

The Vernon Chorale, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting #2: Season 2022-2023

Date/Time: August 23, 2022 - 6:30 pm

Location: 40 Steep Hollow Lane, Manchester, CT

- I. Call to order
- II. Acceptance of Minutes
 - A. Minutes from July 26, 2022, meeting [here](#) *(Please review prior to 8/23 meeting)
- III. Reports
 - A. President*
 - B. Treasurer
 - C. Artistic Director
 - D. Publicity
 - E. Development
- IV. Unfinished business
 - A. Discussion of member feedback from strategic planning [survey](#) *(Please review results one more time prior to 8/23 meeting)
 1. Social gatherings
 2. Getting youth back into the program
 3. Repeating repertoire/diversity of repertoire
 4. Role of section leaders
 5. Having sign-ups for helpful concert prep tasks
 - B. 2022-23 Board meetings
 - C. Auditions prep – need a sub accompanist for first rehearsal & choral fellow auditions
 - D. Rehearsal prep
 1. Welcome Packet; Handbook; Calendar/[Important Dates](#) *(Please review prior to 8/23 meeting)
 2. Music order
 - E. Choral Fellows search
 - F. Podium purchase?
 - G. By-Laws – nothing new to report
 - H. Program printing discussion follow-up – nothing new to report
 - I. Fundraising/Ticket Sales/Dues – nothing new to report; maybe Cindy spoke with Tom Sweet regarding helping us promote a culture of change within VC membership around fundraising and promoting the group
- V. New business
 - A. Budget
 - B. Move to Executive Session

Next board meeting September 13, 2022 6:30 pm at St. John's

- VI. Adjournment

*President's Report:

- 2022-23 Board Meetings:

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- July 26, 2022 ✓
- August 23, 2022
- September 13, 2022
- October 10, 2022
- November 8, 2022
- December 13, 2022* only if needed
- January 3, 2023 VC Annual Meeting
 - AD Report; Treasurer's Report; President's Report: thanking people; what's working well; electing the slate – we'll allot 1 hr total, including allowing half an hour for open forum Q & A – then we can move to singing
- January 10, 2023
- February 14, 2023
- March 14, 2023
- April 11, 2023
- May 9, 2023
- June 13, 2023
- We are confirmed to hold auditions, rehearsals, and board meetings at St. John's for the duration of our entire 2022-23 season. Our donation amount to them will be \$1500 total, paid in 2 installments: \$500 for September 6-November 22, 2022; and \$1,000 for January 10-June 3, 2023. This fee includes piano tuning.
- Harpist Sarah Goss is confirmed to perform with us for December. We need to get a contract to her as soon as our annual budget has been confirmed.
- Section leaders confirmed: Rebecca Harris; Jeanne Allie; Tom Sweet; & Ken Bartschi have kindly volunteered to step into and/or remain in these positions for the 2022-2023 season
- I'd like to propose an increase in stipend for our potential choral fellows; at least \$400 each to make it worthwhile for them to pursue this opportunity. Gas prices alone should justify this, particularly considering the fact that they'll be commuting round-trip from Willimantic & Storrs. Also, we haven't spent the budgeted choral fellow funds for the last 2 seasons, because of COVID. Also, membership feedback strongly indicated that people wanted younger people and to re-establish connection with UConn.
- Reached out to Brian Kenny from St. Bernard to confirm concert date of December 3 and snow date of December 4, as well as our tech week rehearsals – he said he'd double-check their calendar and get back to me (*update: spoke with him again this afternoon; he'll have a definite answer to me by tomorrow, but it's looking favorable. Also, just in case, I spoke with Stephanie Howard of First Congregational Church of Vernon, who has officially 'penciled us in' for the moment, so that can be a back-up)
- Singer count for December: we have 9 sopranos; 9 altos; 6 tenors; & 8 basses. (32 singers total) There are 2 auditions booked for 9/6; 2 of our 3 potential choral fellows, one of whom IS A TENOR!!!!!!!!!!!!!! [Insert *Hallelujah Chorus* here] 🎉🎉🎉, will stay after

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our first rehearsal read-through on 9/13 for their auditions, in order to accommodate their opera class schedule at ECSU.

- Double-check audition start time for 9/6 AND follow up re: substitute accompanist for first rehearsal
- Thanks so much to all of you for providing your input for the location of our first social event of the season! We're all set for Sunday, September 11, at Elicit Brewing beginning at 2:00 pm.
- Thanks to Cindy and Julie and Caragh for authoring a lovely article for us to be featured in the *Vernon Voice* magazine!
- Awaiting confirmation of vaccination/booster status from Conducting Fellow, Greg Flower, along with bio/headshot for inclusion on VC website
- Updated contracts needed for Ehren, Kathleen, Greg, & Choral Fellows
- Need to factor in dues for Tolland County Chamber of Commerce in this season's budget

****Reach out to Consonare re: how they handle their programs (QR code, etc.)