

## **Fairbanks Frontier Chorus Management Team Meeting January 9, 2024**

Attendees: Judy Dellinger, Amy Dye, Kristi Gaikowski, Kanza Keill, Dody Maki, Joy McDougall, Carol Slater, Jen Shelton, and Ellen Axmear (Ellen took notes for Jen for part of the meeting.)

We met via Zoom. Carol called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Agenda:** The agenda was approved as submitted except to move the financial report to later in the meeting after Kristi can join in.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the November 14, 2023 meeting were approved as submitted.

### **Team Reports:**

**Membership:** Joy provided a written report. Nancy has resigned and Joy will complete the term. We have 24 members counting Amy as the Director. The Christmas show Gallery was well done and the photos were put away according to sections. Cards were sent to Lou Davis and Francis. The new roster is done but updates are still needed. The team is working on a birthday bash signup sheet and installation. We discussed dates for installation and chose May 11, 2024. The early 11:00 am start time is to allow social time before the lunch and installation ceremony starts. Joy will see if the Greens restaurant is available that day.

**Visual:** Janice provided a written report. Props for the Christmas show were all delivered back to the storage room and the costume and prop area reorganized. Hannah returned her costume. The hippo prop was a hit at the Christmas show but the question was posed whether we should keep it. It could deteriorate or get damaged if stored for a long time since we don't often sing the hippopotamus song. If we use it at competition, it would be worth storing and selling it afterward. There is a second Christmas tree in storage that isn't used unless we do our show at West Valley which has a bigger stage than Pioneer Park. Janice will discuss these props further with her team and bring a recommendation to the February meeting.

**Fundraising:** Dody provided a written report. The team got all the handwritten thank-you notes out to program ad supporters which included seven new supporters. \$4,530 in ad sales and \$1120 in singing Christmas cards were raised. There was a few unsold spaces for singing cards but more cards were sold to people outside the chorus this year. The team will look for a Christmas show sponsor or sponsors and Dody will ask the chorus for potential sponsor suggestions. Dody asked to have the "kudos to her team" section in her report put into the announcements. Dody suggested her team will use 2024 to think of new creative ideas for raising money. It was suggested we do the same for recruiting new members since we aren't doing competition or IFFF this year. IFFF is getting harder to do and auction sales harder as our attendees don't need more "stuff." Dody suggested including the line "Our Future" under old business on the standing agenda so that membership recruitment, new fundraising ideas, and other ideas can become an ongoing discussion.

**Music:** Amy provided a report. She showed Paula Davis the video of the Friday night performance of the "Hippopotamus" and "Mary Did You Know" songs and Paula was very impressed. December was very busy with a successful Christmas show, sing-outs at the

Pioneer Home and Raven Landing, and the singing Christmas cards. The team met and discussed music for the April performance. Amy attended a Director's Conference where much of the training was on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Some choruses are splitting over the issue of allowing transgender women into their choruses. International's standing rules are that all women (including trans and non-binary) are welcome. It's up to each chorus to decide what to put into their own standing rules. Transgender women have lower vocal registers as the last thing the hormones do is raise their registers a bit. Our chorus hasn't been following our audition processes because Christmas show singers don't audition. We need to review our standing rules and update them if needed. Janice suggested looking at other chorus's audition processes. Amy said overall she felt uplifted at the conference. She learned most of the choruses are now doing the Open Division at the regional competitions.

**Communication:** Kanza provided a written report. Erin uploaded the Christmas Show videos to the YouTube channel and Kanza loaded the links on the website. The roster was sent to the chorus members. Once corrections are made, an updated copy will be resent and put on the website. Patricia compiled the results of 140 Christmas show surveys. Kanza will send a link to the video to Jenna Drydoppel so her NPHS students can see their performance. The videos are not split out. Ellen said Kanza should have received 4 or 5 videos split out with NPHS and the men's video sent separately. Dody will send Kanza a list of supporters to add to the website and a list of which supporters to remove.

**Production:** Jen provided a written report. Her team helped to put on a successful Christmas show and will have a follow-up Christmas show meeting. We discussed dates and January 23<sup>rd</sup> worked best for the Management team.

**Financial Report:** A financial report for November and December 2023 was approved with amendments to move Christmas singer income from the Club account to the general fund and to move the expense to Sandy S-N from the deposit column to the payment column in the costume fund section. Not all income had been deposited yet such as some ticket sales, Singing Christmas card sales, and the check for the Raven Landing performance. The maturity dates for the two CDs were on the financial report and they don't mature until March and July 2024. The Christmas Show report showed \$5,776.58 in ticket revenue with 481 tickets sold and 44 tickets comped to ad supporters. Kristy will remove the cost of pre-paying Pioneer Park for 2024 from the 2023 Christmas show costs.

### **Old Business:**

- **Director Contract:** The director contract through April 30, 2024, was signed at the Christmas party.

**New Business:** None

**Adjourn:** Carol adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

**Next Meeting – 2/13/24 at 6:00 PM**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Dellinger, Secretary.