



Harrisburg Gay Men's Chorus Board Meeting Minutes December 18, 2017

Location: Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

Attending: Kyle Junk, Steve Creps-Rougeau, Ted Neal, Doug Wentz, Bob Nease, Marlene Kanuck, Tom Lynes, Bob Reisch, Adam Gustafson

Absent: n/a

1) **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM by President Kyle Junk.

2) **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:**

- No changes

3) **Approval of November 19th Meeting Minutes**

- Kyle offered the following corrections:
 - Under "Old Business", remove "Adoption of" from Code of Conduct title
 - Under "Member Concerns" replace "AIDS Meal" with "Sharing for Caring"
 - Under "Officer Vacancies", the nominating process was updated to indicate Doug and Bob N.'s self-nominations, and Bob N.'s withdrawal.
- Approval of the November amended minutes was proposed by Steve and seconded by Doug with all voting in favor.

4) **Reports**

- Kyle asked that discussions of reports be kept to issues raised, and not devoted to reiterating the contents. Also, some reports will be consolidated. E.g, Grant Writing and Farm Show will be reported under the Fundraising Report.
- **President:**
 - Refer to 2017-12 Presidents Report
- **Vice President:**
 - Refer to VicePresidents Report - Dec2017.
- **Secretary:**
 - N/A
- **Treasurer:**
 - Refer to following documents:
 - HGMC Balance Sheet 2017-12-18
 - HGMC P&L by month 2017-12-18

- HGMC P&L Detail 2017-12-18
 - HGMC P&L YTD comparison 2017-12-18
 - HGMC Treasurer Report for 2017-12-18
 - HGMC Winter Concert 2017 report
- Steve noted that we have met our goal of taking in close to the same money giving free concerts with donations as we did charging admission.
- Steve noted that any board members seeking reimbursements need to submit their requests before the end of 2017.
- The Treasurer's Report was accepted with all voting in favor, except for the Treasurer who abstained.
- **Artistic Director:**
 - Refer to "Hiring a New Accompanist" and "Purchase of a Digital Piano" under Unfinished Business, and "Purchase of Risers" under New Business.
- **Committees:**
 - **Finance:** n/a.
 - **Fundraising:** Refer to the following documents. (These will be consolidated into one document from here on.)
 - 2017-12 Fundraising Committee Report
 - GrantWriting_12_18_2017
 - FarmShowReport-December2017
 - Bob N. noted that for the beer stands at the Sports and Outdoor Show, we can have as many stands as we can handle, and we can vary the number from day to day, but each stand needs to be covered for the whole day. Kyle will notify members of the event in a mid-week email.
 - **Publicity:**
 - Refer to PR Report - December 2017
 - **Production:** n/a.
 - **IT:**
 - Refer to IT_12_18_2017

5) **Executive Session** – This is an off-the-record portion of the meeting where board members can speak freely about their concerns. No official business is decided.

6) **Unfinished Business**

- **Adoption of Revised Mission, Vision, and Values Statements**
 - Additional changes were proposed for the vision and mission statements.
- **Adoption of Code of Conduct**
 - Additional changes were proposed. Adam suggested handling this discussion in a working session prior to the next board meeting. Mission, Vision, Values, and Bylaw changes would be discussed as well.
 - Doug proposed, and Bob N. seconded a motion to table this item and bring changes to next meeting after the working session is held. All voted in favor.
- **Hiring a New Accompanist**
 - Adam proposed Bob Reisch (current board member) as the new accompanist.

- Doug proposed, and Ted seconded a motion to hire Bob Reisch as accompanist per Adam's suggestion. All voted in favor excepting Bob R. who abstained.
- **Spring Concert Venue Status With HMAc.**
 - Steve is scheduled to meet with John Traynor or someone John designates concerning the Spring concert. He will present his findings next meeting. Doug noted we would like to use their 4-top tables.
- **Purchase of a Digital Piano.**
 - Adam has decided on the piano he would like to purchase. It includes a bench.
 - Doug proposed, and Ted seconded a motion to allow Adam to select the piano and any additional accessories and authorize HGMC to pay for them.
- **Relocation/Upgrade of Storage Unit.**
 - It was determined we need a climate controlled 10 X 10 space within an accessible distance to Adam. We currently have a 5 X 5 location for \$52 / month.
 - Bob N. volunteered to research a new location.
- **Community Outreach: Sharing Our Caring.**
 - Tom has been researching this with MCC. There are a variety of options the chorus can consider such as donating food, cooking food, serving food, and performing. It is determined that we need 10-12 people to carry out this event. Kyle will inform the chorus of the event to determine interest.
 - Doug proposed, and Steve seconded a motion to table this until February. All voted in favor.
- **Washington D.C. Gay Men's Chorus Co-concert (3/24/18).**
 - Adam has received no additional information since this was originally proposed. He cautioned that willing venues need to be aware that The D.C. chorus has more than 100 members coming, and there might not be room to accommodate them.
 - Doug will notify the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg concerning the size of the D.C. chorus. For now, we do not have enough information to offer a motion on this item.
- **Board Appointment of Vacant At-large Position.**
 - Bill Sprout won the poll of the membership for the position.
 - Doug proposed, and Marlene seconded a motion to appoint Bill Sprout to the position contingent upon his agreement to comply with the chorus's bylaws.

7) New Business

- **Open Auditions Title Change**
 - It was noted that some newer members expected the auditions to be more formal than they are (e.g. preparing numbers to sing) and some people were too intimidated to participate. It was decided to make potential recruits more comfortable without going so far as to make singing ability seem unnecessary.
 - It was decided that the auditions for January will be publicized as "New Member Social Gathering and Information Session" at 6:00 PM followed by "Informal Auditions" at 6:30.
- **Purchase of Risers**
 - Adam noted that due to our increasing size, risers would be an important asset to the chorus. He also noted that quality 3-level risers cost at least \$800, and we would need at least two.
 - The board is willing to consider the proposal, and Adam will research various options, including purchase, rental from another chorus, co-purchase with another chorus.
- **Purchase of Additional Vertical Banner**

- The current vertical banner is used at publicity functions, and is also displayed behind the chorus at concerts. Doug noted that an additional banner would allow us to place a banner at each side of the chorus at concert, and provide additional publicity.
- Doug offered to purchase an additional banner and to offer it as an in-kind gift to the chorus. Steve proposed, and Tom seconded a proposal to accept Doug's offer.
- **BMC Invitation to Joint Voices United Performance.**
 - Kyle suggested inviting the Baltimore Men's Chorus to perform with us at the Voices United Concert next July. The board agreed.
- **BMC Winter Co-Concert (2018 – 2019 Season).**
 - The Baltimore Men's Chorus is interested in a co-concert like 2016 and 2017. The dates they initially proposed are the 1st or 2nd Saturday in December.
 - Steve proposed, and Doug seconded a motion approve a joint concert, and assign the Production Committee to handle the details. All vote in favor.
- **2018 Initiatives and Goal Setting.**
 - Kyle is going to add an agenda item in future months to discuss specific goals and develop associated tasks and responsibilities to carry them out. We will discuss one goal per month. Examples are "Increase Membership", and "Provide Social Functions".
 - Board members should come up with goals to discuss.

8) **Next Board Meeting:** Sunday January 21, 2018 7:00 PM at Unitarian Church of Harrisburg.

9) **Adjournment:** Adjournment was proposed at 9:09 PM by Doug and seconded by Marlene with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Ted Neal, Secretary.