

Fairbanks Frontier Chorus Management Team Meeting July 11, 2023

Attendees: Terri Beach, Janice Cleworth, Judy Dellinger, Amy Dye, Nancy Frith, Kristi Gaikowski, Kanza Keill, Dody Maki, Jen Shelton, and Carol Slater.

We met via zoom. Carol called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Agenda: The agenda was approved as submitted.

Minutes: Minutes from the June 13, 2023 meeting were approved as submitted.

Financial reports/Budget/ Audit: Amy presented the financial reports while Kristi, who will take over as Treasurer, listened in. The budget income was adjusted to reflect the change in the number of dues-paying members, now that Amy is our new Director. IFFF numbers were entered onto the May 2023 report. We got two Amazon Smile donations in May which was odd but could be because the program is being closed out. The CD matured on July 8, 2023. We need to decide what we want to do with it. The remaining costs for new summer costumes were reflected in the June 2023 report. The financial reports were approved.

Team Reports:

Visual: Janice provided a written report. The team finished sewing most of the new summer jackets. Jen's jacket is still missing. Luanne is making matching earrings and made enough for the library performance. Janice will ask other singers at the fair to wear a dress to replace Abby and Carol Ann who normally wear dresses that don't fit their parts anymore. Kristi said she needs a costume still. Dody suggested the team use some Visual Team funds to dress up Amy's costumes to stand out more (as was done for Gayle's and Patty's costumes.)

Communication: Kanza provided a written report. She is making Christmas learning tracks "live." They are big files so it is too much data to have all the files uploaded on the page at once. That's why she only puts current selections up and the rest are stored in the library. Tiny King is missing but maybe is there under a different name. She will keep looking.

Membership: Nancy provided a written report. She will change the number of members from 25 to 24. Nancy asked who the Membership Team gets the dates for Guest Nights from. Carol said the Management team decides when we set the calendar each year. It is on the agenda to work on the 23/24 calendar plan. Nancy booked space at Raven for Monday's extra rehearsals. She asked the Communication team to design a card to hand out at the fair. Kristi said double-sided cards were already done and approved by Joy but only 60 were printed. She will print 40 more. Nancy asked if the dates for Guest Nights are on them. Kristi said yes, Joy gave her the dates of September 7, 14, and 21. Carol pulled up the 23/24 calendar and those dates were already entered on the calendar. Terri updated the emergency contact list and sent it to Carol for a preliminary review before it goes out to the chorus to review. The team will meet next on July 20th at 6:00. Amy said the July birthday bash was moved from the 27th to the 20th because we will be at the fairgrounds on the 27th.

Fundraising: Dody provides a report via email. She said the team plans to start soliciting ads for the Christmas show at the end of August or early September. She will ask people to help with

this. She is also willing to take contact names from people and will make the call. Carol asked her to send her a blurb tonight and she will include it in her box in the announcements.

Music: Amy provided a written report. The team met on 7/5 and decided on the order of songs and tweaked the narration for the fair performance. The quartet had started the learning tracks for the Christmas show but with Michiyo gone, they will do the best they can and will see what tracks need to be redone. They also discussed competition and decided to wait until 2025 to compete. It was a difficult decision to cancel the library performance but now we can focus on the fair. Amy will be gone on Thursday so the Music Team will lead this week's rehearsal. After members expressed their concern about attending this Thursday with covid hitting so many members, the Management team made the decision to cancel this week's practice as we figured there would likely be only 7-8 members there. Amy will send out an email and Carol will put it in the announcements.

Production: Jen didn't have a written report.

Old Business:

- **New Director Search:** The chorus signed a contract with Amy for her services to direct the chorus through the end of December. Janice asked if we should put an announcement in the Pitch Pipe. A former chorus member, Lynette Finstad, had already heard about it so the word is getting out somehow. Carol will collect information from Amy to put together a biographical statement to be submitted to the Pitch Pipe.
- **Alaska Area Music School 2023:** The instructors are planning to stay in a hotel and are coming a day early so they can meet with the Management team on Friday evening. We need to figure out where we will all meet that night. It would be nice to meet in one of our homes rather than at UCPC.
- **Sale of Trailer:** Kanza was happy to announce the trailer sold for \$1900. We had set the price at \$2000 but reduced it to \$1900 due to mismatched tires (one studded, one not; both were different sizes!) There was a hole in the floor (likely from the previous owners who had a welding lathe in the trailer before, according to Cory Upton.) The trailer was purchased by a business called "Knotty Pretzels." Kanza gave the check to Amy.

New Business:

- **Fair Performance:** The Music Team realized during their meeting that prop decisions are needed and the Production Team needs to figure out how the risers will get to the Fairgrounds and who will unload them and reload them. The Boy Scouts did this for us at IFFF. The Music Team would like a sign that can be easily set up so people know who we are. Terri researched having a sign made at Dateline that rolls up and hooks onto the stand. Kristi said we could use the same artwork from last year unless we want a generic one. After some discussion, it was agreed that a generic one would be the most useful. A 6' sign was \$330 and a 77" sign was \$205. They're made of vinyl so it will last a long time. We discussed other options but decided to stay with Dateline who only needs 5 days' notice and who is also one of our supporters. Kristi

will be the narrator for the Fair. Janice will put together a list of the props used for each song in the past and will send it to Amy for her approval. Kanza asked Janice to let her know if she should bring her two stools for Dan McGrew.

- **Christmas Show:** Carol tried to contact Kristin twice but hasn't heard back. She had planned on talking to the men this Thursday at the library. She asked if she should reach out to Mike instead. Kristi said Kristin is doing an opera production and is currently out of the state. Carol will call or email Mike to ask what their plans are for Christmas.

- **Calendar:** We went through each month and made changes accordingly. A suggestion was made to do photos for Christmas using an I-phone instead of hiring a photographer. The individual photos we did last year turned out just fine. Carol will ask Carol Ann F. to poll the chorus to see if they would prefer to do the second singing Christmas cards on the 19th or the 21st.

- **Competition:** We should schedule a coaching session at some point but since we are not competing in 2024, we were not sure when a good time would be. We discussed reasons why we canceled doing it in 2024; we are behind at this point in starting on a competition package (getting music picked out, etc.) and the Region 13 competition dates were moved from April to the end of May. We have many teachers in our chorus who wouldn't be able to come then. We are ok to skip 2024 as we last did it in 2022 and only have to do it once every 3 years. Amy said she wrote an email asking why they changed it to May and got a rather cavalier response. We decided it was most urgent to send a letter to Regional to ask them to keep the Region 13 2025 competition in the normal month of April and not at the end of May. They must take into account that Alaska schools get out in May whereas most lower 48 schools get out in June.

- **Cover for the Trailer:** Tabled to next month.

- **Other:** Dody said she would like to rethink whether or not her team can do an IFFF in 2024. Doing it in back-to-back years would be difficult. She may want to postpone it until 2026. Amy said we have enough funds set aside for Competition and for chorus needs if that is their decision. Abby contacted the church about the vole but the church said they couldn't find it.

Adjourn: Carol adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Next Meeting – 8/8/23 at 6:00 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Dellinger, Secretary.