 - HGMCTreasurerReportfor20190805Annualmeeting
 - HGMCP201920ApprovedBudgetGALAaddendum
 - HGMCFinanceComitteeReport20190805AnnualMeeting
 - HGMCPbyEvent201819Preliminary
 - HGMCP201920ApprovedBudget
- Steve encouraged members to help seek out potential business donors to contribute and place advertising. Doug added that our concerts are free due in part to cuts in arts funding to schools, and that is a point to emphasize with potential donors.

6) **VP/Public Relations/IT Report**

- **Public Relations. Doug reported the following:**
 - Expanding the mailing list helps us solicit more donations and advertising.
 - Social Outreach such as “Sharing Our Caring” and “Highmark Walk for Healthy Communities” as well as public performances such as the National Anthem at sports events helps to bring us visibility in the wider community.
 - Representation at LGBT Roundtable meetings helps us gain support from the area LGBT organizations for our concerts.
 - Singing with multiple choruses at the Harrisburg Symphony’s “Ode to Joy” presentation will also bring us additional publicity.
- **IT.**
 - The Slack Application for messaging and Groupinizer for information storage and web content are working well.
 - Standard Operating Procedures are stored in Groupinizer to aid future board members in performing current tasks without a large learning curve.
 - “Two Boys Kissing” video will be added to Groupinizer.
 - Digitizing an inventory of our music will help the artistic director in planning concerts and avoid duplicate music purchases. Hours worked helping to prepare scores for digitizing will earn GALA hours for participants.

7) **Introduction of New Artistic Director**

- Kyle W introduced himself and spoke of his background and experience.
- Kyle W provided his plans for the Christmas and Spring concerts. (See July board meeting Minutes).
- Kyle W is also interested in facilitating the creation of a small ensemble of chorus members to perform at events where it is not feasible or necessary to use the entire chorus.

8) **Board Elections**

- Doug Wentz was the only nominee for Vice President. No additional nominees were offered from the floor. Doug was unanimously elected.
- Steve Creps-Rougeau was the only nominee for Treasurer. No additional nominees were offered from the floor. Steve was unanimously elected.
- There were no nominees for the two vacant at-large board positions. Chris Aulbach nominated Seth Hammond from the floor. Seth accepted the nomination and was unanimously elected.

Doug Wentz nominated John Compton from the floor. John accepted and was unanimously elected.

9) GALA 2020

- Refer to GALAReport.
- Steve discussed and explained the contents of the report.

10) Schlegel-Deibler Grant

- Ted explained how we received this \$5,000 grant from Schlegel-Deibler. We are asked to report to them how it is used, and the chorus members are encouraged to offer suggestions.
- Suggestions were made:
 - Buy sound equipment for fundraising shows. Currently we are borrowing equipment from Doug. Equipment could include speakers, amplification, and microphones.
 - Use the money towards digitizing our music catalog (See above).
 - Hire a professional performer to join us at one of our concerts.
- Ted will write a letter to them detailing how the money will be spent when a decision is made.

11) Member Discussions

- Eddie expressed concern about the number of concerts we are presenting this fall, and that he has also heard this concern from others. We will be presenting six concerts plus an afternoon mini concert at the Capitol Rotunda and our usual “Pay the Rent” concert at Unitarian Church of Harrisburg.
- John suggested having current chorus members serve as buddies to new chorus members, so they have someone to reach out to when they have questions about how things are done. It was also suggested that section leaders could serve in this role.
- Allan suggested a workshop or some sort of training for those members who don’t read music to learn the rudiments of doing so.

12) General Announcements

- Steve encouraged any members how know of a potential accompanist to let Kyle W know.
- Kyle J expressed how we are all looking forward to meeting new members at the meet-and-greet and first rehearsal on August 19 at 6:00 PM.

13) Adjournment: Adjournment was proposed at 8:42 PM by Doug and seconded by Robb with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Ted Neal, Secretary.