

GCCC Parent Board Meeting Minutes  
May 17, 2012

In attendance:

Kecia Peters  
Melanie Popejoy  
Greg Nelson  
Karen Molmen  
Dave Molmen  
Ruth Ann Tuseth  
Becky Mercer  
Geoff Mercer  
Melissa DeMars

**Financial Director:**

Greg reported that there was no significant new information since his last report. The grant from the North Dakota Council on the Arts was approved, and we are awaiting funds. He has grant applications in to Target and Xcel Energy. He will be working on our non-profit status over the summer.

**Old Business:**

We held our spring concert on April 15<sup>th</sup>. There were no major disasters, and everything was considered a success. Our concerts are consistently running around 1 hour and 15 minutes. There were some difficulties with riser set-up, ushers, and reception volunteers that we will make an effort to remedy next fall. We will be adding a parent board position of Volunteer Coordinator, which should alleviate many of these problems. It is unknown whether we will be able to use the new performance facility at RRHS next year for our concerts. We will talk more with Dean Opp and Dr. Nybladh's office about this. If in the new facility, we might consider charging a small admission for concerts. We are one of the very few children's choir organizations that do not charge for concert attendance. If we do make this change, singers will be allotted at least one comp ticket a piece. We will talk more about this in the fall.

Banquets all went well. There was really good attendance overall. Primo utilized a potluck set-up for the first time, and feedback was positive about the change. We made a change for the admission fee for Accordo's Splashfest from \$13 to \$10 this year, and Geoff reported that we came up short in funds by between \$20 and \$30. If this Accordo Celebration is continued next year, it is recommended to use \$12 fee per singer.

Geoff Mercer has requested a leave from his director's position. We are thankful for his dedication to the program. Accordo Voce will be directed by Connie Stordalen next year. We are currently in search of a new director for Poco Voce. Becky Mercer will be resuming her position as a director of Primo Voce with Melanie next fall. It appears that our GG program will operate with the same personnel next year.

Carrie Weipert will be joining the parent board next year in the position of Volunteer Coordinator. Amy Sanner has also requested to join the parent board. She is a talented seamstress and may be an excellent candidate to share the responsibilities of Uniform Chair with Sharilyn Richtsmeier. One of our 1<sup>st</sup> year parents, Greg Halliday, is employed in marketing in Grand Forks and is interested in joining the parent board in the area of public relations. Directors shared names of parents who have been helpful in volunteering this year as recommendations for parent board members. Dave and Karen Molmen have agreed to serve as Presidents of the board again next year. Kelly and Brian Wavra have agreed to serve as Vice Presidents.

Melanie reported that Primo Voce's "Songs Across the Border" concert on May 4 with the Pembina Trails Choir out of Winnipeg and the Lake Agassiz Girls Choir in Fargo was a success. They are two outstanding organizations and would be good collaborators again in the future. We are thankful to Lake Agassiz Girls Choir for this invitation to sing together.

Spring auditions went very well. Our current registration numbers are as follows: Poco – 21; Canto – 42; Accordo – 30; and Primo – 56; for a total of 149 singers. This is almost as many singers as we operated with in total this last year, so next year may be a record year for numbers for the choir.

### **New Business:**

Kecia reported that we have 60 singers registered for the reunion, with 135 registered for the picnic. We will wait to see how many more registrations are received over the weekend. This is a smaller number than we had hoped for, and it may be considered to open up the opportunity for parents to sing with their children, given the success Primo Voce had with multi-generational singing this year. Melanie, Kecia, and Greg will confer on this next week. The main obstacle for waiting much longer would be the need to order t-shirts for participants. Our shirts are being printed by Ink Inc., which is operated by one of our GCCC families. They are willing to do a quick turn-around with the shirts if need be, so the shirts may be a non-issue in the decision to open the event up to families.

Greg reported that Sons of Norway women will be unable to coordinate the picnic luncheon as hoped. He has arranged for boxed lunches with Hugos for the event.

We discussed ideas for a theme for next year. The front-runner at the moment is "The Rhythm of Life". Brittany Molmen has agreed to do artwork for the theme again for Season 11.

Meeting was adjourned at: 8:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Kecia Peters.