

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
ARIZONA MASTERWORKS CHORALE  
OCTOBER 26, 2020

The annual meeting of the Arizona Masterworks Chorale was held via the “Zoom” platform on October 26, 2020. The meeting was called to order by president, Karla Allingham at 7:13 p.m. with fourteen people in attendance.

The minutes of the last meeting were displayed online for the review of all attending the meeting. Several revisions/corrections were made to the minutes.

**A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended. Seconded. Carried.**

Financial reports were also displayed online for the group’s review. There was some discussion of the financial reports. Although the 20/21 season is cancelled and our expenses are reduced we do have some expenses that need to be paid. Fortunately, we have a healthy balance of \$11,980.07 in our checking and savings account currently. Ascension Lutheran is not charging us for music storage or monthly rent while we are on hiatus. Therefore, our estimated expenditures are \$1,411.00. Soni Koskela, outgoing treasurer, was available for clarification and questions regarding the reports.

**There being no additions or corrections to the financial reports, a motion was made to accept the treasurer’s reports. Seconded. Carried.**

At this time President Karla Allingham addressed the meeting. Karla detailed some of the challenges that the board and chorale have faced this year. She stated that the year 2020 has been a crazy year for everyone. We have been dealing with a pandemic which has caused the board of directors to cancel the entire 20/21 season as have many other musical groups. Also due to the pandemic everyone is aware that our director, Karen Parthun, resigned from the group. As a result, a Search Committee has been formed to proceed with hiring a new director. The Search Committee consists of members of the board of directors, namely: John Cleveland, Janus Torres, Bob Altizer, and Karla Allingham with assistance from Dr. Sharon Hansen, director of Arizona Music Festival Chorus.

Karla also stated that the hiatus has been put to good use and over the last several months our by-laws are being rewritten by Bob Altizer and John Cleveland and the website has been redone by Bob Altizer.

Karla noted that Debi Howard, Soni Koskela, treasurer, and Ruth Derge, secretary, have resigned from the board. She thanked Soni and Ruth for their outstanding work and contribution to the board of directors over their past years of service. She stated that Bob

Altizer has agreed to run for the position of treasurer and Deborah DeSimone has agreed to run for the position of secretary.

**A motion was made to approve the addition of Deborah DeSimone to the Arizona Masterworks Board of Directors. Seconded. Carried.**

Karla then asked for a motion to approve the slate of officers as follows:

President – Karla Allingham  
Vice President – John Cleveland  
Secretary – Deborah DeSimone  
Treasurer – Bob Altizer

**A motion was made to approve the slate of officers as listed. The officers to serve their respective terms as stated in the by-laws. Seconded. Carried.**

Karla then thanked all the following board members and committee chairpersons for their service to the chorale.

Alan Schold – Board Member – Venue Coordinator  
Kathy Yoder – Board Member – Graphic Design and Publications  
Janus Torres – Board Member – Publicity/Social Media  
Cheryl Burton – Music Librarian  
Kathy Heller – Wardrobe  
Laverne Nelson – Ticket Sales

John Cleveland then outlined the efforts of the Search Committee. He stated that the committee has met several times and has put an advertisement for music director on several sites. He stated that at this time one candidate has responded, Emily Anderson. Ms. Anderson is familiar with the group and several people from the group know her as she previously sang with our group for a Christmas concert. John noted that the committee wants to push forward and is hoping to get more candidates, however during the pandemic since choirs as a whole are not singing it is a difficult time to hire a director and interviews may have to be done over “Zoom”. He also stated that even if we don’t get any other candidates Ms. Anderson has impeccable credentials and appears to be an outstanding possibility.

The meeting was then opened for questions or comments.

A question was raised as to returning the music and robes from last season. It was decided that the board will consider the best way to handle this while the pandemic is

going on and when a decision is made will inform the group. Although, if anyone wants to mail their music to Cheryl at her home they may do so.

A suggestion was made to ask the chorale members to pay the \$125 annual dues to the chorale as a donation or contribution toward maintenance of the chorale even though we are not singing this season. There was pushback to this suggestion from several members. No decision was made.

It was requested and recommended that the chorale members as a whole need to receive more information from the board as to what is going on. Possibly a monthly newsletter directed specifically to the chorale members and not as part of a mass mailing.

It was pointed out that there is a section on the new website for “members only” and that this might be a good avenue for information to be distributed. Bob will send out instructions to the chorale to be able to access that section. However, it was also pointed out that some, if not many, of the chorale members are not comfortable with using the computer to a great extent and so sending an email may be a better option for connecting with the membership. But it was again stressed that the members need to get more frequent information.

The next meeting of the board of directors is scheduled for November 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in attending the meeting and/or joining the board is encouraged to attend. The meeting will be held via “Zoom”.

The next annual meeting will be held at a date TBD during the summer of 2021.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth Derge, Outgoing Secretary