

# Windham Orchestra Annual Meeting ~ June 20, 2011~ MINUTES

## Meeting Topics

Kimi Hasegawa, Linda Hecker, Hugh Keelan, Frank & Sarah Kotkov, Cheryl Burrows, Maggie Newton, Lynn Trowbridge, Karen Bressett, Peter Gibbons, Chris McAvoy, Laurie Indenbaum, Ede Thomas, Navab Bigelow

### I. Beethoven Take II – Sunday, July 10, 2011, 3 pm at the Latchis

Laurie described the status of the orchestra personnel.

Hugh announced Windham Loops will be performed again but without Jim on Laoutar and reported rehearsal plans.

Discussed how to contact singers, where to position them. With input from singers Frank and Sarah Kotkov decided the balcony, while imperfect, is best.

Our outdoor concert expenses included \$2,000 for sound amplification. This expense is largely why we will play indoors on 7/10.

Volunteers: Peter Gibbons and Lynn Trowbridge - setup and stage management; Linda Hecker - bake sale.

Hugh reported some community members have suggested performing Beethoven 9 every year outdoors. This would potentially be outside the regular season program.

### II. Review of last season

#### A. Musical Report

Hugh stated in part, “A lot of beautiful things happened. We have had wonderful audiences. Filled the Latchis, very gratifying. It is not how well you play as individuals, it is how the ensemble plays... What you achieve communicates into other facets of our community. We become attractive through our commitment and our ambition. Colossal means that it is becoming a necessary part of community life. We are essential on the radar.”

A new tagline was suggested for the orchestra (tongue-in-cheek): “Expect the unexpected!”

#### B. Financial Report – Kimi

See Kimi’s Report. We raised more than we anticipated, but expenses exceeded income by about \$2,000.

Largely this is due a new BMC system of distributing unallocated administrative costs. Our share at 5.17% was \$7,400. We had budgeted \$3,600. For next fiscal year the music school and concert series will pay 90% of unallocated administrative costs; the performing organisations will pay the remaining 10%. Our share will be 3.5%, estimated to be \$5,100.

Peter Gibbons reported a good response to appeals for member donations.

### III. Rehearsal Space

Options : Oak Grove (free), Putney School (free), American Legion (\$50), River Garden (\$55), WVMH (\$55 - 65), BAMS (\$100-150)

In 2010-2011 we spent more on facility, rental and setup. When Oak Grove School is unavailable, we needed to be at BAMS & RG, which are expensive.

Oak Grove – free but not available when school closed, we cannot change our night.

WVMH – Peter will ask what a season would cost.

BAMS – we can rehearse there when school is not in session. They charge for janitor.

Hugh thinks that multiple rehearsal venues give the orchestra exposure to different parts of the community.

Committee will do the best it can.

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### IV. Capital Campaigns

#### A. Windham Orchestra Conductor Endowment - Kimi

1. One year campaign
2. Goal of \$50,000

WO committee has discussed the creation of an endowment to supplement the conductor's stipend. We propose to raise \$50K to yield about \$2,000/annum at 4%. We spoke with Steve Procter and Douglas Cox, members of the BMC Music Moves (MM) Capital Campaign committee, who believe it would be a benefit to the BMC's overall goals and would encourage people to donate money to projects they are passionate about. There are some reservations from other members of MM. The WO committee will continue to work with the MM Committee and the BMC administration.

#### B. Brattleboro Music Center Capital Campaign "Music Moves" – three phases, not yet public

1. Endowment to support BMC operations and all programs \$1 million. To go public October 2 in conjunction with the Blanche Moyses Memorial Concert.
2. Building fund for education facility \$3.2 million
3. Building fund for concert hall \$2 million (The concert hall will provide rehearsal space for the orchestra, not concert space.)

### V. Volunteer Jobs (see list below)

#### A. Librarian: Frank & Sarah have agreed to continue.

Hugh will bow string parts, Frank will get a crew to put bowings into parts. Hugh asks for flexibility depending on source of parts, etc.

Linda – wonderful to have parts with bowings and not have to take rehearsal time to do it. Suggested creating a pdf, to be available by email or download, and having each player responsible for bowing their own part. Discussed how that could be done. Chris has machine at Sr. Center that can scan multiple pages. Chris and Linda to work this out.

#### B. Postering Coordinator: Ede volunteered

Discussed how useful posters are. Decided they are important visual reminder of concert dates and times and, if visually exciting, can enhance the orchestra's image.

Chris will investigate costs for banner over Main Street.

#### C. Rehearsal Set-up

Agreed no volunteer is needed, the rehearsal setup is taking care of itself. At the River Garden whoever opens the door can wait until others arrive to help set up.

#### D. Development coordinator: no volunteers

### VI. Executive Committee

#### A. More members needed.

Deedee would like to retire. Comment from the meeting: "She thinks of everything"

#### B. Job assignments

1. Kimi: committee chair, treasurer, grant writing
2. Laurie: personnel, program and poster coordination, website
3. Deedee: venues, liaison with stage manager
4. Chris: front of house, tickets, merchandise

### VII. Next Season

#### A. Tentative dates and venues

1. Sunday, Nov 13 at Latchis and Friday, Nov 18 at VA
2. Friday, Jan 27 at BFOH and Sunday, Jan 29 at Latchis

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3. Thursday, Mar 22 (Children's) at Latchis and Sunday Mar 25 at Latchis
4. May or June – committee is still working on this date. Some sentiment for June date, May is very crowded, it is hard to avoid conflicts. There was a suggestion to limit the orchestra to 3 concerts instead of 4. Not popular with those at the meeting including Hugh.

### B. Repertoire

Hugh gave a glimpse of possible programs for next season, including:

Spring concert with Matthew Woodard violin: Stravinsky Violin Concerto, Firebird, Russian Symphonic poem for Matt to conduct possibly.  
Britten "Noah's Flood" to include entire community of BMC and beyond  
Saint-Saens Symphony No 3 "Organ" (with Estey Organ piped into Latchis as in Holst)  
Beethoven Triple Concerto with Moby Pearson, Eugene Friesen and Hugh, soloists  
Big Fat Symphonies: Mahler Symphony No. 1, Rachmaninoff Symphony No. 2  
Wallingford Riegger Dance Rhythms

### C. Recruitment – need players especially strings

Hugh suggested putting it on Craig's List

Ticket prices – recommend \$15 general, \$10 students and seniors. There was some discussion affordability, senior pricing.

### Fund raising ideas

Have applied for Welcome Center date, did not get a date. Frustrating process.

Contra Dance – Laurie says they don't make money

Rent out the orchestra to concerto players

Rent out the orchestra to conductors/conducting students

Chamber Music party – for a full day of chamber music.

Navab offers to cater as a donation.

Hugh suggested an Orchestra Day where student conductors could come and get coaching, and have an orchestra to conduct. A two-day festival – where student concerto players could have a day to play their pieces with the orchestra and composers could have their pieces played live by an orchestra.

## VIII. Other Business.

- A. Release form: should we have an annual video & audio release instead of concert by concert? Kimi noted that she knew of at least one orchestra member who would be opposed to this.
- B. Maggie asked for accounting of expenses, Kimi said it would not be final until mid July as the fiscal year will end on June 30.
- C. The orchestra offered a round of applause to thank Ede for hosting the meeting.

## Volunteer Job List for Orchestra Members

2011-2012

- Librarian: Frank Kotkov
- Postering Coordinator: Ede Thomas
- Poster Design: Pedro Pereira? Still waiting to hear from him
- Concerto Competition Coordinator: Connie Vial Green
- Fundraising: Maggie Newton, Mary Ackerman-Hayes, Chris McAvoy, Jill Newton, Ede Thomas, Sue Engle
- Grants and Development: Still need someone
- Membership Contribution: Peter Gibbons
- Percussion Transportation: Navab Bigelow
- Bake Sale Coordinator: Linda Hecker