

Heart of America Chapter – A048
Barbershop Harmony Society
Kansas City, Missouri
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting
June 13th, 2016

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

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

Board Members present at that time:	Carter Combs (President),	Barry Sanders (Exec. VP),
Steve Keisker (Operations VP),	Jim Porter (Secretary),	Harvey Shapiro (Treasurer),
Bob Murphy (At Large),	Tony O'Brien (Program VP).	

Late Arrivals (time):	John Erwine (Imm. Past Pres, 6:08),	Ted Simon (Marketing VP, 6:19).
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Board Members Absent:	Charles Ramirez (At Large),	Jerry Meier (Membership VP),
	Bob Velazquez (Music VP).	

Two vacancies exist for at-large board members.

Also Present: Jim Bagby (Past President), Jerry Garrard (Director).

The minutes for the previous meeting on May 9th, 2016 were prepared in printed form by secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro provided his report for May.

Total income, month: \$ 987.91; total expenses \$ 1,842.27.

Net (deficit) for month: \$(854.36); budgeted: \$(835.00).

Net (deficit) for year: \$(4,412.66); budgeted: \$(5,775.00).

Note that the 2016 budget is not yet finalized, budgeted amounts are based on the 2015 budget.

President Carter Combs stated he will endeavor to get this completed in the next month.

Significant income item:	Membership fees received,	\$ 892.50.
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Significant expense item:	Initial payment for Golf Tournament,	\$ 500.00.
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Also:	Singing Valentines telephone service:	\$ 145.38.
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	Hall rental, Director stipend (each month)	1,000.00.
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Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available: \$ 9,252.34.

Restricted funds (operating fund) available: \$ 3,289.32.

Designated funds:	Net on deposit:	\$ 700.00.
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Total in checking account:	\$ 6,566.44;	
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Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 6,675.22;	Total: \$13,241.66.
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The report was placed on file for audit as presented.

Marketing Report (Ted Simon), oral report.

We have agreed to do a performance in Blue Springs Family Fun Fest the evening of Saturday, Sept. 17th. Other than that, opportunities for similar performances are not available in 2016. We are looking for opportunities in 2017. One possibility is a festival in Independence during Labor Day weekend.

Membership Report (Jerry Meier) Absent, but prepared written report. Summary:

Total members as of May: 112, down 1 (Brad Dawdy dropped) from April. Seven members are overdue for paying their dues (was 8 in May), but Jerry is confident all will renew and remain with the chapter.

The Annual Awards Banquet for 2017 is now scheduled for January 7th (Saturday), at Jack Stack's Barbecue, Martin City. The chapter has made the 1st 4 of six payments of \$125 each to reserve this date. The chapter may cancel with a full refund of its deposit if that is done before November 7th. A partial refund is available if we cancel after that date.

The Kansas Choral Directors Association convention will be held July 7th-9th in Topeka. Jerry plans to have an exhibit there promoting Harmony Explosion and to interact with vocal music teachers. He is requesting appropriate banners for the exhibit, with logos for the chapter, the KC Sweet Adelines chapter, also our respective associations.

Harmony Explosion 2017 is scheduled at Olathe East High School on Saturday, February 18th, 2017.

Plans are being made to have an ice cream social (NOT a cookout) on Tuesday July 19th and invite barbershoppers from Central Standard and Olathe Trails West to join us. Each chapter would perform a short set (2 songs), perhaps also New Harmony Handful. Jerry plans to also invite local music educators to the event. It was suggested during the discussion that we also invite members of our host church to come and participate in the event. The cost for the ice cream would be on the order of \$100 and paid from our chapter's social fund.

Music Team Report (Bob Velazquez) Absent, President Carter Combs provided the report. Music team meeting was Sunday June 12th.

A summary of items discussed:

1. Music for the Holiday Show was discussed. With the onset of Vocal Standard (new women's chapter in the area) and the need for KCSA to recruit a new director, the women's chapter is in a state of turmoil, it is not possible to finalize a program at this time. Our chapter will certainly include a Hanukkah song in the show this year.
2. Also, there was discussion as to what songs to sing at the district competition in October. The ballad will likely be "The Way You Look Tonight". The up-tune has not yet been finalized, "Smile Medley" seems most likely.
3. The retreat was discussed, Lake Doniphan is available either the weekend of August 12th or August 19th, and another location (Three Trails Camp) is also considered suitable, and is available August 19th. In the discussion, it was deemed important to fix a date. A motion was made and passed by voice vote to plan for August 19th (Fri) and August 20th (Sat) and allow the music team the option to choose one of the 2 available locations. Carter Combs indicated that a coach has not been identified but there are four candidates being considered.

Operations Report (Steve Keisker) Oral report.

Steve offered no prepared report, but noted new keys were available to the church.

4. These have been distributed to all chapter members authorized to have keys.

Program Vice President (Tony O'Brien) Oral report.

Tony's report was a request for ideas for a program, particularly for the chapter meeting the next evening. It was noted that on June 28th, neither of our directors would be present and it is probable we would not have practice as usual. This is seen as an opportunity for a special program that might welcome inactive members.

The Budget Committee has not yet completed the 2016 budget. President Carter Combs stated that personal and family concerns has hindered the process, and that it should be done before the next meeting.

The annual audit of the chapter's finances remains un-done. Wendell Shaffer has left town and President Carter Combs needs to find a replacement. The Society requires each chapter to complete this task by May. It was noted that papers from last year's audit were requested but have not yet been found. Charles Ramirez performed the audit last year, and will check into this need.

Events Summary. (Subsequent to meeting)

Summer Schedule: At present, plans are to meet every Tuesday through July. On July 26th (Harmony University) our director will be at Harmony University and not available to lead us that evening.

Annual Show 2016: The Liberty Center is available on September 10th, 17th, or 24th, if we wanted to present a show. There were also openings in August, but these were considered to be too soon to allow us to properly prepare for and promote the show. Dates in October were deemed impractical as we would then be preparing for the Holiday Show. After much discussion and given we have an appearance scheduled in Blue Springs on September 17th, it was agreed to plan the show for September 24th and to promote the show at Blue Springs the previous weekend. A headliner quartet remains to be contacted and contracted. September 10th is the backup date, if necessary. It was noted in the discussion that Unity Village might also be available at that time for our show. Final decisions remain pending.

Annual Show, 2017: This will be in the Bell Center in Olathe. A date in April has not yet been fixed.

OLD BUSINESS:

2016 Budget: As noted above, President Carter Combs intends to get this done in the coming month.

Auditing Committee: It was noted this is an internal audit, so we face no deadline from outside.

The one heading this committee must NOT be an HOA board member.

Sunshine Chairman: No one has yet been appointed to fill this responsibility.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was an extended discussion of ideas for growing the membership. In the discussion, Director Jerry Garrard challenged the vice presidents to include future plans in their reports. Bob Murphy challenged all to consider new methods for recruitment, especially through the social media such as Facebook. An impediment there is the lack of individuals with necessary skills to utilize the social media. It was generally agreed we all should as much as possible present the chapter in a positive way and highlight the contributions we make to the community.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 11th, 2016.

James R. Porter, Secretary