

SPARTANBURG PHILHARMONIC
Board of Directors
September 26, 2018
Chapman Cultural Center
West Wing Conference Room

The Meeting was called to order by the President, Rachel Deems, at 6:04pm. She warmly welcomed all in attendance.

Members present: Rachel Deems, Laura Allen, Travis Sutton, Chip McLeod, Meisha Adderley, Karen Bjelland, Jimmy Gibson, Peter Grzan, Cabe Loring, Judy McCravy, Melinda Moretz, Rosalyn Henderson Myers, Samantha Nicholson, Karen Parrott, Bert Shuler, Betsy Neely Sikma, Helen Tipton, John Verreault, Kate White, Bill Wilkinson, Joella Utley.

Stefan Sanders, Diana Berti and Kathryn Boucher were also in attendance.

There was a quorum present.

The minutes from the August 22, 2018 meeting were approved. John Verreault made a motion to accept and Cabe Loring seconded. Peter Grzan noted that the August 22 minutes had a misspelling in the name of Samantha Nicholson.

Travis Sutton gave an update from the Finance committee. He explained that the SP used a "cash" basis accounting right now but that could possibly be changed in the future. Travis also explained the Bluegrass ticket numbers.

Samantha Nicholson gave an update on Audience Development committee. She pointed out that everyone on the board is connected to audience development in one way or another and needs to do their part to grow our base. She would be open to new community members on this committee. Chip McLeod suggested that board members could "meet and greet" attendees at the concerts and perhaps help them find their seats. This may further connect the board to the community.

Helen Tipton gave an update on the Education Committee. They have reached out and set meetings with other youth orchestras and groups to see how they do things, and she hopes to be able to report back findings in January, 2019.

Karen Parrott gave an update on the Fund Development committee and the initiatives they had been working on. She asked that all board members get their pledges in as soon as possible. It was noted by Kathryn Boucher that the staff is at 100% giving participation. Karen is also open to outside committee members that could help

Peter Grzan gave an update on from the Bluegrass committee. They continue to work on acts to come and play. He is trying to locate a food truck for the upcoming Grascals performance.

Kathryn Boucher gave the Executive Director's report. She noted that the event the prior evening at the Marriott had 65 people and was a big success. Kathryn gave the board and update on season ticket sales and reminded the board that the **HearHere** magazine was now just going to be mailed to season ticket subscribers.

Rachel Deems gave an update on the proposed changes with Twichell. These include ADA compliance, bathrooms, lighting, HVAC, etc. Although the SP has explored holding the concerts at other places, it is generally accepted that Twichell is still the best venue. With these potential changes, the SP board would be willing to look at a commitment to stay at Twichell (for some period of time) if favorable terms could be negotiated. Questions on this topic were raised by Laura Allen, Betsy Neely Sikma, John Verreault, Helen Tipton and others. Rachel Deems addressed all of these questions.

Kathryn Boucher brought up the discussion on a SIMPLE plan for the staff. She made a motion that the plan be established to begin January 2019, and recommended the plan be started with Chip McLeod at Merrill Lynch. She explained the amount of funding it would take the SP if all the staff maximized their contributions. Chip McLeod was called on to give a brief overview of the plan again. He did so and also added that he recommends the plan be revisited every 3 years to make sure it is competitive and with the right sponsor (investment firm). This could be done through an informal survey or an RFP. An amendment was offered by Laura Allen that the staff be required to contribute a full 3% of their compensation to not only get the 3% match but to be eligible for any match at all. After some discussion on this amendment it failed to get a second and was tabled. The original motion was voted on and accepted.

Samantha Nicholson mentioned the BARS report she had been working on but it was decided to postpone that discussion until the next meeting to gather some more information.

The board was called into executive session, and the meeting was adjourned by Rachel Deems at 7:19pm.