

ICSOM Governing Board Call

11/29/11

Bruce Ridge, Brian Rood, Laura Ross, Michael Moore, Richard Levine, Paul Gunther, Cathy Payne, Meredith Snow, Susan Martin; (Matt Comerford – called in toward end of call)

1. mid-winter planning: February 26 & 27, 2012 are the meeting dates. Susan will find a place for dinner on Sunday evening – 6:30 to 7:00PM.
 - a. **hotel** – Susan reported that her office has been checking hotels - Fairfield Inn was discussed as was the idea that ICSOM might be able to use the Phoenix Symphony discount; Susan is investigating. Brian has the contacts for the Westin in Chicago if we want to try and utilize that relationship. Additionally, Michael said wherever we go we need free internet.
 - b. **Jay Blumenthal** – because we are so tightly scheduled it was suggested we might use our time better if we teleconference to save Jay the time and hassle of flying to Phoenix and save the AFM some money.
 - c. **Other** – We should purchase plane tickets. There is a Phoenix Symphony Pops concert Sunday afternoon so those interested and able might want to consider attending.
2. MAL research on Players Associations – MALs will remind their delegates to fill out and send the questionnaire to Laura who will scan the returned documents.
3. There was a brief discussion about the recent pension decision by the PBGC to take over the frozen pension plan and how this affects current retirees and current working musicians in Philadelphia.
4. Orchestra updates
 - a. Louisville – recent events were reviewed.
 - b. New York City Opera – tomorrow is supposed to be the “drop dead” date. The orchestra offered to play performances for free, in exchange for a shared leadership position that was rejected. Later this week they expect management to declare impasse and the orchestra will either be locked out or on strike if management imposes the agreement.
 - c. Syracuse – they continue to perform concerts to record crowds - and turning many away from the sold-out concerts - there have not been any further symposiums.
 - d. Colorado – the musicians/board joint response was not posted by the Denver Post. Concerts are being added back to the schedule.

(Susan left the call)
5. 2012 conference planning
 - a. **Any general updates** – Invitations have been sent to the former ICSOM Chairs, and most have responded in the affirmative to attend; we await final confirmation from others. Laura mentioned she will be in Chicago beginning December 19 and plans to try and meet with the Local and delegate hosts.
 - b. **Logo update** – Richard sent a letter with suggestions but has not heard back. December 14 is deadline for the next *International Musician* article if we wanted to reveal the new logo in the *IM*.

6. Website

- a. Need for updates and budget – Laura previously forwarded Charles Noble’s website designer suggestion. Visually, the website needs updating and it’s not as user friendly as it could be; additionally, we can unveil it for the 50th anniversary. Bruce would like to reach out to the web designer and a budget range was discussed. Richard and Michael will send suggestions to Laura prior to contacting a web designer.

(Matt joined the call)

7. More 2012 Conference planning - Paul and Matt reported on meetings they held in November when Paul and his wife Holly Slocum traveled to Chicago. They reported positively on a number of items including possible sites for the celebration.
8. December issue of Senza – Two articles have been submitted by Bruce and Brian plus a brief newslet from Chicago. MALs could ask for a little more content but Richard has suggested he could send out a 4-page draft. Possible additional inclusions could be the upcoming NYC Opera decision, a possible Louisville update, the San Francisco Symphony pension article, and Bruce will contact Colorado to see if they wish to include anything. Another possible article could be about the Waldeck/Leibowitz fund.
9. Conductor evaluation program – Michael sent the results of his online poll thus far (39 orchestras); when all orchestras have responded he will send the full report.

Establishing the next call will be done online.