

Heart of America Chapter – A048  
Barbershop Harmony Society  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting  
May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Location: St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 11822 Holmes Road, Kansas City MO 64131

Meeting called to order at 6:07PM by President Carter Combs.

Board Members present at that time:

Carter Combs (President), John Erwine (Imm. Past Pres), Harvey Shapiro (Treasurer),  
Mike Schumacher (Oper. VP), Mike Mathieu (Program VP), Jim Porter (Secretary).

Board Member Connected by Telephone (out of town)

Brad Dawdy (Music VP).

Board Members Arriving by 6:35 PM:

Jerry Meier (Membership VP), Tony O'Brien (At Large), Steve Keisker (At Large).

Board Members Absent:

Marlin Weidler (Exec VP), Ted Simon (Marketing VP), Bob Velazquez (At Large).

Note that there was no Board of Directors meeting in April.

The minutes for the previous meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 were prepared in printed form by secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented with one change (date of District Convention is Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>).

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro presented his report for April. The March report was released in early April.

Total income for April	\$ 5,572.50;	total expenses	\$ 7,113.34.
Total income for March	\$ 3,343.29;	total expenses	\$ 7,485.24.
Spring Show YTD Inc:	\$ 2,573.00;	total expenses	\$ 9,117.86.
Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available:	\$ 5,778.89.		
Restricted funds (operating fund) available:	\$ 1,632.39.		
Designated funds:	Net on deposit:	\$ 500.00.	
Total in checking account:	\$ 1,132.09,		
Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 6,779.19;	Total:	\$ 7,911.28.

The report was placed on file for audit as presented.

Membership Report (Jerry Meier) Written report. A report was also provided in April.

**Member Count:** 128 presently, 128 same date 2014, 129 same date 2013. Seven overdue, 4 likely will drop.

Six new members have joined since January 1<sup>st</sup>, a list:

Michael Beck (Tenor, joined in April)	Tom Millot (Tenor, transfer in, from Ov. Park & Olathe)
Ryan Bradley (Bari/Tenor, joined Feb.)	Dan Wager (Tenor, transfer from Reno, NV)
Richard Matthis (Bass, joined March)	Ron Willard (Baritone, joined in March)

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**Membership Report (Cont.)**

**Membership Handouts (Spring Show):** Unused ones were recovered, can be used later (not date specific).

Guest Nights: A schedule for 2015 was presented, next guest night is May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Jerry moved Michael Beck be officially recognized as a new member, this motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Music Team Report (Brad Dawdy) Oral report, by telephone. (Brad is in Tulsa, OK)

The music team will meet on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that no final decision is yet made for the two songs to prepare for the district competition. In the ensuing discussion, there was much support for singing "Basin Street Blues" with "South Rampart Street Parade" and to have a New Orleans themed package. (The chorus sang "Basin Street Blues" at International in Philadelphia in 2010, scoring 82.8% and placing 16<sup>th</sup>. That was the highest score the chapter posted at International since 2005.)

The lineup for the chapter performance at the Starlight Theater on May 23<sup>rd</sup> is now set and shown in the In-Tune.

No firm date yet for the chorus retreat, targeting either Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> or Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>. Waiting on responses from venues.

Operations Report (Mike Schumacher) Written reports were provided:

Trailer Repair: Now completed, should be good for several years going forward. Repairs include a battery, two new tires, rewiring, trailer hitch, tow arm. Cost not shown, \$700 and change, Mike has not yet asked for payment.

Equipment Loaned: Sound system (Jan, HEP meeting), speaker, microphone, risers (May, district convention).

Risers were modified, now have 10 standard risers and 1 inverted riser. Four in trailer, 7 in closet in church.

Several requests in future for loan of risers. Mike suggested we charge a fee, will determine a fair amount.

Marketing Report (Ted Simon) Absent, no report was filed.

**Publicity for Spring Show:** The Treasurers report showed \$1,995 spent for radio advertising for the spring show.

There was no discernible positive effect on ticket sales. Other publicity costs for the spring show total \$1,528.91.

Program Vice President (Mike Mathieu) Oral report.

A Spring Fling event is being planned for Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Jim Porter is handling quartet assignments, reports that there are 10 intact quartets lined up for the evening with 2 additional willing singers available as late replacements.

Jim asked that the entire evening be devoted to this activity, allowing quartets to practice together in the first hour.

Mike suggested future activities could include a picnic leading into a summer season guest night, and a Bush League quartet program at a fall meeting.

Events Summary.

Spring Show: Discussion tabled until next meeting. Show chairman Kent Miller will be involved.

Starlight Theater (May 23<sup>rd</sup>): Theater open 6:00; our show to start at 6:45, run to 7:30.

The main program "Million Dollar Quartet" begins at 8:00. All performing members need a ticket.

Discounts are available, members must obtain tickets from theater. Have requested a table for handouts.

Music in the Park (July 12<sup>th</sup>): The date is firm. Plan afterglow at home of Bob Velazquez after the show.

Events Summary

Vocality Show: (Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>): John Erwine is handling arrangements for this show with a Swedish Sweet Adelines quartet "Vocality" which is in the area also for two other appearances in Wichita and St. Joseph. The principal scheduling problem is that there is a school activity the same evening that would keep much of our target audience from coming to the show. The show could be done the 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> if could swap dates with Wichita or St. Joseph. For now, this cannot be considered a firm date, as negotiations are continuing.

OLD BUSINESS:

Financial Audit for 2015: Charles Ramirez will handle this again this year.

Historical Archives: Some of our older members are true pack rats! Ron Abel has Harmonotes dating back to 1965. Others also have contributed. The plan is to scan all of the old paper, including show programs, news letters and anything else of interest, to have everything stored electronically, after which the paper can go back to the owners.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fund Raisers: As of the date of the meeting, the spring show, which was budgeted to provide the chapter with a net income of \$5,150, is projected to show a net LOSS of nearly \$2,000. This leaves the chapter with a need to raise about \$7,000 from other sources not previously provided for in the budget. In the ensuing discussion, a list of ideas:

Amazon Smile: This has already been set up for us. Anyone may log into Amazon Smile, choose HOA, then buy something on the Website. ½% of the purchase price comes back to the chapter. The key is to get the word out to family and friends (anywhere) and encourage them to do as described. Items available include gift cards that can be used in a variety of popular merchants (stores, restaurants, etc.) to buy things there.

Applebee's Breakfast: When set up, all breakfasts on a particular date served in participating Applebee's would revert a portion of the gross revenue to the chapter.

Appeal to members and friends (akin to Friends of HOA, done in recent past years).

Great Midwest Balloon Festival (a performance on that day could be part of the appeal).

American Royal Barbecue. Tony O'Brien will seek more information.

Hosting the Fall District Convention: Could do this jointly with Central Standard, or go it alone. In past years, the net gain for the chapter has been substantial. In 2011, we received \$6,409 from the district for hosting the convention and realized a profit of \$711 from the sale of merchandise in the Harmony Marketplace. In 2013, the results were \$3,796 from the district and \$192.22 net from Harmony Marketplace. At present, no chapter has accepted the responsibility for hosting the convention in October 2015. Central Standard has considered doing this as well.

In a related matter, the Golf Tournament was approved by the Board prior to the meeting by means of an E-Mail poll. This fundraiser will take place on September 24<sup>th</sup> (tentatively). Kent Miller will again be the chairman.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

James R. Porter  
Secretary