

## OWS BOARD MEETING August 21, 2023

Present: Sara Mellen (president), Don Uhland (Vice President), Gary Huber (treasurer), Sandy Hoyman (Chorus Manager), Nick Newman (music director), Barbara Fahmy, Barbara Ungashick, Kay Sorg, Maureen Liegl (all trustees at large)

Sara called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes of last meeting (May 27, 2023) and short budget meeting (July 10, 23)

Don moved to approve the minutes; Kay seconded; minutes approved.

Treasurer's report: The budget remains the same as Gary submitted at our last meeting. Discussion ensued about whether the IRS penalty for late payment can be forgiven. Don reported on his conversations with a helpful acquaintance through his airport ambassador job, also a former IRS employee. Even though this is our second offense, the first having occurred 6 years ago, Gary will pursue submitting a form to request a forgiveness of the penalty.

Chorus Manager's report: Sandy will confirm with Francie, church secretary, that our first rehearsal/picnic date is Thursday, 9-7-23, and check that December 8 and 9 are okay to hold our Christmas concerts. She will email the chorus membership ASAP about the potluck picnic, short (15 minute?) business meeting, and short rehearsal, all on September 9. She will also advise that our semester dues have increased to \$130. with the option of paying in two installments as well as the availability of a scholarship based on need. At this first Thursday meeting, Barbara will introduce herself as chair of new 'member recruitment' committee and distribute the OWS business cards. The membership will be asked to approve Karla Bullock as board member/board secretary. A copy of the budget will be emailed to Sandy to include in her email to OWS membership.

Chorus director's report: The Christmas concert will be held on December 8 and 9 at St. Thomas, and will be titled 'Holidays around the World'. Plans are in the works to include a potluck with international dishes provided by chorus members. Tickets for the dinner will carry an extra charge, perhaps \$20 above the regular ticket price of \$20. and will be held following the Saturday matinee concert. Nick will determine dates for the spring concerts (Cabaret and May) after checking with his school obligations.

New business: Sara brought up the possibility of beginning to look for a new venue for our rehearsals and concerts in the same general area as St. Thomas. She pointed out the negative aspects of continuing with St. Thomas (the Great Hall having limitations as to rehearsals, upper limit of 125 guests in the sanctuary for concerts) and she wonders if other churches in Park Hill and surrounding areas may be looking for extra income post-COVID. Discussion ensued. Don moved that a sub-committee be formed to explore a possible move; Kay seconded. Motion

passed. The board members are asked to think of possible chorus members to serve on such a committee. Dean Rockwell? Vicky Smith? Others? Sara will also serve.

Discussion about the possibility of offering lower tickets prices to seniors living in group homes and to students, possibly \$2.00 under regular ticket price (thus \$18.). Kay Sorg (?) suggested the possibility of marketing a group rate to senior centers which appealed to everyone. Proposal to offer reduction of \$1. for groups of 5 or more; \$2. off for groups of 10 or more. This reduction would be available to all purchasing tickets at or through senior centers. Don volunteered to seed this offer with a \$100. contribution to OWS. Maureen moved to approve, Barbara Fahmy seconded, motion passed. This offer will be marketed through Activities Directors at senior centers/residences.

Barbara Fahmy reported on her efforts in behalf of OWS membership. She will resend her ideas, sent previously to the board, for our reconsideration and comments. After the board's input, Sandy will receive approval to send to the membership at large. Barbara said that the director of the MCF will include the names of choruses represented (including OWS) by singers in the upcoming concert this Saturday, August 26, which is good publicity for our group.

The upcoming holiday concert will require the purchase of 4-5 new pieces of music. As was done for last year's holiday concert, the membership will be asked to sponsor a song and be recognized for doing so in the program.

The date for our next board meeting in late September/early October will be determined in coming weeks.

All agreed to adjourn the meeting which Sara did at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Maureen Liegl (acting secretary)