

Heart of America Chapter – A048  
Barbershop Harmony Society  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting  
October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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

Meeting called to order at 6:10 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),	Jerry Meier (Membership VP),
Ted Simon (Marketing VP),	Bob Velazquez (Music VP),	
Bob Murphy (At Large),	Charles Ramirez (At Large).	

Board Member Arriving Late: Steve Keisker (Operations VP) (6:13).

Board Member Absent: Mike Schumacher (Executive VP).

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

The minutes for the previous meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 were prepared in printed form by Secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro provided his report for September.

Total income, month:	\$ 8,368.36;	total expenses	\$ 5,972.59.
Net surplus for month:	\$ 2,395.77;	budgeted:	\$ 2,505.00. (Short: \$ 145.23)
Net surplus for year:	\$ 5,777.38;	budgeted:	\$ 4,561.00. (Ahead: \$1,216.38)

Significant income items:	Golf Tournament receipts	\$ 3,645.00.
	Holiday Show seed money	2,000.00.
	Member payments, District	2,572.28.
Significant expense items:	Golf Tournament total expenses	\$ 2,721.01.
	District Registrations Paid	2,212.78.
	Hall Rental, Director stipend (each mo)	880.00.

Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available:	\$ 7,646.41.
Restricted funds (operating fund) available:	\$ 172.12. (\$859.48 in Truman fund)
Designated funds:	Net on deposit: \$ 6,438.69.
Total in checking account:	\$ 9,118.53;
Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 5,998.17; Total: \$15,116.70.

To date in October, an additional \$1,612.00 was received as income from the Golf Tournament.

To date, total Golf Tournament income is \$6,227.00, expenses total is \$3,721.01, for a net gain of \$2,905.99.

To date in October, \$600 hall rent was paid. The balance in the checking account as of Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> is \$10,130.53. The report was placed on file for audit as presented.

**Marketing Report** (Ted Simon):

Ted is prepared to present costs for advertising to be included with the Holiday Show program at the Holiday Show committee meeting scheduled for the next day (Tuesday October 10<sup>th</sup>). Ted is proposing having a prize for the one selling the most ads for the program. It is likely the burden of selling ads will fall on HOA as the Sweet Adelines have expressed no interest in participating in this program. While no motion was made, the consensus of the board was that Ted should proceed as he planned and we commit to selling ads for the show program.

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

Total members as of Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>: 96, no change from August. 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.

Olathe Trails West decided not to use the special chair for Bob Murphy at their annual show September 30<sup>th</sup>.

The next Guest Night is scheduled for Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>. As the previous attempt was a bust, discussion centered on what to do to make the date attractive for prospective members. One such is Tom Bradley, who has already visited a time or two. While he is interested, he is at present committed to a production (stage play) scheduled for Nov. 16-18 and would not be available until after that date. In the discussion, it was agreed that cooking burgers and dogs took too long last spring and should not be done again, but snacks could be provided. It was also agreed that the program should provide more time for prospective members to sing with the chorus, not just sit and listen to others singing.

The Installation Banquet for 2018 is now scheduled for Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. The location will be at Cinzetti's Italian Restaurant, 7201 W. 91<sup>st</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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, Oct, 8<sup>th</sup>.

A summary of items in the report:

- District Contest: The team discussed plans for the remaining rehearsals before the competition and details for our preparation time while in St. Charles. Among these plans is to have a full dress rehearsal at the last meeting before the convention on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>. Guests would be invited to come at 8:30 to watch the competition chorus present the contest package while dressed as planned for the competition.
- Blue Springs Bank show, Wed. Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>: At this point, 25 members have agreed to sing at this engagement, which will take place at mid-day on this date. We plan to have our own risers at the venue and are seeking at least one quartet to participate in the show.
- Guest Night (Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>): Harmonium has agreed to come and perform that evening. The team would like to have at least one other quartet perform. Note discussion above about this planned event.
- Holiday Show (Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>): Discussion centered on what songs to sing, who sings first, and other details. There was discussion about adding some "sparkle" to our show uniforms, as the Sweet Adelines have "sparkle" in their show uniforms. Several ideas were proposed and discussed, a decision will be made later.

Report continued on next page.

**Music Team Report** (Bob Velazquez), continued.

- **Quartet Tag demonstrators**: This activity heretofore has been handled by Jim Bagby, one who is able on his own to teach tags. Few others can do that and an idea was advanced to have volunteers from the chapter agree to form quartets where each member of the foursome would learn his part (only) for a tag, then at the meeting, demonstrate that part for others in his section. In this way, the other members could learn their part and sing the tag with the chapter. The thought was to encourage and increase member participation in quartets.
- **Caroling Caravan**: (Sat. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>) This date is preferred, but not yet firm. (Note: The AOH show in St. Louis is the previous weekend and Central Standard's show is at 7:00 PM on Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>.) In the past, this usually is the last Saturday before Christmas, but the team prefers the date be 2 weeks after the Holiday Show. Plans are to do much the same as in previous years, and to have at least 2 quartets participating with us.
- **Annual Show 2018**: The plan is to do something special to mark our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It all started here in Kansas City, so the thought is to include Kansas City songs, such as "Kansas City Here I Come", "Everything is Up to Date in Kansas City" and others such as "Kansas City, My Home Town", which has been in our repertoire.
- **At Home Preparation**: Barry Sanders proposed an idea to encourage members to work at home in order to be better prepared for the weekly rehearsals. While the idea was dismissed as impractical, all agreed that if we are to improve our presentations, members must commit to doing preparation work at home. At present, only a few do anything between Tuesday meetings to improve their performance levels. In the discussion it was agreed that greater commitment would lead to performance improvements. Some, however, remain skeptical as the chapter has heard this message again and again over the past 10 years, only to see scores declining year by year. The perception is that the advancing age of the chorus members is a barrier to progress.

**Operations Report**: (Steve Keisker)

Steve has agreed to haul our risers to the district convention in St. Charles. The chapter will reimburse him for the cost of fuel for this trip. Steve is expected to provide receipts for this reimbursement.

**Program**: Barry Sanders has made it a priority to have this position filled for the 2018 board.

**Old Business**:

- The situation with Jerry Garrard remains in limbo. The next pre-trial hearing is October 30<sup>th</sup>. Even if Jerry is cleared of all charges, his contract provides his reinstatement is at the discretion of the board, and is not automatic. This matter will be revisited at the November board meeting.

**New Business**:

- It was noted that Halloween falls on Tuesday this year and it was therefore probable that several members would be inclined to not come out for the meeting that evening. With a show at Blue Springs Bank set for the next day, it was agreed we could not cancel that meeting. Instead, President Barry Sanders agreed to (and did) make an announcement at the chapter meeting the next day to encourage all members to come to the meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup>, even if you must be late, please come, especially if you plan to sing with us the next day. He also said that if anyone wants to come "in costume" that they would be welcomed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

James R. Porter, Secretary

Heart of America Chapter – A048  
Barbershop Harmony Society  
Kansas City, Missouri  
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting  
November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Location: Longview Community College, 500 SW Longview Drive, Lees Summit MO 64081.

Meeting called to order at 9:55 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),	Jerry Meier (Membership VP),
Ted Simon (Marketing VP),	Bob Velazquez (Music VP),	Mike Schumacher (Executive VP),
Steve Keisker (Operations VP),	Bob Murphy (At Large),	Charles Ramirez (At Large).

The meeting was called after President Barry Sanders received notice from the Muehlenbach Hotel demanding the immediate payment of a \$1,000 deposit to hold the room for the planned observance of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society in the old lobby area of that hotel on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018. If we failed to make that deposit, the hotel was prepared to make the room available to another party who wanted it on that date.

In all, the hotel will be looking for at least \$3,000 to provide the space with food (hors d'oeuvres) and drinks served. We anticipate over 100 guests at the celebration and interest has already been shown from the Olathe Trails West chapter and Central Standard. Leavenworth is also likely to join in, and invitations will be extended to other chapters in the Central States district or nationwide. It is possible Kansas City Mayor Sly James will be there to issue a proclamation of National Barbershop Quartet Day, perhaps also to sing (he is capable of that). Also, BHS CEO Marty Monson plans to be at the event. Public exposure on TV is probable, and plans include singing in the streets downtown or on the streetcars. Throw in a possible appearance by a champion quartet (Vocal Spectrum, Crossroads or Gas House Gang) and all agreed this could be a huge event, one of the biggest of the entire year.

The costs would be covered by asking each guest to pay a cover charge, perhaps \$30, which would allow them to be at the event and share in the refreshments provided. Details for this remain to be worked out. If there is enough interest that the room capacity of 250 is threatened, we could reduce this charge, perhaps to \$15.

After a spirited discussion about this event, Secretary Jim Porter made a motion that the \$1,000 deposit be paid. Treasurer Harvey Shapiro confirmed the funds were available. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. President Barry Sanders will be responsible for getting the payment to the hotel.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM.