

NEWCOMBE SINGERS
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2022

By Zoom call
Chaired by President, Peter Beliveau

Peter opened the meeting at 2:00 pm.

In attendance

John Sease, Peter Beliveau (chair), Heini Mathis, Sheila Grigg, Norma Jee, Deanna Hutchings (recorder), Dawn Johnson, Linda Troke.

1. Agenda

The agenda provided by Peter Beliveau was accepted with the additions of:

- easing COVID restrictions
- music director search time lines.

Acceptance of the agenda was moved by Sheila Grigg and seconded by Norma Jee.

2. Minutes

Minutes of Feb 16 were adopted with changes. Motion to adopt the amended minutes made by Linda Troke and seconded by Sheila Grigg.

3. Action items from the Feb 16 meeting

None- see #5 for continued action on payment for interim director

4. Advancing Music Director Search Timeline

Discussion ensued re the current time line of the Search and the phrasing used on the job posting for a "Preferred Start Date." After considerable discussion, it was decided to leave this in the hands of the search committee. They can decide the most suitable time lines and wording of the job posting.

5. Finalize selection and payment of interim Director for fall 2022

Discussion ensued re merits of payment per hour, or by rehearsal and concert.
Motion placed to offer Peter Dent payment by rehearsal at \$150 a rehearsal as Interim Director. Motion made by John Sease and seconded by Heini Mathis. Motion passed.

6. Preparations for May 8th concert

Rehearsal on May 7 is 2-4. Access to church is from 130-5:00 that day
Concert on May 8 is at 3:00 Access to church is from 130- 5:00 again.

- Concert Responsibilities:
- Audrey Beliveau will make tickets and posters.
- Sheila Grigg will manage distribution of tickets to members.
- Linda Troke will arrange front door sales day of concert.
- John Sease will write the program
- Sheila Randall will post the concert on several related Facebook sites
- Frances Aknai (community volunteer) continues to offer promotional support with regular venues as per previous years.

7. Robert's contract

Discussion ensued re his current salary rate as accompanist. Consensus was to raise this. Motion submitted by Norma Jee to raise this to \$5500 a year effective Sept 2022. (Term of September-May) Seconded by Linda Troke. All were in favour.

8. Raising membership fees and grant applications

Discussion ensued re how much to raise membership fees. Reminder to consider other forms of raising revenue, and in particular, to make a point of reminding members that donations to Newcombe Singers are tax deductible, so to encourage this. Further discussion about other ways to raise revenue, and to consider writing for grants. We want to also retain our ability to absorb someone's fees or part of their fees if they cannot afford to pay or pay the full rate.

Sheila moved that we raise our fees; agreed to increase them from the current \$180 to \$210 per year, effective September 2022. Seconded by Norma Jee. Passed by a majority vote.

Discussion re grant applications. We have been encouraged to seek grants for \$5K a year. Norma has a list of the agencies that fund performing arts groups. Norma is willing to apply; She has the grant writing handbook and is prepared to initiate this, recognizing that the application process will require information from other board members, such as the treasurer or archivist.

9. COVID restrictions

From a provincial health order perspective, there is no restriction on capacity and no mandate on masks. Given the age of our members, and the recent return of our home-based (for rehearsals) members we prefer to make changes or reductions in protections incrementally. Discussion ensued re the best ways to do that.

Action: we will begin by returning to singing in choir formation, in contrast to standing in rows in pews, but will keep masking for the time being. We will not expect our director to mask, which improves our capacity to see her directions and hear her.

Meeting adjourned at 3:47.

Meeting Close

Peter adjourned the meeting at 3:47 pm

Next meeting will be: Wed, April 13, 2022 at 1530

Minutes approved April 13, 2022 BOD meeting