



Traverse City West Choir Organization Meeting

November 14, 2020

9 am – 10:23 am

Via

Zoom

A. **Welcome and Introductions:**

Call to order 9:04am

B. Directors: Erich Wangeman, Wendee Wolf-Schlarf, and Emerick Dee.

Zoom Attendees: Heather Stetson-Leman, Tom Hoxsie, Heather Hoxsie, Angela Wiliford, Kami Michael, Lisa Nicolaou, Lisa Woodcox, Victoria Derks, Darcey Graton, Robin Keller, HT Snowday, Laurent Snowday, Kim Sipple, Sarah Newcomb, Kathy Stewart, and Natalie Gray

Approve Prior meeting notes:

Motion to accept minutes: Angela Williford

Second the motion: Victoria Derks

C. **Directors Reports:**

- a. **Mr. Wangeman** – No report (Given, but not heard due to technical glitch).
- b. **Mrs. Wolf-Schlarf** – Class is now back to remote learning. Goal is to have kids singing every day. Was using break out rooms at school, but now moving forward in virtual world. Pacing class instruction within the 40 min time frame is challenging. Trying to be creative in engaging students. No plans for Cantate Select to rehearse the next few weeks during virtual period (since this group relies on parent drivers). If we are still remote after TG break, then a plan will be devised for rehearsing as a group.

Fall concert has been recorded, and is in the process of higher level editing. Plans to share concert sometime before TG break.

- c. **Mr. Dee** – Newsletter went out last week www.wmschoirs.com. Learning new music is on hold, and has been focusing on social and emotional aspects. Working on getting to know each other, basic rhythm comprehension.

Has heard from other director colleagues who are giving up, but not here in TC – making the most of it. Pro side of going virtual is being able to see kids smiles – faces without masks allows visualizing singing mouths again which is key.

Joshua Petty from Indianapolis Children's Choir – has been in communication for tips on organizing the sing-a-thon.

D. Student Report: – Election scheduled for next week

E. Treasurer Report: Heather Stetson Leman

\$90,622 Checking account balance, plan to transfer \$70,000 to savings per last meeting.

Met w/ accounting company to set-up 1023 Application for recognition of exemption status. 990 will be filed Monday electronically, and restore our non-profit status by the end of the month.

Verified a few miscellaneous expenses. Offered to share access to “view only” mode of Quick books to anyone interested. Reviewed coding aspects of our income that can be considered “creative labeling” to accurately reflect what they are. Even though we are non-profit, not all income is tax deductible. Heather will clarify how we categorize selling items versus donations received. Group agreed.

F. Committees:

Ads & Sponsors– Heather Fewins and Katie Verschaeve in charge, and Heather Hoxsie to assist.

Scholarships – No report.

Uniforms – Kami Michael, Lauren Snowday, and Natalie Gray – *In wait mode-no news.*

Choir spirit – Sarah Newcomb – Spirit wear sales available online. Showed examples. Next level brand recommended due to higher quality, though slightly higher price. Also working on car decal.

https://stores.inksoft.com/tc_west_choirs/shop/home

Motion to open the spirit wear sale – Angela Wiliford

Second Motion – Victoria Derks, **Motion passed.**

Booster Rep – Tom Hoxsie. There was a good turnout for virtually attendance.

Wendee also attends these meetings and added that all aspects of the K-12 program are represented.

Teachers from all grades have been provided an opportunity to apply for mini grants.

The group is looking for engaging ways to support the program.

It is realized that the traditional final concert will likely not occur this year, and looking for alternate ways to fund raise. Boosters would like to continue to showcase students, and raise support. Many of the leaders are from families that kids have long graduated from TCAPS, looking for new members.

Next meeting November 17th at 6:30pm. Find the link at <http://travercitymusicboosters.com/>.

Website – HT Snowday – Working on updating website, starting with the basics like calendars. Getting GSuite up and running – Will be free when we are officially non-profit status (\$6 / month currently). This website will provide continuity, especially when handing positions over to new leadership with annual turn overs as students graduate. Will be a mode to feature aspects of our program that can be accessed nation-wide.

Front House – Lisa Woodcox – No report.

Mix Mingle –

Silent Auction – Darcey Gratton contemplating remaining in charge of this position due to other demands on her time, but volunteered to assist a new committee of volunteers to figure out a new direction in

light of Covid in 2020. Concern raised if it is appropriate to solicit donations during this down economic time for so many small businesses?

Perhaps smaller scale version can be entertained, the process is up in the air on what it will look like, and how we can make it work? Perhaps merge or replace this event with sing-a-thon? In the process of hashing this out.

Plans are in place to thank all the small business that supported the event last year – Darcey and others working on getting their logos out on social media, and encourage us to support them as TC West families.

G. Old business –

- a. **Card Sales** – Each student was given 3 cards. Sales are going well. Cards are limited, but more can be allotted if needed (will transfer the ones from students that did not sell towards the end of the week).

H. New business –

- a. **Featuring Seniors** - traditionally done through Ads & Sponsors concert brochure – Group discussed how to best proceed given the realities of our new world. Most agreed that the students will want this hard copy format as a high school memento. A process needs to be determined for honoring sponsors from last year (ads not run or distributed?) – considering running the ads again w/out charge and/or increasing ad size if donating again.
- b. **Thanking sponsors** – It was suggested that we consider having TCAPS assist in the process of thanking past sponsors by reaching out through their existing social media platforms. Linking our website to theirs, and sharing information will allow us to reach more people, and heighten awareness of TCWCO goals and missions.
- c. **Created New Committee**-pulled together those that would like to meet as part of the ads and sponsors committee with a plan of meeting outside of the TCWCO– **Volunteers:** Kami Michael, HT Snowday, Kim S, Lisa Nicolaou, Angela Wiliford, Sarah Newcomb, Katie V, Heather Fewins.
- d. **New Format Agenda (recommended by Erich)** – Proposed a “Consent Agenda” to allow us to move through meetings quicker, so we can quickly get to new business where energy picks up. Natalie to assist w/ collecting director and committee reports prior to meetings. We want

to spend more time addressing what we are most interested in - helping the kids!

e. **Executive board 2020 – 2021 School Year**

- i. **Chair persons** Tom & Heather Hoxsie
- ii. **Treasurer** – Heather Stetson-Leman
- iii. **Secretary** – Natalie Gray

I. Upcoming Dates

- a. **Next Meeting** – December 12, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 10:52 am

Respectfully submitted by Natalie Gray

