

Heart of America Chapter – A048
Barbershop Harmony Society
Kansas City, Missouri
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting
September 11th, 2017

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

Meeting called to order at 6:11 PM by President Barry Sanders.

Board Members present at that time:	Barry Sanders (President),	Mike Schumacher (Executive VP),
Jim Porter (Secretary),	Harvey Shapiro (Treasurer),	Jerry Meier (Membership VP),
Ted Simon (Marketing VP),	Bob Velazquez (Music VP),	Steve Keisker (Operations VP),
Bob Murphy (At Large),	Charles Ramirez (At Large).	

Board Member Absent: Carter Combs (Imm. Past President).

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

The minutes for the previous meeting on August 14th, 2017 were prepared in printed form by Secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro provided his report for August.

Total income, month:	\$ 1,497.84;	total expenses	\$ 3,182.52.
Net (deficit) for month:	\$ (1,684.68);	budgeted:	\$ (1,982.00). (Ahead: \$ 297.32)
Net surplus for year:	\$ 3,381.61;	budgeted:	\$ 2,056.00. (Ahead: \$1,325.61)

Significant income items:	Golf Tournament receipts	\$ 1,370.00.
Significant expense items:	Golf Tournament down payment	\$ 1,000.00.
	Coaching, Retreat Expenses	622.14.
	Hall Rental, Director stipend (each mo)	1,000.00.
	Harmonotes, incl. mailing costs	349.00.
	Publicity (Website expenses)	211.38.

Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available:	\$ 7,346.91.
Restricted funds (operating fund) available:	\$ (913.59). (\$859.48 in Truman fund)
Designated funds:	Net on deposit: \$ 6,287.61.
Total in checking account:	\$ 6,773.84;
Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 5,947.09; Total: \$12,720.93.

As of the end of August, total income and expenses of the golf tournament are as shown above. To date in September, \$2,085 additional income was received and \$205.86 added expenses paid.

To date in September (Sept. 8th), expenses paid also include \$480 to St. Mark's Church for hall rent and \$13.05 for a name tag. The balance in the checking account as of Sept. 8th is \$8,159.93.

The report was placed on file for audit as presented.

Marketing Report (Ted Simon):

Ted offered a preliminary design for a new T-shirt for chapter members to wear at the upcoming district convention. After some discussion, a final design was approved. Ted will prepare the shirts, which will not have a date and may also be used for the 2018 district convention. It was agreed that 50 shirts should be prepared, as some members will want one for a spouse and there should be some available for future new members. In the coming year, there will also be a new shirt to mark the 80th anniversary of the chapter.

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

Total members as of August 31st: 96, down 2 from July. Don Newman and Duane Lawson are dropped.

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

Olathe Trails West requested use of the special chair for Bob Murphy at their annual show September 30th. Jerry Meier will take responsibility for transporting the chair to and from the theater that day.

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 is preparing to submit an application for grant money from Harmony Foundation prior to a September 30th deadline.

Music Team Report (Bob Velazquez) Provided a written report. The music team met Sunday, Sept. 10th.

A summary of items in the report:

- District Contest: The team discussed the design for the new chapter T-Shirt (see Marketing report above) and prepared the preliminary design for Ted Simon to present to the Board.
- District Contest: It was decided before the meeting that the two songs will be "I'll Be Seeing You" and "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime", in that order. Members will dress in black tuxes and will remove their colored ties after the first song to present an all-black appearance for the 2nd song. Jim Bagby will direct the first song and Bob Velazquez will direct the 2nd song. Plans are to have members practice the costume change at rehearsals. There were also some ideas presented for planned choreography during the songs.
- District Contest: Placement of members on the risers will begin with the Sept. 12th chapter meeting. Members are encouraged to work for self-improvement, including the use of recording devices to allow members to self analyze their performance. Recordings may be given to section leaders, but they will NOT be used to qualify members for the competition. There was much discussion at the meeting about what should be done to help improve the performance level of the chapter. It was clear that there are some that would seek to return to the discipline of a decade ago and others who recognize we are not now what we were then, and we should relax and be content with who we are and what our present performance level is.
- Section Leaders: At present, Carter Combs is acting as leader for both the tenor and lead sections, Jerry Meier is the baritone section leader and David Stockard the bass section leader. Mike Schumacher is also accepting responsibility for the lead section. It was suggested Keith Schweer be asked to serve as a leader, but he has not been active with the chorus recently and some would defer on this until such time he returns to active status.

Report continued on next page.

Music Team Report (Bob Velazquez), continued.

- **Riser Discipline**: It was the consensus that this needs to be re-emphasized. Meetings are not starting on time. Board members need to set an example and take care of business at appropriate times, and be on the risers at 7 PM. Members should not get on the risers except at breaks or at the invitation of the director. Conversations between members on the risers continues to be an issue.
- **Blue Springs Festival**: (Sat. Sept. 16th) The chapter will include "Basin Street Blues" but not "Sentimental Gentleman from Georgia". We will open with two songs before there is any talking. One way we could introduce ourselves would be to open with the HOA tag we close our meetings with.
- **Holiday Show 2017**: The song lineup for this show is nearing a final decision. "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" is one, but is also one the headliner quartet planned to sing. The Newfangled Four is being asked to drop that one from their plans for the show. Another, "Do You Hear what I Hear" features three soloists. It was decided that members would be invited to audition for these soloist roles. A discussion of rehearsal time for holiday show music continued, it was agreed that at least some time be given to that in the weeks leading up to the district competition. Some chapter members plan to sing on the show but not at the district convention.
- **Annual Show 2018**: The plan is to do something special to mark our 80th anniversary. It was suggested we do songs we have done over the years, looking at all files we have and discussing choices with long-time members. Another idea suggested was a "parade of quartets" similar to the pattern of shows long ago.

Operations Report: (Steve Keisker)

There was discussion about providing stools on the risers for those who need them. A typical bar stool with its legs trimmed to allow it to sit properly on the risers should work out well.

Program: While this position is vacant, Mike Schumacher and Jim Bagby have agreed to fill in.

Jim Bagby is now sharing directorship duties. Mike Schumacher does not see any problems as a result.

Old Business:

- The situation with Jerry Garrard remains in limbo. There was a preliminary scheduling meeting August 24th, but this leads up to scheduling pre-trial hearings in the future. The next pre-trial hearing is October 30th. Before the trial, there can be no resolution to the present situation, nor change in our relationship with Jerry. This may yet be several months off. Bob Velazquez has committed to the Board to remain as our director through June 2018.

New Business:

- The 2nd meeting of the Holiday Show committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th. Plans for the show include a performance of "Hanukkah in Santa Monica" by a men's VLQ group selected from chapter members.
- David Jobe (AOH) has asked that we make our risers available for the district convention. Dave has agreed to transport the risers to and from St. Charles with his own vehicle. This request was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 9th, 2017.

James R. Porter, Secretary