

Heart of America Chapter – A048
Barbershop Harmony Society
Kansas City, Missouri
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting
November 13th, 2017

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

Meeting called to order at 6:08 PM by President Barry Sanders.

Board Members present at that time:	Barry Sanders (President),	Carter Combs (Imm. Past President),
Jim Porter (Secretary),	Harvey Shapiro (Treasurer),	Bob Velazquez (Music VP),
Steve Keisker (Operations VP),	Bob Murphy (At Large),	Charles Ramirez (At Large).

Board Member Arriving Late: Ted Simon (Marketing VP), (6:13).

Board Member Absent: Jerry Meier (Membership VP), Mike Schumacher (Executive VP).

Also present at outset: Rich Huyck (Holiday Show Ticket Chair, Past President).

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

The minutes for the previous meeting on October 9th, 2017 were prepared in printed form by Secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro provided his report for October.

Total income, month:	\$ 3,893.25;	total expenses	\$ 3,601.74.
Net surplus for month:	\$ 291.51;	budgeted:	\$ 1,660.00. (Short: \$1,368.49)
Net surplus for year:	\$ 6,068.89;	budgeted:	\$ 6,221.00. (Short: \$ 152.11)

Significant income items:	Golf Tournament receipts	\$ 1,612.00.
	Holiday Show ticket sales	1,010.00.
	Member payments, District	223.00.
Significant expense items:	District Convention T-Shirts	\$ 946.00.
	District, Expenses of Chapter	470.91.
	District, Other Member Expenses	452.63.
	Holiday Show Expenses Total	887.20.
	Hall Rental, Director stipend (each mo)	1,000.00.

Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available:	\$ 6,670.78.
Restricted funds (operating fund) available:	\$ 1,269.66. (plus \$868.78 in Truman fund)
Designated funds:	Net on deposit: \$ 6,598.99.
Total in checking account:	\$ 9,340.44;
Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 6,067.77; Total: \$15,408.21.

To date in November, an additional \$530 was received as Holiday Show income, less \$18.58 CC fees.

To date in November, \$480 hall rent was paid. The balance in the checking account as of Nov. 7th is \$9,371.86.

The treasurer's report was placed on file for audit as presented.

Marketing Report (Ted Simon):

- The batch of Holiday Show cards and flyers was exhausted, and Ted is preparing 100 more of each. A good number of these were left with Bank of Blue Ridge after our show at Hilton Garden Inn, and will be passed around to the bank's branch offices in the area.
- Ted is preparing the show programs, which will be a folded 2-page format without advertising. The estimated cost to prepare is \$500. After some discussion, it was decided to prepare 700 programs for the show.

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

Total members as of Oct.31st: 96, no change from September. Likely future drops: Ryan Bradley, Craig Wilcox.

Year to date: Add 3 new members, less 7 members dropped, less 4 members to Chapter Eternal. Net loss: 8.

Tom Hadley has expressed interest to join as a new member after he completes a show obligation in November.

The next Guest Night is scheduled for the next evening, Nov. 14th. The plan is to start with Christmas music we would be singing for the Salvation Army caravan and to have all present participate in that rehearsal activity. We would then move to music we will be singing on the Holiday show. Again, all present are invited to participate in that activity. After a break, there will be a time for quartets to perform, including Harmonium. The final session will focus on Holiday Show songs we sing with the ladies. Again, all present are invited to participate.

The Installation Banquet for 2018 is now scheduled for Saturday, January 13th. The location will be at Cinzetti's Italian Restaurant, 7201 W. 91st Street (just west of Metcalf) in Overland Park. Provided we have 50 or more at the banquet, all may enjoy an all you care to eat buffet for a cost of \$20 to \$25 per person.

Harmony Explosion! 2018 is scheduled for February 17th at Olathe East High School. Harmonium has agreed to be the featured quartet for the day. Pizzazz has agreed to be the featured Sweet Adelines quartet. Jerry did submit an application for grant money from Harmony Foundation prior to the September 30th deadline. At present, he is collecting E-Mail addresses from members planning to volunteer so they may take the BHS Youth Protection training seminar.

Music Team Report (Bob Velazquez) Provided a written report. The music team met Sunday, Nov. 12th.

A summary of items in the report:

- Guest Night: (Nov. 14th) Plans were laid out in greater detail than shown above in the Membership report. Activities plan include Jim Bagby teaching a tag or two, and a 30 minute performance with 3 quartets.
- Holiday Show: (Dec. 2nd) Our uniform for the first half: Black tux, black shirt, red vest and red tie. For the second half, the uniform is white tux coat, white shirt, and ties yet to be determined, could be bow ties (or scarves) which the chapter would need to purchase. We are seeking to complement the ladies uniform plans. The song list was found to make the show too long, proposed to drop "Baby, It's Cold Outside".
- Caroling Caravan: (Dec. 16th) Bob has selected a list of songs for this event. Two or three quartets may be available, including Harmonium for part of the day. Jim Bagby suggested there be no more than 2 quartet songs at any of the stops along the way.
- 80th Annivesary Show: (June) Discussion centered on a show title, several suggestions were made. A final decision will be made at the December meeting.

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Operations Report: (Steve Keisker)

There was discussion about the proposal (as yet unfulfilled) to provide stools on the risers for those who need them. It was noted that the ladies have stools for their members. John Erwine will look into options, likely to purchase stools from a local retail store, then do the necessary carpentry work so they will sit on the risers.

Old Business:

- The contract for the reservation of the lobby of the Muehlenbach Hotel is now signed and the deposit paid, so the planned celebration on April 11th is now set. The three other area chapters have all agreed to participate with us in this celebration of the 80th anniversary of the Society.
- Also, the Valentines Rendezvous at the Station is now set for Saturday, February 10th. Pierpont's will serve the meals at a cost of about \$100 per couple. Plans are to sell tickets to the banquet for \$150 per couple.
- In addition, President Barry Sanders requested the chapter consider offering Singing Valentines as they have done in the past, at least on Valentine's Day (Feb. 14th).
- Rich Huyck noted that ticket sales for the Holiday Show are so far on a pace to match sales last year.

New Business:

- Our host church has presented a request for a rent increase, stating they are experiencing financial difficulty. The chapter has paid a rental of \$120 per each night they use the room for at least the past 10 years. The church is asking for us to double that amount. In the discussion, it was agreed we should seek alternative arrangements. It was also agreed we should offer St. Mary's Church a 25% increase to \$150 per evening, with a clause that the church would agree to provide light in the parking lot and a temperature of 70 degrees in the room during the colder months. It was agreed that a committee should be formed to look into this matter.

At this point, it was 7 PM and President Barry Sanders announced that the rest of the meeting would be given to a discussion of the situation with regard to Jerry Garrard and our future needs for a chorus director. Bob Velazquez at this point announced that he was willing to continue to be our director at least through the June show, then excused himself from the room. He was replaced by past chapter president Keith Schweer, who arrived at that time and joined the discussion. The question to be considered was "Do we continue to do as we have been doing, or is it time to initiate a search for a new director?" It was agreed that detail of who said what should be left off the record.

Each person present was called to state his views. The two absent members provided their views by E-Mail. The consensus of the majority was to continue on as we have been doing, for at least the next six months.

Jerry's contract expires on December 31st. A motion was made to offer a contract for 2018 to Bob Velazquez. The language in the contract will remain unchanged. The motion was passed with a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 11th, 2017.

James R. Porter, Secretary