

MINUTES
BELLINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (BSO)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024
BSO OFFICE

✓ Corey Welch, <i>President</i>	✓ Deborah Arthur, <i>Director</i>	✓ Gail Ridenour, <i>Executive Director</i>
✓ Charli Daniels, <i>Vice President</i>	✓ Kathy Bell, <i>Director</i>	Yaniv Attar, <i>Music Director</i>
✓ Carol Comeau, <i>Past President</i>	✓ Charles Halka, <i>Director</i>	
✓ Gena Mikkelsen, <i>Treasurer</i>	✓ Sandra Payton, <i>Player's Committee Chair</i>	
✓ Mark Tomko, <i>Secretary</i>	✓ Jim Quist, <i>Player Representative</i>	
	✓ James Ray, <i>Director</i>	
	✓ Garland Richmond, <i>Director</i>	
	✓ Barbara Ryan, <i>Director</i>	
	✓ Ted Schuman, <i>Director</i>	

Guests present: Ramona Abbott, Interim Marketing Director

REPORTS REFERRED TO BELOW ARE POSTED TO THE SHARED DRIVE FOR REVIEW PRIOR TO MEETING.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
CALL TO ORDER:	The meeting was called to order at 5:32 by Corey Welch.
SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mark Tomko	The BSO Board reviewed the draft minutes for the January 3th 2024 BOD meeting. ACTION: Minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.
TREASURER'S REPORT: Gena Mikkelsen	Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> December was a good month, took in \$31K IRS 990 form was finalized January will look worse compared to the budget due to overly optimistic budgeting
EXECUTIVE REPORT: Gail Ridenour	Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 strong applicants for the marketing position New Xerox machine Staff held a team retreat on January 31st Volunteers needed for pre-concert lectures and greeting patrons for the February 25th concert Working with Cultural Access Washington to build financial support for arts organizations, money coming from the state via a tax.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for donors to help fund replacement music library shelves, need \$9000
STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS: A) Executive (C. Welch) B) Governance (C. Welch) C) Nominating (C. Daniels) D) Strategic Planning (C. Comeau) E) Finance (G. Mikkelsen) F) Development (Ted Schuman) G) Youth and Community Engagement (C. Daniels) H) Artistic Planning (Y. Attar) I) Players (S. Payton) J) AEDI (TBD)	I) Members of the violin section feel they are pressed to the edge of the stage, which feels unsafe. Orchestra needs to have a social event to build community among members
Staff: Marketing	Ramona Abbott made a presentation on how the marketing position works in the symphony and discussed the upcoming transition as she re-retires. Ramona suggests board members like/share social media posts when moved to do so. Increasing visibility of posts helps spread the word and builds engagement. Board members are also requested to give free tickets to friends who haven't come yet, and invite them to the post-concert receptions.
OLD BUSINESS: Corey Welch	Corey briefly described the planned committee restructuring and assignments. Feedback to Corey and Gail is requested in advance of the March 6th meeting.
OLD BUSINESS: Mark Tomko	<p>ACTION: Mark Tomko moved to cancel the motion from 1/3/2024 regarding changing the definition of full-time employees (and, thus, benefits eligibility) from 35 hours/week to 30/hours/week. The motion was seconded by Barbara Ryan.</p> <p>Discussion followed on why the board has reversed course. James Ray proposed the board lead with its values and finding room in the budget to support wider access to benefits. There was agreement from other board members that the motion approved on 1/3/2024 completed multiple issues and required further research.</p> <p>The motion carried with a dissenting vote from James Ray.</p>
CLOSING ADJOURNMENT:	The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.
NEXT MEETINGS AND CONCERTS:	<p>Upcoming concert: Sunday, May 5th at 3:00 p.m. at MBT</p> <p>Next board meeting: Wednesday, March 6th 5:30 p.m. at the BSO office</p>
MINUTES APPROVAL:	Mark Tomko, BSO Board of Directors, Secretary attests and approves these minutes.