

DRAFT

MINUTES
Rockville Chorus Board of Directors Meeting
August 11, 2009

Voting Members Present

Daryl Newhouse, Pres.
Carol Malone, Vice-Pres.
Regina Frank, Treasurer
Heather Collier, Member at Large
Jean Provost, Co-Librarian
Justine Cowan, Publicist

Others

Bryan Seith, Director.
Lorne Garrettson, for special report
Other chorus members

Item 1, Treasurer's Report, Daryl and Ginny

Our budget position is relatively strong and positions us well to carry out our purposes for the coming year.

Item 2. Program for Fall semester.

Bryan provided the proposed program for the fall semester.

(copy of proposal incorporated by reference).

It includes, as the anchor piece, The Reluctant Dragon by John Rutter, Two Mendelssohn pieces, two Parker/Shaw arrangements, an arrangement of Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, and a Hannukah piece, Ose Shalom.

The Fall proposed program was approved.

Item 3, Spring Program – Outline

Bryan also presented a Spring Semester proposed program. We are currently planning a joint season-ending program with the Gaithersburg Chorus, and the proposed program will be sent to them (Dir. Hugh Harvey) for their comments/input.

That is the next step. We will have to schedule a few joint rehearsals probably in the latter part of the semester. If things go as currently visualized, both choruses will perform together for the year end concert, first in Gaithersburg on a Saturday evening, and at F. Scott on the following day. No other action was taken by the Board on the Spring program until we receive feedback from Gaithersburg.

Item 4, Search Process for Accompanist.

The City is advertising for an accompanist to replace Dick. As you all may know, Dick is having an arthritic problem in his hand and has resigned as accompanist.

The City's quest for a replacement will close on September 4th. The selection process will then begin. Until a candidate is selected, we will be filling in with substitutes.

DRAFT

For more detailed and current updates, see our Website -- <http://www.rockvillechorus.org/> and/or the City's Career Opportunities page on its Website http://agency.governmentjobs.com/rockville/job_bulletin.cfm?JobID=177690.

Item 5, Calendars

We have "roughed out" calendars for each semester, and they will be distributed to chorus members at the start of the season. The calendars, as usual, will be adjusted as we go. Our first rehearsal (together with new member auditions), will be on September 14 (the first Monday after Labor Day. If anyone knows of any prospective new members, have them call Julie Farrell, our liaison with the City, to schedule an audition. She can be reached by telephone at 240-314-8682, or by e-mail [at jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov).

Our main concert in the fall is set for Sunday, December 20th at F. Scott. Since that date is so close to Christmas, we will not be seeking a follow up "senior living" concert the following day.

Item 6, Germany Trip (Lorne)

About 24 choristers have signed up for trip to Germany, approx. Jun 1/2- June 9/10. A "good" mix of voices. Two prongs to the trip: Fly into Dusseldorf on Thursday or Friday, and travel to Dinslaken for choral festival, (probably by train – short/easy trip). Massed chorus concert Saturday. Leave Sunday for Pinneberg (probably by bus). In both places, some homes available to house choristers and hotels an option. Then travel to (probably) Hamburg, (but Dusseldorf a possibility) for return to States. Other options for those who wish to extend and wander. Rotraut is focusing on the Pinneberg part of trip, and she and Lorne need to get together to work through details, and meet with a travel agent to discuss transportation options. The chorus will assist with placing deposits for any private charter buses required for transportation to Pinneburg.

Obviously, more to come.

Item 7, Survey Results

The results were posted on the "Surveymonkey.com" website for review by the Board, including the member comments to each question. The purpose of the survey is to recommend to the City whether to renew the Director's position for the next period. The Board recommends that they City do so based on the overall positive survey scores. The open-ended comments to the survey questions did not suggest any action items to the Board beyond the existing agenda. Because many of the individual comments had personally identifying detail, or were directed towards individuals other than the Director or Board, it was agreed that publishing the comments to the chorus membership would not be helpful.

Item 8, Performance Attire & Approval of minutes from February 2009 meeting

The Board voted to approve the Justine's meeting minutes as modified by the comments inserted by Jean, Jan and Daryl, to the extent that they elaborated on the items. Those minutes will be published on the website.

At the last Board meeting, new standards for concert attire were adopted. The Board took up the language of the proposed amendment to the RC P & P section regarding Performance attire. The proposed amendment was modified as follows and is incorporated by reference.

DRAFT

At August 2008 meeting, it was determined that the new rules would go into effect for this fall's concert season. Accordingly, members should take steps to secure the necessary clothing by late October. To assist that effort, Daryl appointed Justine Cowan to chair the wardrobe committee and take orders for new wardrobe purchases. A motion was made to bless that appointment (Heather Collier), and seconded (Ginny Frank) and it carried. Justine can be reached by phone at 240-475-3550 or by e-mail at juscowan19191@aol.com.

Requirements for men's concert attire were clarified as follows:

A single breasted black tuxedo (5 piece- pants, jacket, white pleated front shirt, Black cummerbund and black bow tie.

Adoption of this slightly revised description was moved (Heather Collier), and seconded (Ginny Frank) and it carried.

Informal concert attire requirements for both men and women, to wit "...a dark blue, short sleeved shirt with Rockville chorus logo" somewhat simplified to spell out "...with khaki bottoms (shorts, pants, skirts)" was moved (Heather Collier), and seconded (Ginny Frank) and it carried. This slight change in language eliminated footwear from the description.

Finally, it was moved (Heather Collier), and seconded (Ginny Frank) that:

"Members are responsible for providing their own concert attire which is to be purchased through, or in conjunction with, the Chorus wardrobe committee."

The motion carried.

Loren, his wife, and Justine are actively exploring the availability of men's tuxedos at local thrift shops. If a male member of the chorus needs a tuxedo, call Justine and provide her with your sizes. The cost of a used tuxedo was estimated to be around \$20, and the tuxedos available through our approved catalog supply companies range from \$95-\$130.

Similarly the women should provide their sizes to Justine so that the formal attire skirts and blouses can be ordered from a single source for cost and uniformity benefits. The blouses range from \$12-15, the skirts are from \$23-48. We will ask all members to order through Justine to obtain uniformity and volume cost savings.

Other Business: It was suggested that we consider having a pot luck supper during the first semester as well. Some discussion ensued. The suggestion entails difficult scheduling issues (it being a shorter season with more fixed holidays) but the consensus was that we could use an additional social event or two (or more) throughout the performance year

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Jean Provost
Acting Scribe

DRAFT

Rockville Chorus 2009 Winter Program Proposal
July, 2009

The Reluctant Dragon John Rutter
23 minute duration for SATB, 4 soloists and narrator
Oxford University Press #HMB-143

There Shall a Star Come Out of David Felix Mendelssohn
Some in library SATB and piano
Belwin Mills

Psalm 100 (Jauchzet dem Herrn) Felix Mendelssohn
SATB with SATB solos: a cappella
Choral Public Domain Library

Carol of the Birds arr. by Parker/Shaw
G. Schirmer (some in Library)

The Cherry Tree Carol arr. by Parker/Shaw
Tenor Solo with SATB: a cappella
G. Schirmer

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas Martin/Blane
SATB a cappella
Columbia (many in Library)

Ose Shalom John Leavitt
SATB with optional instruments
Hal Leonard (#HL08703341)

DRAFT

PERFORMANCE ATTIRE

(Replaces entire section on page 6 Policies and Procedures.)

Members are responsible for providing their own attire, which is to be purchased through, or in conjunction with, the Chorus wardrobe committee. Formal performance attire for the Spring and Fall concerts are:

For women:

- A white, long sleeve, flat collar, pleated front, tuxedo blouse.
- A black, A-line, easy care, ankle length skirt, and black cummerbund.
- Black shoes, off black hosiery
- Pearls for the Spring Concert
- Effective Fall 2009.

For men:

- A single-breasted black tuxedo (5 piece: pants, jacket, white pleated front shirt, black cummerbund & black bow tie).
- Effective Fall 2009.

Supplied:

- The chorus will supply accessories as necessary to ensure a uniform appearance.

Informal performance attire for both men and women. The director will determine when informal attire is appropriate.

- Dark blue, short sleeve, shirt with Rockville Chorus logo.
- Khaki bottoms (shorts, pants, skirts).

If a member has any difficulty with these requirements, please consult the Member at Large .

All members are asked to refrain from using perfume, cologne, scented hair spray, after-shave lotion or other scents during rehearsals and performances.