

Heart of America Chapter – A048
Barbershop Harmony Society
Kansas City, Missouri
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting
March 20th, 2017

Location: St. Peter and All Saints Episcopal Church, 100 E. Red Bridge Road, Kansas City MO 64114.

Meeting called to order at 6:07 PM by President Barry Sanders.

Board Members present at that time:	Barry Sanders (President),	Mike Schumacher (Executive VP),
Jim Porter (Secretary),	Harvey Shapiro (Treasurer),	Carter Combs (Imm. Past President),
Jerry Meier (Membership VP),	Charles Ramirez (At Large),	Bob Murphy (At Large).

Board Members Arriving Late: Steve Keisker (Operations VP), 6:20; Ted Simon (Marketing VP), 6:28.

Board Members Absent: Bob Velazquez (Music VP).

Vacancies exist for Program Vice President and for one at-large position.

Also present: Kent Miller and John Erwine, both past presidents of the chapter.

Kent Miller and John Erwine presented a proposal to the board before the regular meeting commenced, focusing on the annual show and a proposal for pricing the tickets. Printed material was presented that in essence projected a total estimated ticket sale of 460 and estimated expenses totaling \$11,300, which works out to just under \$25 per ticket. The report recommended a \$30 base ticket price in order to allow for the show to show a profit to the chapter. Board action was deferred to the Old Business portion of the meeting, see that report on page 3.

After this report and some discussion, the regular board meeting commenced at 6:50 PM, with all present.

The minutes for the previous meeting on February 13th, 2017 were prepared in printed form by secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro provided his report for February.

Total income, month:	\$ 2,946.45;	total expenses	\$ 4,301.25.
Net deficit for month:	\$ 1,354.80;	budgeted:	\$ (1,655.00). (based on 2016 budget)
Net surplus for year:	\$ 2,083.60;	budgeted:	\$ (3,190.00).

Significant income items:	Harmony Explosion Subsidy	\$ 1,623.94.
	Harmony Explosion Lunches Paid	1,300.00.
	Truman Fund (4 th Qtr 2016)	22.51.
Significant expense items:	Harmony Explosion Expenses	\$ 1,738.71.
	Hall Rental, Director stipend (each mo)	880.00.
	Annual Show Expenses Paid	867.26.
	Leadership Academy (Feb. 4)	360.00.
	Harmonotes, Winter Quarter	300.00.

Continued on page 2.

Treasurer's Report, continued.

Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available:	\$	6,484.49.
Restricted funds (operating fund) available:	\$(661.57).
Designated funds:	Net on deposit:	\$ 5,600.00.
Total in checking account:	\$	8,445.80;
Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 2,977.12;	Total: \$11,422.92.
As of March 11 th , income received in March:	\$.00;
Expenses paid to date:	\$ 968.55;	Balance: \$ 7,477.25.

A transfer will be made in March to place the Wade Dexter Scholarship Fund in the Truman Foundation.

The report was placed on file for audit as presented.

Marketing Report (Ted Simon): Oral report. Summary:

No marketing plan as yet for the annual show, there is no budget for it. This is something for later consideration, after a ticket pricing structure has been approved and put in place.

Membership Report (Jerry Meier) Provided a written report. Summary:

Total members as of February 28th: 105, same as January. Sean Abel is long overdue and likely will drop. There is still hope that Wayne Dexter's son Paul will join the chapter.

2017 Membership Nights (Guest Nights) are being considered. Olathe Trails Chorus has asked us to do a repeat of the inter-chapter event we did in July 2016 that turned out to be quite successful.

The Installation Banquet for 2018 is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 13th. As the per meal cost at Jack Stack Barbecue would likely be \$45 or more, we are seeking a cheaper location for this event.

Harmony Explosion! 2018 is scheduled for February 17th at Olathe East High School. There were 202 students at the 2017 event just concluded, up from 142 in 2016 (bad weather day) and 159 in 2015. Harmony Foundation provided a \$1,500 grant prior to the event. One quartet "Standby" has been invited to perform on the annual show and is planning to appear in both shows. They will be invited to prepare and present a set of several songs.

Music Team Report (Bob Velazquez) Absent, report was unavailable for the meeting, but it came out after the meeting.

The music team met Sunday, March 5th. A summary of items in the report:

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1. The design of the show flier was decided through discussion between Bob, John Braden, Ron McIntire, Bruce Wenner and Ted Simon, who will produce the actual flier once the ticket pricing structure is set down.
2. Discussion about a retreat in 2017 came to the conclusion that the best date is September 8th & 9th. The Salvation Army offered a discount for the use of their facility if a commitment was made by March 10th. The music team agreed to make that commitment. Vince Perry will handle the sign-ups. Director Jerry Garrard stated that at least 90% of the active members should commit in order to have a successful retreat.

Continued on Page 3.

Music Team Report (continued)

3. Discussion of the script (plan) for the annual show came up with several ideas:
 - a. Given the quartets and time needed for their segments, need only 9 or 10 songs by the chorus.
 - b. Brad Dawdy's mother to perform a dance skit for "Sentimental Gentleman from Georgia".
 - c. Employees of the Bell Center will handle the lighting, with possibly an assist by Olathe East students.
 - d. The Bell Center is booked for Friday evening, we must therefore do all tech rehearsals Sat. morning.
 - e. Keith Schweer and Ted Simon will be narrators for the show.
 - f. Costuming: Depression era clothes for "Brother Can You Spare a Dime", appropriate background for "Ghost Riders In The Sky", with show tuxes for other segments in the program. By interspersing quartet segments, chorus members will be able to get offstage and make the necessary costume changes.
 - g. We may invite the quartets to sing with us during the closer, "Battle Hymn of the Republic".

Operations Report (Steve Keisker) No report.

Program: While this position is vacant, Mike Schumacher and Jim Bagby have agreed to fill in. Jim has been providing various activities at our chapter meetings, and Jerry Meier has taken care of publishing the weekly "In Tune".

Old (and New) Business:

1. It was agreed that the \$5,000 donated from the Wade Dexter estate will be moved into the Truman Foundation fund. The endowment fund, now with a balance of approximately \$2,100, will be built up to \$5,000 by a check transferring funds now in the chapter fund to that fund. Treasurer Harvey Shapiro will do this in March. This fund will then be identified as the Wade Dexter Scholarship fund, and any future investment returns will also remain in this fund. The other Truman fund, now with a balance of approximately \$800, will remain available as needed to the treasurer to meet chapter expenses. (Total for both funds is \$2,977.12 as of December 31st.)
2. President Barry Sanders discussed HEP school (Feb. 4th), mentioning an available Web based driver for handling membership issues called "Groupanizer". This would handle member communications online including sign-ups for chapter events, and offer features not now available to us for a cost of about \$1 per active member per year. In this discussion, Carter Combs also highlighted the Friday session on healthy chapter initiatives, and came out of that session with several good ideas that could help us to strengthen our chapter.
3. Singing Valentines plans for 2018 were discussed in the opening session by John Erwine. Children's Mercy Hospital has contacted him and suggested we could plan to do a performance that would raise funds for the hospital in lieu of our Valentines contribution in past years. It was agreed this idea was worth further study. John indicated that the plan for Union Station was still being considered and that we should approach Pierponts Restaurant to reserve a date for that event.
4. President Barry Sanders also presented his report on the planned special meeting of the chapter the next evening, Tuesday March 21st. The survey he made available to the membership had a good response, as 27 of the 35 active members responded to it, as did 35 of the 65 inactive members. (The meeting the next day had 27 active members present plus 6 inactive members.) Barry stated his goal for the survey and the meeting was to gather information (responses from the members), without making any decisions for change.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 10th, 2017.

James R. Porter, Secretary