



Harrisburg Gay Men's Chorus

Annual Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2020

Location: Video Conference Call

Attending: Kyle Junk, Steve Creps-Rougeau, Ted Neal, Chris Aulbach, Robb Papapietro, Marlene Kanuck, John Compton, Seth Hammond

Absent: n/a

Chorus Members: Jeffrey Ballard, Tim Coleman, Allan Jespersen, Vince Kinser, Bob Nease, Joseph Shapiro, Fred Warner

- 1) **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by President Kyle Junk.
- 2) **Welcome:**
 - Kyle welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for coming.
- 3) **Approval of Prior Annual Minutes**
 - Approval of the August 5, 2019 Annual meeting minutes was moved by Robb and seconded by Chris with all voting in favor, except for the secretary who abstained and Marlene who abstained due to not being in attendance.
- 4) **President's Report**
 - Kyle J reviewed the highlights and ongoing projects from last year.
 - We hired Kyle Weary as Artistic Director and Tracy Wieseman as Accompanist.
 - Doug Wentz was re-elected as Vice President. Steve Creps-Rougeau was re-elected as Treasurer. Seth Hammond and John Compton became new At-Large Board of Directors members.
 - Chris Aulbach was appointed as Vice President of the Board after the resignation of Doug Wentz.
 - A group of us attended a Gettysburg Ghost Tour as a social engagement.
 - We hosted two fundraisers/performances at the 704 Lounge, one at Halloween and one on February 29th celebrating Valentine's Day.
 - Over the Winter Holidays we performed six full concerts and an abbreviated concert at the Capitol Rotunda.
 - We performed a "Pay the Rent" performance of two numbers at the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg to compensate their donation of rehearsal space.
 - We raised money running concessions at the PA Farm Show Complex including the 9-day Sports and Outdoor Show in February.
 - The covid-19 virus forced us to completely forgo our 2020 Spring Concert rehearsals and performances. GALA 2020 in July at Minneapolis was cancelled as well.

Board of Directors Strategic Strategy sessions resulted in six goals for the chorus which were used to develop the plans for 2020-21.

- Kyle J reviewed upcoming plans for 2020-2021
 - Plan new and different fundraising events.
 - Revise the Annual Campaign with greater outreach using online platforms.
 - Investigate and implement a more cost effective and user-friendly online communications platform(s).
 - Substantially update the chorus bylaws to eliminate duplication, strip out portions more suited to being procedures, and emphasize diversity.
 - Develop a 2-year concert program with a special emphasis on new delivery methods.
 - Increase membership and diversity of membership.
 - Conduct a search for a new Artistic Director.

5) Treasurer-Finance Committee Report

- Steve displayed and reviewed the online reports and the approved budget.
- Refer to the following documents:
 - HGMC 2020-21 Budget Notes
 - Balance Sheet
 - HGMC Treasurer Report for 2020-08-10 Annual meeting
 - HGMC 2020-21 Budget GALA addendum
 - HGMC Finance Committee Report for Annual Meeting 2020-08-10
 - HGMC Profit and Loss Budget Year 2019-20
 - HGMC 2020-21 Approved Budget
- Steve noted we ended the 2019-2020 budget year with a \$1,200 loss.
- We are switching to new accounting methods to conform to state reporting and grant reporting line items.
- During the reporting it was noted that the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, our rehearsal location, is closed for the duration of 2020 and Chris noted that HGMC may want to get a dedicated Zoom account for future meetings.

6) Vice President Report

- Refer to document Vice President Report 2020-08010.
- Chris reviewed his attendance at the video conference “How Boards Can Lead Through COVID19”. He emphasized that choruses going on hiatus during the pandemic is very ill advised.

7) Board Elections

- Chris Aulbach was the only nominee for President. No additional nominees were offered from the floor. Chris was unanimously elected.
- Robb Papapietro was the only nominee for Secretary. No additional nominees were offered from the floor. Robb was unanimously elected.
- There were four nominees for the three vacant at-large board positions. However, two of the nominees Chris Aulbach and Robb Papapietro were elected to executive board positions leaving two additional nominees, Marlene Kanuck and Joseph Shapiro. Online polling was used, and both Marlene and Joseph were elected.

8) GALA 2020

- Refer to GALA report.

- GALA has been rescheduled for July 7-11, 2021.
- Jeff expressed concerns concerning the “Defund the Police” effort in Minneapolis. Marlene offered to question contacts she has in the city to see if it is an issue.

9) Member Discussions

- Allan questioned the purpose of rewriting the bylaws. Kyle J. reported on the goals for the bylaws which have been reported above under new season initiatives.
- Allan asked when the new committees would be announced and who would lead them. Kyle responded that the committees will be decided at the next board meeting, and the heads of the committees will seek participants from the chorus members.
- Bob inquired on the status of the Artistic Director search, and suggested that Tracy (our accompanist) could possibly fill in. Steve responded that since there will be no live concert for the Fall, and we will instead need to depend on potential online recordings and previous videos, that the need for a new AD is not pressing.
- Chris suggested that the Board of Directors meet more frequently than once per month due to all the issues at hand, and his suggestion was received favorably.
- Steve noted that if any members know of people outside the chorus who may be willing and able to serve on the board, that the board would be happy to consider appointing them as additional at-large members.
- Steve gave an outline of the steps needed to present an online concert which include members creating individual audio recordings of their voice part, having the individual recordings mixed by a professional, and then members creating a video recording lip syncing their audio recording. Some members responded positively to undertaking this. It was noted that small groups could make recordings as well.
- Steve noted that singing together in groups is considered one of the most dangerous ways of spreading the covid-19 virus, which is why there will be no live rehearsals in the immediate future.

10) General Announcements

- Chris and Steve expressed appreciation to Kyle and Ted, outgoing officers, for their service.

11) Adjournment: Adjournment was proposed at 8:47 PM by Robb and seconded by Steve with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Ted Neal, Secretary.