

Haslett Choir Boosters Meetings

2022-2023

Choir Boosters Meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2023

Attendees:

Board: Patricia Marin, Joye Cuthrell, Monique Allen

Directors: Matt Callaghan, Samara Valla

Members: Kassy Laurence, Johanna Lynch, Erika Noud, Melissa Straus, Jennifer Weichel, Nikki Zsigo

Meeting started at: 7:05pm

- I. Welcome (President), Introductions (all attendees)
- II. Approval of December 7, 2022 Minutes
Motion to Approve: Joye Cuthrell; Second: Melissa Straus
- III. Financials
 - A. IRS update by Patricia M.:
 1. 2016 was last time taxes were filed resulting in loss of 501c3 status. 501c3 status reinstated summer 2022.
 2. December 2022 IRS letter notified that Boosters were being charged fines for not filing taxes. IRS also not accepting paper filing for 2021 but this method was used as was only IRS method allowed in order to reinstate 501c3 status. Accountant to get more information regarding fines, filing, getting fines reduced.
 3. Patricia requested motion to allow Boosters to pay IRS fees totally, if required (approx. \$6000), prompting discussion on filing taxes. Kassy asked how we can prevent getting fines, filing late again in future. Patricia discussed ways Boosters plan to address the issue: revising bylaws, outlining best practices, utilizing PO Box, obtaining Booster email address, better documentation/passing on information to future boards. Jennifer informed group of IRS postcard tax filing if income less than \$50k. Patricia acknowledged this possibility for future years after current tax situation is addressed. Melissa recommended calling IRS directly to discuss tax fees. Jennifer motioned to pay IRS after all other avenues to reduce/waive fines have been exhausted. Kassy seconded. Motion to pay IRS fines passed by all.

- B. Finalizing insurance for organization/board
 - 1. Insurance policy is being explored with State Farm. Remaining questions include: How will policy/coverage be transferred to next board? Waiting on more information from insurance agent.
- C. Presentation of November and December financials (Treasurer). See documents.

IV. Directors' Report

- A. Matt Callaghan (High School)
 - 1. Soloist Performances: Jan 25 @ 7pm @ HHS
 - 2. District Solo & Ensemble: Jan 27/28 @ Eaton Rapids HS, Bus transportation to be provided on Jan 28th.
 - 3. Pre-Festival Performance: Feb 8 @ 8pm @ HHS
 - 4. Festival: Feb 15/16th, more information next meeting.
 - 5. Choir Council skating party Jan 13th @ 4:30 @ Suburban Ice
- B. Samara Valla (Middle School)
 - 1. Middle School Festival: March 22, will need volunteers. Johanna volunteered to help.
 - 2. Middle School Musical underway, performance in February.
 - 3. Blue Lake Rep to visit Middle School.

V. Current Business

- A. Successful Cookies & Cocoa events! Positive feedback: "Community Building"
- B. Candy Canes Fundraiser: Successful, raised \$1599 (\$1615 PayPal, minus 2.8% PayPal fee, \$30 Cash, approx 30 donors)
- C. Thank yous/receipts to go to donors
- D. Preliminary info sent to website development company - will be completed in late January/Early February pending final payment and when Booster provides remaining info/content.
- E. Logo: Kassy presented new Haslett Choir Boosters Logo. Thank you!
- F. Allocation for Ice Skating event?
 - 1. Cost of event? \$330 - \$5/student, estimated 75 skaters
 - 2. Pizza? Approx \$400 of funds allocated for Fall party were not utilized. Matt requests funds, approx \$500, to pay for pizza & ice rental. Kassy motioned to approve, Johanna seconded.
 - 3. Hot chocolate? Patricia, Melissa, & Nikki to coordinate hot chocolate/water. Boosters has hot chocolate left over from Winter Concerts. Not costs involved. Location has water/electricity we can utilize.
- G. Other options for receiving funds? Venmo? Asked if anyone would undertake exploring various payment options further. No responses. This will remain on hold while we take care of current issues.

VI. New Business

A. Fundraising ideas from December meeting:

1. Bowling (City Limits?) Silent Auction? (could be in combination with bowling activity) Meet & Greet/photo opp at Musicals? Raffle? Obstacle Course? Gala Event?
2. Jennifer attempted contacting City Limits, will try calling again
3. Discussion: What are goals for fundraiser? What do we hope to achieve? \$5000 placeholder put in 2022-2023 budget for Spring Fundraiser. Hope that fundraiser would bring in others from outside the Choir program. Silent Auction in past has succeeded in both areas. Discussed hybrid in person/online auction, showcasing at Cabaret Concerts. Other ideas: Character photo opps in past were low earning (\$500). Performances at Wharton idea has very high overhead.
4. New ideas presented: Sponsor a Choir Student, Fund a Scholarship (give people concrete things to support vs “just donate funds”). We can incorporate these as options for the Silent Auction.

VII. For Next Meeting

A. Continue Silent Auction/fundraiser discussion

VIII. Meeting ended at: 8:32 pm

IX. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 1, 7pm; bring a friend.