DERBY HOSPITALS CHOIR

Minutes of the Committee meeting held on March 20th 2019 at the Royal Derby Hospital

Present

Louise Hill (in the chair), Elaine Finn (Vice Chairman), Dick Williamson (Treasurer), Di Alleyne (Secretary), David Henshaw (MD), Val Edge, Maggie Evans, Jean Green, Kathy Greig, Richard Kendall, Dave Mitchell.

Prospective Members – Lynda Hardy, Tony Lloyd.

Apologies

Sue Worrall and Sue Lloyd.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on February 27th 2019 were approved.

Correspondence

Louise had only had one letter confirming the venue for the AGM.

Florence Nightingale Service

The arrangements and music had all been done and the choir numbers were 39. There were still some members who had not replied so those numbers were expected to rise.

Arrangements for AGM

Up to present Louise had had replies from 57 members. The food was all in hand. The minutes of last year were ready to distribute and Dick was preparing the balance sheet.

A raffle will take place at the supper and committee members were asked to provide prizes. Maggie offered to run the raffle and Louise had books of tickets. (1.00 per strip).

2019 Beneficiary

Louise had been in touch with Tim Diggle who is in charge of the hospital charities and he suggested that the Radiotherapy Department needed funds. The Department is having a revamp and the inner courtyard is to be covered. Louise and Anna Cuthbert are to visit the department to get some details and for them to suggest a specific piece of equipment for which we could raise funds.

Practice Venue Update

We have confirmed that the practices for the Florence Nightingale Service will take place at Derby Grammar School. This will cost £60 per session. Louise had also confirmed that we could have our Concert rehearsals there. David was worried that members might not want to travel to a new venue if Broadway was still available. Richard said that Broadway would be available and we would be welcome. It was left that we would test out Derby Grammar School for the FN rehearsals and then make a decision to change completely or not.

Finance Update.

We have a healthy balance of £7,400 in the bank. This is a result of a very good but unusual year. We had the Rotarians gift, the refund for the screens, David’s arrangements of music and prize draw funding which was less as we had money left over from the previous year. Dick had drawn a graph of the finances over the years since we had to leave the Cathedral and there had been a slow decline. The income from tickets was halved due to the smaller size of the Cathedral. Last year some people were put off as tickets were only sold on line. The Cathedral shop had promised to sell tickets for us this year so that could improve sales. The fact that we are not having a band this year may reduce the sales but David suggested that if we publicize Alistair Parnell sufficiently we may attract a new and different audience.

Chairman’s AGM Report

Louise read out her proposed report for the AGM. She concluded it by saying that she would be retiring as Chairman after the 2020 AGM but would continue to work tirelessly up till then. She also said that our Patron, John Rivers was retiring from the Hospital Trust but would continue as Chairman of the Florence Nightingale Committee after that. He asked Louise if in the event that we hadn’t found a new chairman she would stay until after the next year’s FN Service as it was to be a special one. Louise had agreed to that.

Any Other Business.

Kathy reported that when she emailed Julie Chapman at the Hospital about the dates for draw ticket selling she was told that there were only 4 dates left, Thursday Nov 1st, Tuesday 5th, Friday 22nd, and Thursday 28th. This was deemed unacceptable and Louise said she would contact Julie to see if anything could be done.

The Dementia Unit have not yet spent our money and would soon have to be threatened with us reclaiming it after so long.

Large cheques have been ordered for presentation at the AGM.

Jean and Louise are organising a cake stall in the morning of 26th April at Junction 24 of the hospital and the committee were asked to provide cakes and help on the day.

Dave Mitchell said that he was getting progressively more forgetful. Louise told him he could keep coming to the committee and the choir until such time as he felt that he had had enough.

The cheque for the Heart Failure Department would be presented at the AGM.

Date and Time of next meeting.

Wednesday April 17th at 7.30pm at the Royal Derby Hospital Trust headquarters.