

**Seabury Academy of Music and the Arts
Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting
Minutes of October 1, 2019, 6:30 Meeting
ARTWorks Gallery**

Members Present: Anthony Crisci (Board Vice President), Elia Kopreski, Susan Leggitt, Nick Revel, Jake Street (Artistic Director), David Ward (Treasurer), Steven Worth, Susan Cole (Secretary)

The meeting was called to order at 6:35.

- Previous June 25, 2019 minutes approved.
- Daniela Gongora and Natasha Karpinskaia were voted in as new Board members unanimously.

Documents distributed: Agenda, June 25, 2019 Minutes, biographies and letters from candidates for Board Membership, Seabury Academy Budget July 2019 through June 2020, Seabury Academy Budget July 2018 through June 2019, Seabury Academy Preliminary Budget v. Actual Budget 2018-2019 Program Year, Seabury Academy Profit & Loss by Class April through June 2019, Seabury Academy Profit & Loss by Class July 2018 through June 2019, Seabury Academy Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison July 2018 through June 2019, Seabury Academy Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison April through June 2019, Seabury Academy Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2019, Annual Appeal Breakdown

Board thanks to Susan Leggitt for ARTWorks Gallery

- Jake thanked Susan for her brilliant work upgrading the gallery space in Chittim Howell House to a state of the art exhibition venue.
- The professional gallery lighting, and other upgrades have made the space a place where many professional artists and art organizations are eager to be invited.
- The exhibitions Susan has arranged over her tenure as Gallery Director have been beautifully curated, popular with the public, and very profitable for Seabury Academy.
- The Board joined Jake in heartfelt thanks for Susan's hard work and major contribution to Seabury Academy.

Treasurer's Report: Review of financial reports and budget

- David reported that Seabury is really doing well, and doing an excellent job keeping costs in control.
- He is excited about where we currently stand financially, as well as improvements still to be made.
- With Jake he worked up the budget for July 2019 through June 2020 .
- The selling of Stew's cards brings in a sizable income of \$10,000.
- A new line item for 2019-2020 is a Rainy day fund of \$1000.
- The cost of the Chorister trips was \$44,305.95 in the 2018-2019 program year, which was over what had been budgeted. However, Chorister families really did plan ahead for the Washington, D.C. trip. Encouraging Chorister families to plan ahead for trips each year is important.

Artistic Director's Report: Program Updates

- Jake reported that the Chorister program is going really well. The following weekend they were going to Worcester, MA, and to Boston later in the year.
- A small amount of money was lost on Sunday Concerts. Nevertheless, the concerts were excellent, and considering all the concerts together Seabury was basically on budget all year- in

fact, it came out ahead. Because of careful planning of projected programs and their costs, Jake stated “We went, saw, and conquered” with financial planning.

- Jake has planned nine concerts for Mid-Day Music, hoping each concert will have an audience of at least 30.
- He has planned three Sunday afternoon concerts, with the theme of social justice uniting them and tying in with Seabury Academy’s mission statement and the radical welcome mission of St. Paul’s: open doors to Seabury Academy and open doors to our church. One concert will relate to immigration, another to feminism, for example.
- A new flyer has been designed with all the concerts listed: MDM and Sunday PM.

Other updates

- The Annual Appeal was successful. \$6000.00 was raised by the current Seabury Board, and 7-9 past Board members contributed.
- 650 brochures were sent out, and the appeal went out via Instagram post and MailChimp. Online giving was possible because Jake set up a Seabury PayPal account.
- A grand total of \$9,500.00 was raised!
- Work on grants was the next topic. Jake spoke with the Head of Charitable Giving at Synchrony, Denise Yap.
- Anthony spoke about the first funder we’re applying to, Fairfield County Community Foundation, which has 3 grant cycles a year. We’re going to apply for Seabury’s summer camp program. We need to come up with a robust mission statement for Exploring Music and Arts Camp, and devise metrics for assessment. Brainstorming, we came up with the reasons for its existence: demonstrating the life affirming process of involvement in the arts, developing new understandings of the creative process, nurturing new passions for the arts, making new friends and hopefully new Choristers. If we get a grant for \$2500.00 we could expand the program to two weeks and possibly include field trips to museums.

Seabury Academy Leadership Updates

- Jake thanked Susan Leggitt for her tireless work and support as Vice President of Seabury Academy. It is to Susan’s credit that Seabury Academy has improved in organization, and self-sufficiency.
- All Board members joined in Jake’s warm thanks.
- Anthony Crisci was voted in unanimously and enthusiastically as the next Vice President.
- The Future- Some Considerations: How large do we want Seabury to be? What do we want each program to be? How much should we expand the Board and how do we increase its diversity and look for members outside of the St. Paul’s congregation?
- We should take some time to review Seabury’s mission, its vision for the future, and its strategy for programming.
- If there were a surplus of funds could we offer scholarships to students who show special interests and talents, like InTempo in Stamford? Could we initiate a coffeehouse once a month for teenagers?

Next meeting

- Tuesday, December 10th, 2019 6:30

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM