

June 24, 2025

#### Present

Jim Ogle, Terry Berger (left early), Lee Roby, Jonelle Darrow, Jennifer Anderson, Louise van der Eijk, Kim Moss, Jennife Rhees, Ken Suchy, Erik Larson, John Baldwin, Kelley Smith

#### Absent

Jenny Iorga, Dan Malan, Annette Matlock, Richelle Greene

Jennifer A made a motion to approve May minutes, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

The board needs to hold officer elections soon. We can accomplish this via email if we'd like, but needs to happen in a timely manner. Please give it thought and let the board know which office suits you best. We also need to find a personnel manager, stage manager and marketing manager (can be on the board but does not have to be board members).

Terry followed up on his conversations with Lorie and Briana. Lorie is looking for ideas to recruit and retain members. The board discussed briefly and agreed that we need to look at where we advertise for auditions, first. It would also be pertinent to dive into why members leave the orchestra. Briana aired her grievances with her perceived treatment from Jim.

John Baldwin and Kelley Smith attended the meeting to discuss our absence form (and making sure it gets into the hands of the artistic director in a timely manner). They also have concerns about our Kleiner Park performances, stating temperature and direct sun exposure may be in violation of our bylaws. Kelley also had great suggestions as to how to deal with the light/sound issue at our concerts. The drama teacher at MHS trains her students very well in this area and they would be a valuable asset to our concert days. John also expressed the desire to be able to leave a few smaller instruments and trap tables and our rehearsal facility.

#### Personnel

- Auditions will be Saturday, August 9 and Monday, August 18. Our audition numbers have been down over the last several years and we would like to increase our advertising in hopes of gaining more members.
  - We have openings for section strings, 3rd flute/piccolo, principal oboe, second bassoon, 3rd trumpet, principal trombone, percussion and piano. Seth Thomas has played with us for four of our five 2024-25 season concerts. The board agreed that we should ask him to be a regular member of our orchestra.
- Jim announced that his last season with MSO would be 2025-26.
  - Jim would like to plan repertoire for our season opener and Christmas concerts and have potential artistic director candidates plan the remaining concerts.
  - The board will organize a committee consisting of board and orchestra members to do a search.

- Ken made a motion to approve up to \$2400 per concert to be used to hire extras. The motion was seconded by Jennifer A and was unanimously approved.
  - There is always lengthy discourse on the topic of hiring extras and this was no exception. The reason we hire extras is to maintain proper balance for the repertoire we continue to play.
  - It is possible we may ask those hired to play two rehearsals, plus dress and concert.
- Missed Rehearsals policy
  - Our artistic policy states that members may only miss two rehearsals for an 8 rehearsal set or one for a 6 rehearsal set. Some feel this is unfair, especially when the member is capable of playing the part well. The board agreed that we should allow for exceptions, which would be made in consultations with the section principal and artistic director. The artistic policy will be amended to reflect this change.

Jim made the suggestion that we honor Steve's service to the orchestra. The board will discuss options at the next meeting in August.

Proposed 2025-26 dates are as follows:

Concert 1, November 1 (confirmed with MHS)  
 Concert 2 (Christmas), December 13 and 14  
 Concert 3, February 28 (confirmed with MHS)  
 Concert 4, May 2  
 Kleiner Park, June 13

The Artistic Policy will be reviewed and corrections offered at our next board meeting, which will be held Thursday, August 7.