

NAPERVILLE CHORUS BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM – APRIL 14, 2021

ATTENDEES: Wes Ague, Keith Anderson, Janet Blubaugh, Joy Bozzelli, Cathleen Chapek, Elisabeth Case, Paul Fries, Chuck Jonah, Margo Jonah, Courtney Nash, Henriette Pentz, Sarah Sippy, Matthew Sprunger, Shannon Sprunger

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

MINUTES: March 2021 were approved (Elisabeth motioned and it was seconded).

FINANCIAL: Paul reported that we are ahead of the game thanks to Margo's efforts with grants. Margo stated that almost \$9,000.00 from the DuPage Foundation went for John and Pete's salaries. Money from the Illinois Arts Council for fiscal year 2021 can go toward any expenses. Receipts for licensing and printing fees for virtual concert need to be turned in so Margo can write final grant report. Receipts for SECA grant (city of Naperville) can be sent in now. If we're able to get space at the college, we can save money on storage facility fees. Need to earmark money for John for half of spring semester.

BOARD OPENINGS: The secretary position is open. Joy will send out email to members regarding this and other open positions.

PUBLICITY: Kathleen reported that the Patch will cost \$1.00/day to promote virtual concert. She expects that this will cover surrounding communities as well. Henriette asked if websites like Eventbrite allow links to our concert. Chair inquired how much is in the publicity budget. Discussion ensued regarding obtaining more information on costs. Kathleen will gather info on fees and report back to board. Janet said Facebook has an option via FB ads platform where a group can specify a target audience, which pages the ad would appear on etc. Henriette would like to set up a donation button for our chorus Facebook page. She needs technical help to fix this. There was a question regarding a threshold for expenses before full board approval is needed. Keith may initiate a starting proposal to be considered at a future meeting.

SUMMER SINGING: John reported that Pete had spoken with Ron Keller who is interested in the chorus doing something with the band. As for the chorus's "summer season", John said it depends on how many people are available, willing to sing and what the science says. He thought we could do pieces from the fall and spring virtual semesters. Chuck brought up locations and John suggested the band shell. Joy will check to see if the city is allowing groups to use it. Janet will look into the availability of space at the Fox Valley Mall. There was a discussion of indoor vs. outdoor rehearsals. Henriette will send out a survey to members to gauge interest in participating and preferences.

STRATEGIC PLANNING: Elisabeth is looking into rehearsal costs and box office procedures at North Central College. There is no plan to change ticket structuring and revenue sharing. We will have to complete a ticket vending agreement and revenue received would be given to us minus fees. So with a DuPage Symphony concert, they would be responsible for the ticket agreement with the college and we would negotiate revenue sharing with the DSO. We need to clarify print deadline for NCC performing arts flyer for 2021-22. There are 2 marketing packages one at \$500.00, the other \$1,500.00. Elisabeth favored the latter which included promotional photo, performance calendar, listing on NCC website as well as full season brochure, mid-season mailer. Ushers are

available at additional cost. Other options include having a house manager on hand, coat check staff, ticket sellers and will call person on the night of the concert. Elisabeth will also confirm plans to rehearse starting after Labor Day as well as email Ken our tentative concert dates for first or second weekend in December. Spring rehearsals would begin January 10, 2022. All of this is dependent on NCC's decision to allow full opening of their facilities.

OTHER BUSINESS: There was a brief discussion regarding risers that were purchased by the chorus about 20 years ago. Once they are located, the board can decide whether to donate them or sell. Joy will contact Ken about using storage space at Pfeiffer Hall that previously housed the risers.

ARCHIVE PROJECT: Joy is taking care of business documents. Old programs and posters require someone to electronically store them. Henriette suggested asking Naper Settlement for help. She will give Joy a contact name.

SOCIAL: Janet reported that some possibilities are a movie night or a venue for our own karaoke night. Again, this is dependent on COVID restrictions and people's comfort level. A first activity could be an outdoor picnic. We could provide a main dish and then have members bring sides. Janet will provide updates at a later meeting.

ADA COMPLIANCE: Sarah would like email addresses for the entire chorus. She will talk to Wes.

SVOG: Margo talked about grants offered through the federal Small Business Administration (Shuttered Venue Operator Grants). Eligibility and definitions have changed and she believes the chorus qualifies since we use a venue which employs two people during our use. She estimates we could receive up \$2,500.00. She will consult with Paul to obtain documents.

ADJOURNMENT: There was a move to adjourn at 9:12 pm.