

West Valley Chorale Minutes May 7, 2018

In attendance: Pam Wirth, Jill Groth, Jim Carlson, Pat Kilburn, Janet Hitt, Joan Vaughn, Gail Christianer, Ken Goodenberger

Quorum determined. Gail to request volunteers for the bass monitor to replace Jim Sloan.

1. Artistic Director's season preview

Theme for 2018-19 Season for both concerts is Best Choruses: some from past seasons and some new. Final list to be determined by June 30.

There will likely be a need for some extra accompaniment, either string quartet, piano, or piano & organ. Will be determined when selection is finalized.

Possible inclusion of former director and/or accompanied in program.

Alert about extra rehearsals required for Messiah: Marcia will amend the calendar and Gail will send to chorale in late summer email. Also have copies at first 2 rehearsals:

Dec 11 & 13 6-10 pm at Valley View HS

Dec 15 9-11 am

Young Singer Vocal Competition changes: not just Dysart HS dist, anyone under 18 who lives West of I-17.

Ken will develop new rules and information packet by June 30.

2. Gail: Board Focus

We need to strengthen our ticket sales and encourage member donations. We'll try to improve our publicity exposure this year: Janet and Gail

Gail will ask chorale members to encourage their friends to audition.

Gail will put out a State of The Chorale email in August focusing on ways to strengthen our financial position, which while adequate, is vulnerable without strong ticket sales and community support.

3. Pat Financial Report

Pat noted that since tickets sales were down last year we are dangerously dependent on the bigger grants from Albertsons. Gail to confirm we may keep applying to Albertsons Foundation; she will also research other grant submission opportunities.

Pat noted that donations dedicated to Vocal Competition have been increasing. We need to make sure our publicity highlights our outreach program since the Vocal Competition is a strong donation lure.

4. New costumes for women discussion:

Joan Vaughn researched a company and showed us the catalogue pages. Pat and I stated that the cost of new costumes needs to be covered by members and it must be cost-neutral to the Chorale.

Ken requested that the decision to change the women's costumes be presented as a unified board decision, rather than being a vote put to the members.

Joan Vaughn, Janet Hitt, and Barb Dorr were requested to make an assessment of possibilities and bring back a recommendation to the board for final vote.

There was discussion that despite the fact that some people found the costumes ill-fitting, they were worn so little that we should be able to get by.

If the board does approve new costumes, provision for financial assistance will be made to members who cannot afford the entire purchase.

5. Venues must be policed after concerts to pick up programs left in less or racks. Gail to request volunteers night of concerts in warmup.

6. Web site: Jim Carlson

Current website does not support mobile devices. Jim knows a developer from his Sun City Foundation work who can do a WordPress site that will update and simplify our current one. Gail and Jim to participate in site redesign effort. \$1000 in budget support was authorized.

7. Discussion of possibility of Saturday sectionals to be held at SHUMC, suggested by Janet Hitt based on the success of a similar effort in the chorale she directed. Requires that there be volunteer leaders and parts pianists. Gail to send proposal to members via email to see what response there is. Also requires room availability at SHUMC.

8. President's Actions: discuss and review

Continue matinees since they do not incur additional facilities costs.

Dec 18 matinee will be at SHUMC not Faith. Need to make sure Faith is notified of changes and that publicity and special notices go out to Sun City West and SCGrand senior facilities get noticed about the matinee.

Decided to continue producing programs with advertising as long as advertising covers the cost of program production which is estimated to be \$1.60/program.

Members will be offered magnetic name tags that are the same size as current ones.