

## **Governing Board Conference Call – 4/5/2010**

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

Minutes from the March Governing Board call were previously approved as written via e-mail.

### 1. Senza Sordino

- a. reaction to Bruce's pre-posted article –The posting on Orchestra-L has provoked discussion, including assurances by VP of Canada Bill Skolnik, that it had not been his intention that the IEB's recent action regarding the "5 points" would remove the PCC speaking opportunity at the AFM convention.
- b. possible AFTA inclusion – Laura suggested an expanded article for the convention edition to bring the attention of AFTA to inform all the delegates.
- c. goal is for production of the next edition in time for AFM Convention, which begins June 21.

2. Counsel issues – The Board continued its discussions about and moved toward resolution of the issue of Len Leibowitz's status.

Additionally, there were comments about how helpful Mike Okun and Tim Brown have been advising the board on numerous issues.

### 3. AFM Convention planning

- a. attendance for ICSOM – Meredith will attend and will drive from LA and stay with Laura. Laura and Michael are delegates for their locals. There was discussion about arrival and attendance at regional conferences prior to the convention.
- b. Convention book advertisement – the board agreed to taking out a full page ad that will pair ICSOM's orchestras with their locals.
- c. LMRDA and the e-lists – Richard suggested posting the LMRDA announcement regarding election rules to protect ourselves.

4. IEB – Bruce has received the AFM ethics policy regarding LMRDA from Joe Parente. ICSOM is comfortable with our compliance.

Site to visit to Dallas/Fort Worth – George Dimitri has asked Bruce to come visit Ft. Worth and he could visit Dallas at the same time.

5. new ICSOM Policy book – Mike sent out a draft; Richard, Laura and Michael have sent some suggestions and comments. Laura will compile this into a working document but will speak to Richard first.

6. Bylaw committee report – Richard, Michael, Laura and Brian spoke with Mike Okun who asked for one document to work with. Laura spent a few hours compiling all the comments and corrections into one document with color coding concerning specific actions.

7. AFM-EPF – The Cleveland Orchestra voted prior to April 1, to move out of the pension fund and to identify another pension option that is superior to the AFM plan by the 2011 season. There are many questions but none of the trustees appear willing to speak about this situation. There are concerns about Fund recovery and questions about whether pending Federal legislation could affect that plan. There are also worries that employers may take the pension increases out of the pockets of the musicians in upcoming negotiations – once again passing the burden on to musicians, not the employers, to bail out

the Fund. Bruce and Brian will continue to reach out for advice and to find out if the League is making any recommendations.

Laura suggested writing a letter to all the AFM trustees asking about the impact on recent Federal legislation and the recovery plan.

*(Cathy left the call)*

8. ICSOM Conference planning – various speakers, and people who can help us contact them, were discussed. Chris Durham has asked for additional time for the SSD presentation and Bruce asked everyone to review his thoughts about a conference theme.

#### 9. orchestra reports

- a. Honolulu – the board chair has tried arguing the orchestra didn't belong in ICSOM for comparison purposes so Bruce sent information disputing the argument.
- b. Puerto Rico – Bruce continues to reach out but has heard nothing in return.
- c. Columbus – there was a brief discussion about the announcement that the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts (CAPA) will be managing the orchestra; it is possible this could be a working relationship similar to Charlotte and the Arts and Sciences Council. CAPA also manages venues.

#### 10. miscellaneous

Concern was expressed that Chris Durham has not been calling Bruce; Chris reaches out to other board members and though he is told to call Bruce, it is not happening. It was suggested Bruce call Chris.

**next call – May 3 @ 4:30 EDT/3:30 CDT/1:30PM**