

MINUTES
Central Iowa Symphony Board
October 10, 2009*

Attending: Sam Wormley (presiding), Carrie Forbes, Kathleen Foster-Wendel, Noelle Fultz, Karl Gwiasda, Donita McCoy, Jane Ringwald
Ex officio: Sara Markley, Eric McIntyre

**Note: by email ballot after the September meeting, the board voted to change the meeting date from October 6 to October 10.*

Administrative

President Wormley called the meeting to order at 12:40 pm.

The minutes for the September 1 meeting were approved.

Treasurer Ringwald distributed copies of the budget review. The report was approved.

Gala

Markley reported that the Gala went well, apart from an initial snag in the set-up arrangements. She said that the Country Club has proven to be a good site for the event. This year, about 60 people attended the Gala. In itself, that number does not appear bad, but it does represent a low response to the roughly 700 invitations that were mailed out.

Music Director's report

Responding to a suggestion from orchestra players, McIntyre asked whether the board was favorably disposed to offering a concert that combined the Central Iowa and the Fort Dodge orchestras. Tentatively intended for the 2010-11 season, such a concert would require working out details for rehearsals, but would enable programming Mahler's First Symphony (plus a short second work). As the CIS concerts in Ames are usually scheduled for Saturday evenings while Fort Dodge concerts take place on Sunday afternoons, the concert of combined forces could be given in both cities on the same weekend. The board agreed that the idea was worth pursuing. McIntyre will address the same question to the Fort Dodge board for its response.

McIntyre remarked that since the Central Brass Quintet has regularly appeared to perform by itself during the "Sounds of the Season" concert, he thought that it might be possible to have the Quintet play a piece in partnership with the orchestra. He has not, however, discussed the matter with the Quintet. The board agreed that the idea was worth further exploration.

Concert preparations

Foster-Wendel said that she will not be able to continue as stage manager after the October concert. Wormley asked the board's reaction to a proposal to pay some honor to Dave Richardson at the December concert. Richardson is retiring from the orchestra after a long service. The board fully supported having some suitable ceremony. McIntyre will speak to Pat McFarland for suggestions about what might best be done.

No arrangements for ushers have expressly been made. McCoy will check whether any members of Kiwanis will be able to assist this evening. If not, volunteers will have to be drafted from the board or from other attendees

Grants

Foster-Wendel reported that she will not be able to attend the meeting with the COTA board on November 7. Wormley will represent CIS at the meeting. Foster-Wendel noted that the grant application will include CIS's intent to offer free admission to children in K-12 starting in the 2010-11 season. As a

separate matter, she will propose that the city set up kiosks at several locations to provide places for publicizing upcoming events and activities in Ames.

Publicity

Fultz summarized the publicity efforts that have been accomplished or are under way. The CIS received a page in the “Our Story” supplement distributed in *The Tribune* earlier this season. The ad for the October concert has appeared in *The Sun*, and ads will likewise appear for the remaining three concerts. Fultz has spoken with ACAC and with Carole Horowitz about providing whatever information they need for publicizing the CIS concerts. She added that she is in the process of updating the master chart of activities to advertise or publicize CIS events.

Following up a suggestion from McIntyre, Wormley will add a link on the CIS website for people who may have an interest in joining the orchestra. Wormley will also establish an email address for inquiries or message to the board (rather than to any specific individual).

Young Artists competition

McCoy reported that the auditions for the YA competition will be held on January 16 at the Music Building. Building space has been reserved. She is revising the announcements used last year. McIntyre noted that since the competition is open to singers as well as to instrumentalists, special effort should be made to make the competition known at schools that offer voice training.

Posters for December concert

Posters for the “Sounds of the Season” concert will have to be ready in time for the November 3 meeting. McIntyre will notify Gwiasda about whether or not the Central Brass Quintet will appear as guest soloists.

Search for new members

Wormley will draft a letter to be sent to last season’s donors to ask of their interest in serving on the board. Forbes reported that she has made announcements to the orchestra that the board is seeking new members. She proposed that players be sent email invitations to attend board meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Karl Gwiasda, secretary

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, November 3 at 7:15