

The Symphony Guild of Charlotte, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes February 13, 2018

Attending: Mike Rutledge, Carol Follmer, Cookie Parnell, Elizabeth Connor Stewart, Beth Garges, Ann Guild, Peggy Dreher, Jenny Tolson, Susan Carr, Joan Foley, Sallie Moody, Linda Weisbruch, Lisa Kelly, Jeanna Norris, Victoria Gilmore, Leigh Finley, Donna Kiser, Wendy Smolen

President Mike Rutledge called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. The minutes of the last Board meeting, January 16, 2018, were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Susan Carr, Treasurer

- The figures reported were the same as those reported at the General Winter Meeting on February 1, 2018.
- The Kitchen tour is budgeted to earn \$70,000. At the end of the month of January, 2018, the Kitchen Tour has earned \$10,000, mostly through Chairman's Circle donations and Sponsorships.
- The Past President's Scholarship fund was discussed. Peggy Dreher, a Past President, suggested that the Past Presidents be asked if they wanted any dues they paid to fund a scholarship or if they wanted it to go to the Guild's operating fund. It was noted that the Guild has more need for additional operating funds.
- When members are recognized at specific anniversaries (in increments of 5 years after the 20<sup>th</sup> year), a donation in an amount equal to the number of years the member has accrued in The Guild is to be placed in a scholarship fund. The fund is to provide a need-based scholarship. The account had \$460 in 2014, but there have been no additions and no awards since that year. It was suggested that we give out the \$460 on a need basis this year. It was then suggested that the Policy and Procedure committee discuss the amount of money to be given and how the recipient is to be chosen. So far this year more money than budgeted has been spent on two types of need-based scholarships: private study and CSYO tuition.

Marketing

Management and Planning – Elizabeth Connor Stewart, VP

- Policy and Procedure will discuss the member anniversary funds.

Membership – Leigh Finley, VP

- The date of the Garden Social planned for the spring at Patsy Reames' house has been changed to April 19 at 6:00 pm. It is a social with all members to be invited; dress is casual. Board members will be asked to help provide light foot. Jenny Tolson will send out a Sign-Up Genius to the Board.

Education – Beth Garges, VP; Donna Kiser, VP

- Beth congratulated Victoria Gilmore on her chairmanship of the recent Young Artist Competition. It ran smoothly and precisely, which was appreciated by all involved. The decision to cut out the Junior competition and expand the Senior competition to 9<sup>th</sup> graders seemed to be a good decision. All the winners were CSYO members, mostly pianists and violinists. Some

private teachers say that pianists and violinists always win and are reluctant to send other instrumentalists. Mike pointed out that some instrumentalists and their teachers did not expect to win but saw the competition as good practice for college auditions. Victoria suggested that the timing needs to change from mid-winter and that Queens will be unavailable next year because of construction.

- The Youth Festival needs more volunteers. The CSO decided that both Young Artist winners will be featured at the Youth Festival. There will be no additional expense to The Guild because of this decision.
- CSYO camp was discussed. The projected cost per person at Converse is rising from \$255 to \$259. This cost is felt to be reasonable. The contract should be available for The Guild's signature by early March. The Guild bylaws specify that the contract is between The Symphony Guild and the host site. Much research has been done in the past to find the best location and cost for the camp, and that location has always been Converse.
- Mike Rutledge said that he would meet with the CSO in early March regarding camp and other issues. He plans to speak with the CSO about these issues before signing the camp contract. The Guild is focused on being transparent in its dealings with the CSO.
- Sharon Lacy will make sure that the Young Artists judges are given tickets to the Youth Festival.
- The CSYO parents reported that at the CSYO concert on May 13 Christopher Warren-Green will conduct the William Tell Overture. Mark O'Connor will also play with the CSYO.

#### Fundraising – Sallie Moody, Kitchen Tour

- Mike of Genesis Photography did the photo shoots of the kitchens last week. Now the creative people will work on the Resource Guide.
- We are short only one chef for tastings at the houses on Saturday. On Friday night the houses will host several alcohol distributors and distillers.
- Linda Weisbruch and Jenny Tolson visited Ferguson Baths and Kitchens to plan the setup for the Taste of the Tour party. There were a few kinks last year that are being worked out for this year's party. Beverages will be provided by Muddy River Distillers, Natalie's Juices, and Twenty-six Acres Brewery.
- The Chairman's Circle has almost reached its goal. The party at Robin Cochran's on March 8 will be for Chairman's Circle members, house owners, and sponsors.
- Tickets will be sold online, at the Buttercup, Cotswold Marketplace, Surroundings, and Olive This! In addition to the houses.
- The Kitchen Tour is listed on four websites in Charlotte and in several ads in magazines. There will be two interviews on WBT's Bounce network and on WDAV.
- Flyers will be sent online for members to post on social media, Next Door, and to send to friends. Thanks to Victoria for updating the website.
- We are working on getting more sponsors for the tour. A \$1,000 sponsorship gets everything given to sponsors – marketing and links. Deadlines are soft for sponsorships' listings.
- The Auction committee is asking people to solicit auction items.
- Party tickets for under age 40 are priced at \$75 for 2 people.
- A list of donors to the Auction will be in the Resource Guide. If donor do not meet the deadline for that listing, their names will still be on a big board at the entrance to the party.

- Auction items donated include: a rug valued at \$2900 from Charlotte Rug Gallery, earrings valued at \$1195 from Delores at Finks Jewelers at SouthPark. Members are asked to thank Delores, if they go into Finks.

Announcements – Mike Rutledge, President

- The May Board meeting date will change from May 8<sup>th</sup>, but the new date has not yet been determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Follmer, Secretary