

ICSOM Governing Board Calls - Saturday May 30 & Tuesday June 2, 2009

Bruce Ridge, Brian Rood, Laura Ross, Michael Moore, Richard Levine, Matt Comerford, Paul Gunther, Cathy Payne, Meredith Snow, Len Leibowitz

SATURDAY:

1. Media A/V convergence update – Laura and Matt gave a report about what the committee has been involved in the past few weeks. There is no multi-employer group anymore and there is concern about certain local orchestra negotiations that are about to begin. Whether any of this will produce results is yet to be seen. Much depends upon orchestras insisting the AFM is the bargaining agent.
2. Proposed meeting with Chris Durham – Chris asked to have a meeting with ROPA and ICSOM and to save costs, it was suggested that they wait until the LCC meeting (Len has been asked to attend by Chris) to meet. Brian will be in New York for a Strike Fund Trustees meeting earlier and will have dinner with Chris at that time.

Wage charts – there was a question about whether should they be shared with the managers. Some felt that the League must become more willing to share the OSRs before we discuss sharing wage charts, which include labor issues that are of no concern to management. For now, it should be up to the orchestra whether they want to share it or not. Paul said he and Chris had discussed the idea of wage charts being available only in electronic form.
3. Info on Pension – Bill Foster’s schedule is tight as the orchestra travels to New York and then China, but we hope to speak to him at the end of the Tuesday call.
4. Conference updates – Bruce spoke about potential speakers and their status so far. He also mentioned another advocacy program Save the Music through VH1 that might be of interest.

TUESDAY:

Bruce Ridge, Brian Rood, Laura Ross, Matt Comerford, Richard Levine, Meredith Snow, Michael Moore, Paul Gunther, Len Leibowitz (Cathy Payne was not available)

Bill Foster was expected to join at the end of the call to discuss recent information regarding the Pension Fund’s receipt of a “Red Zone” rating, they have a year to fix this and can use last year’s “Green Zone” rating to cover this year. There were questions about employer liability that could be imposed or could there be a further reduction in the multiplier?

Brian gave a preview of the Kansas City tentative agreement.

- a. conference – while all the speakers are not yet confirmed, everything else is falling into place.
- b. next issue of *Senza Sordino* – there will be one more pre-conference issue (target date of July 15 for delivery and deadline for articles will be around June 15). MALs will contact their delegates about whether their orchestra would prefer individual mailing or the box and to solicit newsletters. Laura has an article about Media negotiations, newsletters due by June 12, there will be a tribute to Henry Shaw, and Bruce’s column. Michael suggested separating the newsletters by negotiations and reopeners. It was suggested that rather than dealing with just reporting on settlements, they could report on the unusual reasons that led to their reopeners. Can we find out what some of these reasons are? Len thought he could write an article on this situation, maybe for this issue, maybe later.

- c. Logo – crescendo is the logo, Laura made a suggestion for a different version for bulletins, memos, etc. that make the writing and crescendo in black and gray with a white outlined box. Michael asked to see it with different fonts.
- d. July LCC/PCC Meeting in Vegas – we need to begin thinking about what Bruce will say in July.
- e. summer travel for the Chair (ROPA, OCSM, etc.) – LAO is June 12; July 25-28 for LCC/PCC; ROPA is in Dayton Aug. 4-6 (they're celebrating their 25th anniversary), and OCSM is in Thunder Bay Aug. 12-16.
- f. Brief orchestra reports – Brian, Bill Foster and Bruce were able to talk to the Cleveland committee. They've been given a history of the media negotiations, and have been promised a copy of the IMA document. The musicians were very receptive to ICSOM's assistance for information and support. Laura gave a brief report of the past few media committee phone calls and the status of the media agreement (IMA – Integrated Media Agreement). Honolulu has received one week of pay but they're still owed for 15 more weeks. Dallas has settled and according to Paul, the librarians are now in the bargaining unit.

Next call – Wednesday, July 8 – 9PM EDT; 8PM CDT; 6PM PDT