

NAPERVILLE CHORUS BOARD MEETING MINUTES APRIL 13, 2022

ATTENDEES: Rachel Brooks, Elisabeth Case, Paul Fries, Gary Kovener, Chuck Jonah, Margo Jonah, Nancy Sigel, Deb Solarski, Patrice Basso

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order shortly after 7:00 pm.

MINUTES: The March minutes will be approved at the May board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pete's Retirement Celebration: Elisabeth Case provided a summary of plans for Pete's retirement reception. There was discussion of having music but it would interfere with conversation. One idea is to have a single Flash Mob type of performance. Using chorus money of up to \$10,000.00 could cover an estimated 300 guests including family, North Central College colleagues, 75 active chorus members along with spouses, 25-30 former students, Pete Ellman, former accompanists, etc. Invitations could be via E-Vite which is cheap and allows for easy follow-up. Other ideas include a letter from Naperville's mayor. A question was raised about asking for a fee vs. contributing to a gift. Gary said it could be properly worded and would not be mandatory. Elisabeth will contact Ken to see if the reception could follow the December concert. She would also check to see if the black box theatre was available.

Scholarship Committee: Deb Solarski gave background on the scholarships that were previously offered to North Central College students before the pandemic. There is a requirement to sing with the chorus for one semester and attend rehearsals and performances. Historically, there were 2 recipients each fall and spring for a total of \$2,000.00. The scholarship is now open to all majors. Applications are read by Deb and Nancy Rench. The board voted unanimously to reinstate the Scholarship program.

President Vacancy: Chuck made a motion to name Nancy Sigel as President until the new board is seated, at which time she would become the Past President. Paul seconded and the motion passed.

Business Meeting: Rachel will send out a reminder to all members that the chorus business meeting will be held on April 20, 2022 with a brief explanation of the single bylaw change. The summary will state that the change allows the board business year to align with the financial year running from June 1st to May 31st each year.

OLD BUSINESS:

IT Platform: Previously, the chorus's IT needs were put together by former member Wes Ague on a volunteer basis. Wes foresaw that new technology might be advisable in the future. Rachel Brooks knew of a consultant who could help guide the board in its decision making. He went through demos from various firms and helped narrow the search to 2 companies: Donorview and Neon. There was no contract for his services. It was assumed that he was offering his time as a favor with the hope of securing business through a maintenance contract to help with the transition to new system, moving

databases, etc.. Paul is waiting for a phone call from Steve to clarify items. The board will have to decide how to compensate Steve for his time. There are recorded videos of the demos and Steve's presentation to the board that will offer background to the new board.

Availability of Minutes: Chuck said it was possible to create a folder on the server for the website for the board's meeting minutes.

Insurance: Payment due in October 2022. Chuck said Elisabeth doesn't think we have to have the sexual abuse/felony questions for board members. New board can look into that and/or policy change.

Election: There was a brief discussion of how to handle nominations from the floor for elected board positions. Patrice will let Liz Stepanski know how to proceed with written ballot.

Finally, there was discussion about what items to include in for the upcoming business meeting to be held on April 20th. Paul will write a proposed agenda and seek feedback from board members. Topics will include: financial status, Bylaws, Fall and Spring concert plans, Succession Committee and looking to the future.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm.