

New MexiChords Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 15, 2024

A regular meeting of the New MexiChords Board of Directors was held on February 15, 2024 via ZOOM. Tom Cole called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

The following members were in attendance:

Tom Cole, President
Celeste Cole, Treasurer
Mary Turner, Secretary
Fred Green, VP of Marketing
Walt Parsons, VP of Membership
Richard Grady, VP of Music
Ruth Koury, VP of Programs
Jerry Quintana, VP of Performance
Leo Twiggs, Member at Large

Absent:

Rebecca Biffle, Member at Large

The following guest was in attendance:

Lyn Taylor

A motion by Richard Grady and seconded by Jerry Quintana to accept the agenda for today's board meeting was approved.

Secretary Report:

Mary Turner reported that a quorum was present.

The minutes of the January 25, 2024 board meeting had previously been approved by the board via e-mail. A motion by Ruth Koury and seconded by Richard Grady to accept the minutes were approved. Rehearsal attendance for January for five rehearsals averaged 30.4 (81%) with 11 guest appearances for the month.

The minutes of the January 30, 2024 special board meeting were reviewed. A motion by Jerry Quintana and seconded by Celeste to accept the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

January 2024 Treasurer's Report: Celeste Cole distributed a treasurer's report for January 2024 in advance (copy attached) and reported the following information since the last report:

January Income - \$1,951.92
January Expenditures - \$2,120.93
Checking account balance - \$4,663.88
Savings account balance - \$11,175.52

Total: \$15,839.40
Year to date income - \$1,951.92
Year to date Expenditures - \$2,120.93
Deficit - \$169.01

A motion by Leo Twiggs and seconded by Jerry Quintana to accept the January 2024 treasurer's report was approved.

President's Remarks:

Tom Cole reported that the Singing Valentines event was a success and is looking forward to see how much money was made for ABCC.

Vice Presidents Reports:

A. Membership. Walt Parsons provided an update on new chapter members. The Board had previously accepted the membership applications of Eric Green and John Miracle for membership in the New MexiChords via e-mail on February 7, 2024. Debbie Green will be eligible to audition for the Musical Director at the February 20th choir rehearsal. Membership in The New MexiChords has grown by five since January 1, 2024, with one potential application pending. There are two potential members who have visited rehearsals as guests. Walt also reported that Mike Grijalva has renewed his membership dues for 2024; Sam Kagan has indicated that he intends to renew his membership as well (dues expire on February 28, 2024).

B. Marketing - Fred Green discussed changes he has made to Groupanizer and requested board approval to send out an instruction sheet to current and new members to assist them in navigating the site.

Fred walked the board through the various features of the new website he has created for the New MexiChords. He asked for board approval to launch the website and stated that would block access to areas that are not yet fully designed. Jerry Quintana said that he, Fred and Celeste Cole need to get together to discuss the website features before seeking board approval. This topic will be added to the March board meeting agenda.

C. Music - None

D. Performance

Jerry Quintans sought board approval for the dates of the 2024 holiday concerts at St. John's. Proposed dates are December 19-21, 2024, with concerts on December 20th and 21st and technical rehearsal on December 19th. A motion by Richard Grady and seconded by Walt Parsons to approve the dates of the 2024 holiday concert was approved.

Jerry announced that Quartet of All Time would be returning as the guest artists for the Spring concert. Their fee for two concerts will be \$1,400.00.

Celeste Cole briefed the Board on providing gift baskets for raffle at the Spring concert (similar to what was done at the 2023 holiday concerts). Mary Turner will work with Celeste to develop themes for the four gift baskets to be raffled.

E. Program - Ruth Koury presented a breakdown of costs for the choral retreat on June 29, 2024 at Isleta Casino and Resort . A motion by Richard Grady and seconded by Leo Twiggs to approve a \$100 per person cost for the choral retreat was approved. The Chapter will subsidize \$4 per person for a total of \$126.50. Chapter members who may need assistance with this cost will be encouraged to discuss with President Tom Cole.

Ruth discussed a proposal she has been working on with La Vida Llana which would provide reciprocal rehearsal and performance space at the facility in exchange for concerts to the residents. She needed board guidance on a requirement to provide year of birth for each board member/chorus member. A motion by Richard Grady and seconded by Celeste Cole to contract with La Vida Llana to foster an ongoing relationship for rehearsal and performance was approved.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

A. Board Meeting Format Change. Bill Biffle requested that the Board discuss changing monthly board meetings from a ZOOM format back to in-person meetings. A motion by Ruth Koury and seconded by Walt Parsons to change board meetings to in-person meeting was tabled. The topic will be added to the March board meeting agenda.

B. Storage Unit Location Change. In an effort to save money on rental costs, Bill Biffle graciously offered the New MexiChords chapter use of one of his garage spaces to store New MexiChords items, such as music, uniform/performance items, audio/visual equipment, etc. A motion by Richard Grady and seconded by Walt Parsons to accept Bill Biffle's offer was approved. An agreement will be drawn up between the two parties specifying that the items belonging to the New MexiChords stored in the garage will be returned to the chapter in the event this agreement must be terminated and to allow access to the Biffle property to access the garage. Ruth Koury will draft an agreement document. Additionally, the Board agreed that a complete inventory of property will be completed once the items have been moved to the new space. Leo Twiggs agreed to be the lead on this move and will work with Bill Biffle to accomplish the move. Celeste Cole reported that the current storage space must be vacated and completely cleaned out by March 22, 2024.

A letter of agreement will be drawn up between The New MexiChords and ABCC transferring the choir risers to the ABCC. The risers currently stored at St. John's Methodist Church will be moved to the new storage space.

Other Business:

None

Next Board Meeting: The next meeting of the New MexiChords Board will take place on Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 7:30 pm via ZOOM.

Adjournment: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.

Mary Turner, Secretary

Date submitted

Attachments:

- (1) January 2024 Treasurer's Report
- (2) Choral Retreat Cost Breakdown with Isleta Casino and Resort