

New MexiChords Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Thursday, March 21, 2024

A regular meeting of the New MexiChords Board of Directors was held on March 21, 2024 via ZOOM. Tom Cole called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

The following members were in attendance:

Tom Cole, President
Celeste Cole, Treasurer
Mary Turner, Secretary
Fred Green, VP of Marketing
Walt Parsons, VP of Membership
Richard Grady, VP of Music
Ruth Koury, VP of Programs
Jerry Quintana, VP of Performance
Leo Twiggs, Member at Large

Absent:

Rebecca Biffle, Member at Large

The following guest was in attendance:

Bill Biffle

A motion by Ruth Koury and seconded by Richard Grady to accept the agenda for today's board meeting was approved.

Secretary Report:

Mary Turner reported that a quorum was present.

The minutes of the February 15, 2024 board meeting had previously been distributed the board for review. A motion by Richard Grady and seconded by Walt Parsons to accept the minutes were approved. Rehearsal attendance for February for four rehearsals averaged 28.5 (75.1%) with 6 guest appearances for the month.

The minutes of the February 27, 2024 special board meeting were reviewed. A motion by Ruth Koury and seconded by Celeste Cole to accept the minutes were approved.

Other Board approval:

- The Board authorized via e-mail on March 3, 2024 the costs of moving New MexiChords' property from AAA storage and St. John's United Methodist Church to 401 Laguna Boulevard, SW, Albuquerque, for a total of \$650.

- The Board authorized via e-mail on March 14, 2024 approval of Cameron Meyer and Karin Foster's membership applications.

Treasurer's Report:

February 2024 Treasurer's Report: Celeste Cole distributed a treasurer's report for February 2024 in advance (copy attached) and reported the following information since the last report:

February Income - \$418.33
February Expenditures - \$659.64
Checking account balance - \$4,421.24
Savings account balance - \$11,176.85
Total: \$15,598.09
Year to date income - \$2,370.25
Year to date Expenditures - \$2,780.57
Year to Date Deficit - \$410.32

A motion by Walt Parsons and seconded by Leo Twiggs to accept the February 2024 treasurer's report was approved.

Celeste Cole noted that she had renewed the annual fee for the Quicken software but that the charge had gone on her personal credit card. A motion by Ruth Koury and seconded by Jerry Quintana to approve reimbursement of \$77.36 to Celeste Cole was approved.

President's Remarks: None

Vice Presidents Reports:

A. Membership. Walt Parsons provided an update on new chapter members. Cameron Meyer auditioned and submitted her application for membership and will be in the Tenor section. Karin Foster auditioned and submitted her application for membership and will be in the Lead section. Connor Terborg, who has not attended rehearsal since February 13th, is busy with high school senior year activities and will not be attending rehearsals in the foreseeable future. Walt reported that the New MexiChords has added seven new members since the beginning of 2024. He noted that Sam Kagan resigned from the chorus at the end of February. Mary Turner noted that David Georges' membership expired in early March and that he would not be returning to the chorus.

B. Marketing

- Fred Green provided an update on the new New MexiChords website. He will work with Jerry to link the old and new websites together. He intends to send the URL of the new website to Board members by the end of the week for its review prior to launch.

- Fred discussed on the potential launch of the "Patrons" page and whether the website and that page would be available in time to place an ad in the spring program announcing the Patrons page to allow wide-spread dissemination to concert attendees and others. Discussion also included the special levels of donations - Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze and set monetary limits. Suggestion was made to encourage all chorus members to become, at a minimum, Bronze level patron

members, a \$25 donation. A committee made up of Celeste Cole, Jerry Quintana, Fred Green will meet to finalize details of the patrons page and report back to the Board.

C. Music - None

D. Performance

- Jerry Quintana provided an update on the upcoming Spring concert
- Flyer will be ready to go to the printer in the next few days
- A contract for the services of the Quartet of All Times needs to be sent to its member for approval and signature. Jerry and Celeste will work to complete.
- Chorus quartets planning to perform at the concert must submit their song selection to Bill Biffle no later than April 2, with auditions to be completed no later than April 9th. Jerry will ensure that information is forwarded to Doug Porter to be included in next week's Que Pasa.
- Celeste Cole provided an update on the concert Afterglow. Discussion involved who will take the lead on planning the event, location of event, etc. Ruth Koury, Celeste Cole and Karin Foster will get together to discuss.

E. Program

- Ruth Koury reported that 12 chorus members have signed up for the June 29th choral retreat. In order to break even, 28 chorus members are required to register for this retreat. Bill Biffle said that he would, at Ruth's direction, start discussing the retreat at future choral rehearsals to encourage members to participate. Ruth reported that she is awaiting a signed contract from Kim Vaughn that will cover her training fee, air fare, and hotel bill, noting that the chorus will be saving approximately \$1,900 from last year's retreat. Ruth also noted that the Sante Fe Harmonizers requested her approval to use the format for our choral retreat to schedule one of their own.
- Ruth reported that everything is lined up for the singing of the National Anthem at the Isotopes game on May 14, 2024. Ticket prices have gone up from last year. She requested that the chapter cover the ticket increase of \$.25 for chorus members, so the price of tickets remain \$20. Guest ticket prices will now be \$32 per person. Ruth noted that a minimum of 25 chorus members and guests need to sign up for this event to go forward.

Unfinished Business:

A. Format of Board Meetings Discussion. Bill Biffle requested that the Board consider changing monthly board meetings from Zoom meeting to in-person meetings and offered to host the April 18th meeting at his home. Members who are unable to attend in person are welcome to join in via Zoom. A motion by Ruth Koury and seconded by Richard Grady to change the monthly board meetings to an in-person meeting was approved by a vote of 7 to 2.

New Business:

A. New MexiChords property location

- Leo Twiggs reported that Carlos Alonso has received payment for services rendered to move New MexiChords property from AAA Storage and St. John's United Methodist Church to 401 Laguna Boulevard, SW.

- Bill Biffle discussed protocol for gaining access to his property/storage area. He has asked that any member requiring access to the storage area contact him first, and preferably plan to come to the storage unit initially when he is home.

Other Business:

None

Next Board Meeting: The next meeting of the New MexiChords Board will take place on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 7:30 pm at Bill Biffle's home 401 Laguna Boulevard, SW. Board members not available to attend in person can participate via ZOOM.

Adjournment: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Mary Turner, Secretary

Date submitted

Attachments:

(1) March 2024 Treasurer's Report