

THE VERNON CHORALE, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting #12: Season 2021-2022 Date/Time: June 14, 2022 - 6:30p.m.
Location: St. John's Episcopal Church

- I. Call to order – 6:37 PM**
- II. In attendance:** Ehren Brown, Cindy Trenholm, James Burr, Liz Whiteley, Julie Bezanson, Sarah Maldonado
- III. Acceptance of minutes**
- IV. Reports**
 - A. President –
 - a) Rehearsing at St. John's went well – good relationships w/ both St. John's and St. Bernard
 - b) John Pastorelle was awesome for IT help – thanks to Julie for suggesting CT voice channel
 - c) Discussed Vernon Arts Commission w/ Vernon Town Administrator; Vernon decided NOT to dissolve VAC but they will not be receiving funding from the town for grants (funding 1 more year, then funding will move to new Arts and Culture Commission). The conversation led to discussing how he and the town's communications director are more than happy to help get press when we have special news or events as they are in contact with the press almost daily and have long relationships with them.
 - d) Two of our sources of funding may have challenges going forward: Ken's law firm dissolved; contact from Cricket Foundation passed away (we will find another way to get in contact and see what next steps are)
 - e) Jeanne's last meeting – thank you for all that you've done!
 - f) We have 2 vacancies to fill at any time on the board; one Officer position to fill (VP)
 - B. Treasurer –
 - a) Current balance on all accounts: \$25,009.03
 - b) Ticket sales: \$1,435.00 (excluding Ludus)
 - c) Various fees paid out for donation to Nightingale; artistic leadership, playbill design, advertising, normal operations
 - d) For further detail, see treasurer's report
 - C. Artistic Director
 - a) Great concert!
 - b) Kirby was a rare gift – far more strengths than average; encouraged him to do a “deep dive” in a masters in conducting
 - c) Thrilled with soloists, small groups
 - d) Future conducting fellow – know Greg from Voce; he teaches elementary music; accomplished musician w/ experience *singing* at a high level, but wants experience conducting adults!

- e) When applying for CT Humanities Grant, we expressed a desire to hire instrumentalists – perhaps an instrumentalist at December concert? Harp?
 - f) Looking for a piece that will be “centerpiece” of December concert
 - g) Future collaboration with Ed Tyler’s Worcester singers?
 - h) Can we consider mask optional for next year? Need decision very soon to consider repertoire.
 - i) Where are we rehearsing next year?
 - j) Text Ehren if you can’t get a hold of him via email this summer!
- D. Publicity – article in the Patch, JI about our concert w/ quote from Vernon superintendent regarding Kirby’s leadership!

V. Unfinished business

- A. Summer board meetings – July 26; August 23
- B. Conducting Fellow
 - a) search wrapped up w/ audition tonight
 - b) Motion to raise conducting fellow stipend to \$1000 – passed unanimously
 - c) Before our next search: reword the blurb about position– it is an award!
- C. Ehren has leads on choral fellows for next season
- D. By-Laws – nothing new to report – Michelle Seerey will be asked to finish up early next year
- E. Mask policy for next year – Motion: Starting with our first rehearsal in August, we will have a mask policy that is applied based on a CT data-driven map (to be created by July) – motion passes unanimously

VI. V. New Business

- A. Tolland County Chamber of Commerce – IT helper for this concert told us we should be members; \$350 per year, great to make connections
- B. July meeting: official board election of slate of board and elect officers
- C. Comments regarding livestream: Cutting out at end of livestream, issues accessing program on certain devices – Sarah will reach out to Anywheresat

VII. VI. Adjournment