

New Horizons Program Council Minutes
Meeting of January 23, 2018

Present: Sue Ames, Juli Elliot, Petar Kodzas, Arthur Kolko, Mike McKain, Patrice Ristuccia, David Stern, Gwenn Voelkers, Kathy Weber

Guest: Loral Harrington

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the meeting on October 10, 2017, were amended with this addition: P. Brown gave C. Hain \$700 collected by Elaine Brigman's bridge group in honor of her. The money will be deposited in the New Horizons Program Council.

NH Gifts & Bequests Committee

Sue Ames reported for the committee members that they are interested in continuing to encourage members to donate to the NH Program Fund. They suggested that consideration should be given to changing back to its original name, "NH Gifts Committee", and omit the "Bequests" part. There is already a process in place through ESM for creating legacies.

NH Budget and Funding Update

Enrollment in New Horizons has increased. There are 242 members and registration for ensembles is 346, reflecting that some members play in more than one ensemble. Petar anticipates that there may be an increase cost in rental of the church when the contract for next year is negotiated. He is uncertain whether or not there will be an increase in tuition. There is now in place a process requiring approval for the purchase of music for ensembles. There is still some money in the budget for this year for music purchases.

NH Registration Update

Petar is aware of the difficulties with registration and payment of tuition for the fall semester. He anticipates the situation has been corrected and bills for spring semester will be sent out soon. He will be reviewing the tuition for each ensemble since this seems to vary quite a bit. The term Green Band will now be used consistently to describe the beginning band. It was noted that online registration for participation in more than one ensemble is not possible on one registration form. An orchestra camp is planned for June at Keuka College.

NH Website – S. Ames reported that the Musicians page has been updated to reflect current enrollment in New Horizons for 2017-2018. The Committee asks that members let the Committee know if there are names that need to be added or deleted from the page. NH Program council reps were reminded that performances by their ensembles should be added to the Calendar page of the website. Information should be sent to Steve Whitman, Webmaster. stevewhitman27@gmail.com

NH License Plate Frames – Angela Mambro has determined that many NH members are interested in purchasing frames and will soon be ordering them. The cost per frame will most likely be less than \$5.00.

December Holiday Party – Reps reported reactions to the party from members of their ensembles that attended. There were many positive comments including praise for the food. Concerns

included slow dinner service, location of the band preferring the location previously used, and interest in a different venue. Sue Ames reported that Band Council will be reviewing other possible venues for 2019 at its meeting on Thursday, March 1, 2018. The party for 2018 will remain at Midvale.

Future of the NH Program Council – Reps discussed whether or not this Council is needed and generally agreed that it is. There is interest in exploring the feasibility of merging with the Band Council. The Program Council needs new reps and more reps. Some current reps have served on the Council since its inception four years ago. A new chairperson will be need since Sue Ames will end her term in 2019.

Other

S. Ames reported that there has been a good response to the church's concern about NH members using the door designated for use only by the nursery school. Issues regarding where NH members and staff should park also seems to be resolved. NH members need to adhere to the church's guideline that there is to be no food or beverages in the Sanctuary (auditorium).

P, Kodzas reported that the ECMS website has a feature called *Noteworthy* that is similar to a blog featuring evergreen topics. He invited members of New Horizons to submit comments of 300 words or less in response to the question, "Why should I continue to study music as an older adult?" We should easily be able to answer that!

Presentation about New Horizons Program - Presentations about New Horizons have been made in the community in a variety of places. This is important for recruiting new members and for increasing attendance at our performances. If anyone is interested in doing a presentation or knows of a group that would like a presentation, we have a nice PowerPoint presentation that includes video clips from our documentary, *Music for Life: The Story of New Horizons*, that can be used. When possible small ensembles have also performed at these presentations. Contact Sue Ames (samesRN@gmail.com) or Ron Uhlig (ron.uhlig@gmail.com) for more information.

Next meeting - Will be scheduled for the fall semester.

Sue Ames, Recorder

New Horizons Program (NHPC) Council Meeting

Minutes of October 10, 2017

PRESENT: (indicated by X)

X Concert Band - Sue Ames	Chorus – no rep
X Associate Dean ECMS - Petar Kodzas	X Orchestra – David Stern
Clarinet Choir – Mike McKain	X Green Band – Gwenn Voelker
Symphonic Band, Big Band – Kathy Weber	X Orchestra conductor - Alex Pena
X Vintage Jazz – Linda Marsters	Sax Ensemble – Arthur Kolko
X Green Strings – Jane Circh	

Guests: Priscilla Brown, Cathy Hain, Daryl Kaplan, Marjorie Relin

Approval of minutes – The minutes from the meeting of April 11, 2017, were approved as written.

NH Gifts and Bequests Committee – Cathy Hain, Assistant Vice President of Advancement for ESM, attended the meeting and answered questions about procedures for gifting to New Horizons. There was discussion about NH members interested in planned giving as part of their legacy. The Committee will discuss the best way to convey this information to NH members.

NH Budget and Funding Update – P. Kodzas reported that enrollment for the NH program has been stable for the past few years. New Horizons represents 15% of the ECMS student body. He reviewed highlights of the NH budget, noting an anticipated deficit of \$24,000. The rental fee for the church is a significant part of the budget and he is reviewing the contract with the church. He is aware of difficulties with registering online and trying to improve this. He is also reviewing the varying tuitions for each NH ensemble. He will provide NH Program Council members with a copy of the current NH budget.

NH Member Handbook – NH Program Council Reps were urged to read the handbook if they have not already done so. The policy for Weather Cancellation on pages 7-8 has been revised. NH conductors, in consultation with Petar Kodzas, will determine when rehearsals need to be cancelled due to weather conditions. This information will be conveyed by the directors to NH members via email early on the morning of the cancelled rehearsal. Members should also make their own determination about attending rehearsal on days when driving may be hazardous.

NH Website – The website committee is in the process of updating the listing of NH members on the “Musicians” page of our website, rocnewhorizons.org. Each ensemble should provide S. Ames with a list of their new members and of those who are no longer participating in NH.

NH Emergency Information Form – Completion of the Rochester New Horizons Emergency Information form is encouraged but voluntary. Members should keep the form in the front of their music folder so that it is readily available in the event of illness/emergency. Copies of the form are available from S. Ames.

NH Publicity & Recruitment - S. Ames reported that Ron Uhlig (CB tuba) has been requested to give a presentation about the New Horizons program to the Farmington Rotary Club. J. Circh reported for P. Ristuccia that the New Horizons program will have a display table at the NYSUT Retiree Conference on October 24 and the NH orchestra will perform. Volunteers are needed to be present at the display table. Retired teachers attending the conference would be great recruits for New Horizons.

Buildings and Grounds Usage – S. Ames reported that NH received an email from the church indicating that some members are not adhering to the guidelines for building usage. Members need to be reminded that they should enter the church through the main double wooden doors and not through the side entrance that is reserved for access to the nursery school. They should never enter or leave the Sanctuary from the doors along the nursery school hallway. P.Kodzias is asking D. Teegarden, liaison for New Horizons and the church, to communicate this information to all NH members, conductors, and mentors. The usage agreement also states that food and beverages should not be taken into the Sanctuary and there are signs on the Sanctuary door stating this. NH members need to adhere to this request.

NH Program Council - The Council needs to consider electing new Council reps for those reps no longer participating in the Council. There was discussion about the difference between Band Council and the NH Program Council and whether there is a need for both. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

Announcements – The holiday party will be held on Monday, December 11, 2017.

Next meeting – to be scheduled for Spring 2018

Susan Ames, Recorder