

Pilgrim Festival Chorus

Minutes of Meeting

May 9, 2005
Plymouth Elks Hall
52 Long Pond Rd., Plymouth, Mass.

Presiding: C.Melahoures.

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

Secretary's Report:

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived by voice vote. The minutes, as distributed were **approved**.

Treasurer's Report:

L .Fredericks presented the Treasurer's report (attached to these Minutes), showing a balance of \$2585.95. It was mentioned that plans for the '05-'06 season will require the use of these funds. The report was **approved** as presented.

Director's Report:

B. Richter expressed his thanks to the Members for all their efforts. He reviewed the high points of the Fall (*Missa Brevis* and Bach's *Nun Danket*), Winter (Holiday Pops), and Spring (*Messiah*) concerts. He appreciates the fact that the PFC can be challenged to perform great music.

He discussed the opportunity for a group of PFC members to sing the National Anthem at the opening of Plymouth's Annual Town Meeting on May 16. He will meet with interested singers to rehearse, following the conclusion of the Business Meeting.

B.Richter also discussed the July 5, 2005 extended season concert at The Church of the Pilgrimage. This will involve six rehearsals, beginning May 16. Music will include 16th century madrigals, English folk songs, and *Wind in the Willows* by John Rutter. (it was noted that this was a concert designated "optional" by the Board, but that participation was encouraged).

The 2005-2006 Season was announced. Rehearsal and performance schedule will be posted on the website this week.

1. November 5 concert of contemporary 20th century music, performed in conjunction with the South Shore Winds.
2. Holiday Pops with the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra, December 10 and 11.
3. Spring concert on April 8 and 9, 2006, featuring Brahms *German Requiem* and two shorter works by Mendelssohn.

The PFC needs to look at how we can grow. Bill recommended that members take every possible opportunity to attend other choral concerts. We also need to attract more experienced singers, since the PFC is no longer a chorus which can be built with beginning singers.

Maureen Hague suggested that the PFC could contact other towns where members reside, to make them aware that the PFC could sing at their Town Meetings.

Meredith Hutchings recommended that Members look at the Boston Choral Consortium's website (linked on ours) to see the numerous choral performances that Members could attend.

President's Report:

C. Melahoures was pleased to report a very successful second year as the reorganized Pilgrim Festival Chorus. The Board continued to meet once per month over the course of the season to plan and set operating policies.

"For our concert season, the PFC presented Kodaly's *Missa Brevis* and Bach *Cantata #192 Now Thank We All our God* in November, performed with the Plymouth Philharmonic in the Holiday Pops concert, December of 2004 and presented two performances of the oratorio, *Messiah* in April, 2005."

"We were saddened by the loss of Bob Cummings, a recently retired administrator in the Plymouth Public Schools, who had been a member for just one year before he was diagnosed with cancer."

“Financially, for the second year in a row, we ended the 2004-05 season in the black.”

“This past spring, we conducted a member survey. Issues raised involved communications, publicity, programming, and rehearsal practices. The Board will be looking at each of these areas in the coming year for ways to improve. Additionally, we will be investigating the possibility of once again, becoming an incorporated non-profit.”

“I wish to thank all of the Board members who made my job easier, especially outgoing Board members – Doug Post, Verna and Al Hoyt, and Nancy Richard.”

“I also wish to thank our Music Director Bill Richter and our accompanist, Elizabeth Reilly for their dedicated and competent leadership.”

New Business:

1. D. Post presented the following motion of the Board:

Moved that the following clarification of Membership obligations be adopted:

In accordance with the Bylaws, membership in the PFC is an annual commitment for Active Members. Annual Dues, established by the Board of Directors, are due at times determined by the Board, and may be paid in two installments (usually a fall/winter season and a spring season).

Recognizing that there are times when an Active Member may not be able to participate in a concert season, said Member may retain Active status by notifying the Board of his or her planned absence, and paying dues for the entire year.

Alternately, an Active Member may notify the Board of his or her planned absence and not pay for the season missed. In this case, the Member relinquishes Active status and becomes an Inactive Member.

An Inactive Member may return to Active status for a concert season, subject to the following:

1. *That there is an opening in their section;*
2. *that, at the discretion of the Music Director, they re-audition and are accepted; and*
3. *that they meet their financial and rehearsal obligations for that season.*

Non-participation in additional, extended season rehearsals and concerts, if any, designated “optional” by the Board, shall not affect an Active Member’s status.

Discussion. **Approved** (unanimous)

2. Board Nominations:

On behalf of the Board, C. Melahoures placed the following names into nomination for the Board of Directors: **Meredith Hutchings, Klaus Haak, Joyce Sand, Dan Miot** (3 year term), and **Maureen Hague** (1 year term). There being no additional names put forward, the nominations were closed. The slate was **elected** by unanimous vote.

3. A.Hoyt discussed the availability of grants from the Cultural Arts Councils in various towns. This year, the PFC has been awarded \$750 from the Town of Plymouth. He encouraged members living in other towns to work with the Board to apply for grants in their towns.

Announcements:

1. M.Hutching discussed the upcoming Walk for Music in Boston. Members interested in participating should see her following the meeting. Free t-shirts will be given to those signing up tonight.
2. C.Melahoures thanked Al and Verna Hoyt for setting up for the meeting.

There being no further business, there was a **motion** made for adjournment.
The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Douglas R. Post, Secretary