

GRSA Board Meeting

September 12, 2017

Present: Aaron Boudreaux, Janice Cowan, Hayley Buckley, Anna Cavinato, Cheryl Hudson, Mary Koza, Seglinda Martinez, Pam Moore, Patty Sandoz, Susan Triplett, and Karen Campbell

Not Present: Kathy Thimmes, Alice Trindle, and Keith VanVickle

Guest: Glenn Null

The meeting began at 5:08 pm. Patty passed out information packets to all Board members. She then had us introduce ourselves and talk about our eclipse experience in 5 or less words.

Our attorney, Glenn Null, gave us an update on the Oregon Department of Justice's investigation of our financial dealings. He said that Susan Bower, Assistant Attorney General, is in charge of our case. She called Mr. Null to tell him that the DOJ found nothing actionable about our dealings.

Mr. Null said that Ms. Bower offered to come to our October 10th Board meeting, to meet with all of the parties involved in the investigation. He encouraged the Board to invite her. Janice suggested that Susan Bower could be the facilitator in an educational process of how we can proceed from here.

There was general agreement that we should invite Susan Bower to our October 10th Board meeting. Glen Null will check to see if the complainants will receive a letter. We talked about having the October 10th meeting be solely held to address the Department of Justice issue and having the regular October Board meeting at a later time.

Mr. Null was asked if there is any legal recourse if people still are going behind the Board's back. Another question was about the best way the Board can let potential donors know that we do "due diligence". Mr. Null suggested that we could ask Ms. Bower about this.

Glenn Null left the meeting.

There was an auction update. Ninety-three tickets have been sold. Anna said that they were cutting it off at 100. The auction committee has put a lot of time and effort into the auction and all of the Board members were asked to attend and assist. A sign-up sheet was passed around for members to sign-up to help.

The first chamber concert of the year will be held on Friday, September 29, at 7 pm, at the Pettit's home. Patty will not be in town, so Pam and Cheryl will fill in for her. Another sign-up sheet was sent around to garner helpers for the concert.

The August 9, 2017 Executive Committee minutes were approved as written. (Susan/Mary)

Treasurers' reports – Pam reported on our income. We had \$24,196 by September 12, 2017. Susan reported with a chart from our accountant. (See attached)

Discussed the upcoming Children's Concert. Talked about holding the concert at the high school in the future, because there are over 200 seats more in the high school auditorium. (650 vs. 446 in Loso Hall). The logistics of having to set up at a different location and of finding a place to hold the strings petting zoo were brought up. It was decided to keep the concert at Loso Hall.

Recently, several Board members and other orchestra leaders met with the new La Grande Public Schools superintendent, George Mendoza. He recommended that some of the members meet with the administrators' gathering on September 26th. Mark Emerson will present information about the Grande Ronde Student Symphony and some of his drumming classes; Denise Hattan will give information about the new Fiddle Club that she and Kathy Thimmes are starting at the Island City School; and Cheryl Hudson will give details about the upcoming Children's Concert on November 15th.

It was reported that seven third graders have already been enrolled in the Island City Fiddle Club! There will hopefully be even more enrolled. That's a great beginning for the program!

Alice was interviewed on La Grande Alive. We are encouraged to look it up on Facebook.

We are expanding our mailing list. Patty, Susan and Hayley have worked on them.

A \$3,000 grant was received from Wildhorse. Its purpose is for children's programs.

Susan volunteered Alice to write a grant application for the Leo Adler Foundation. This grant has a due date of early fall.

Aaron's committee met to address paying for needed players. They made these suggestions for a draft Imported Musician policy: for high schoolers, pay \$15 per service plus mileage and for adults, pay \$25 per service plus mileage. Need to seek players for the GRSO that have been requested by Zeke. This will pay for the last 4 rehearsals and the concert. This was a first reading of the proposed policy.

Aaron's committee also voted to change all orchestra start times to 7pm. It was moved and seconded to accept this recommendation. (Aaron/Pam). It passed unanimously.

Three draft policies about our policies were among the sheets in our packets. Yellow-endowment, Green – scholarship and Blue – reserve operating fund.

We discussed letters to and from our donors.

Having Eugene Smith write a book about the Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra was discussed. The Executive Council voted at its August 9, 2017 meeting to fund the book. It will cost \$3,000-\$4,000. The Board will promote the book for our 70th anniversary and is prepared to take a loss on this, but if there is any profit, it will be put in the GRSA general operating fund.

Meeting was dismissed at 7:26pm.