

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

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

Meeting called to order at 6:10 PM by President Barry Sanders.

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

Board Members Arriving Late: Carter Combs (Imm. Past President), 6:20.

Tony O'Brien (Program VP) submitted his resignation prior to the meeting.
One vacancy exists for at-large board members.

The minutes for the previous meeting on January 16th, 2017 were prepared in printed form by secretary Jim Porter. These were accepted as presented.

Treasurer Harvey Shapiro provided his report for January.

Total income, month:	\$ 8,412.55;	total expenses	\$ 4,974.15.
Net surplus for month:	\$ 3,438.40;	budgeted:	\$ (1,538.50). (based on 2016 budget)
Net surplus for year:	\$ 3,438.40;	budgeted:	\$ (1,538.50).

Significant income items:	Wade Dexter Scholarship Fund	\$ 5,000.00.
	Installation Meals Paid	1,050.00.
	Closeout of Heartbeats Account	1,321.60.
Significant expense items:	Holiday Show KCSA Final Settlement	\$ 1,454.54.
	Hall Rental, Director stipend (each mo)	1,000.00.
	Cost of New Music	727.83.
	ASCAP, SESAC fees for 2017 shows	301.00.

Unrestricted funds (members or social fund) available:	\$ 6,484.49.
Restricted funds (operating fund) available:	\$ 693.23.
Designated funds:	Net on deposit: \$ 5,600.00.
Total in checking account:	\$ 9,823.11;
Total in Truman Foundation:	\$ 2,954.61; Total: \$12,777.72.

As of February 9th, income received in February: \$ 123.94;
Expenses paid to date: \$ 2,531.89; Balance: \$ 7,415.16.

The report was placed on file for audit as presented.

Continued on next page.

Kent Miller was also present at the meeting. He is the chapter liaison with the Truman Fund. He discussed how that fund was structured and the original purpose of the fund when it was established in 2008. The board's interest is to set up a fund to hold the money from the Wade Dexter estate which is designated as a special purpose fund.

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

The annual show flyer should be out in a week or so. The music team will provide a name for the show, which will be on the flyer. In HEP school, they discussed use of social media (i.e. Facebook) to publicize shows. Our need is someone with the necessary computer skills to make use of social media in this way. Contact has been made with George McClure, who has the needed skills, to redesign our Website. Estimated cost of this project is \$300.

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

Total members as of January 31st: 105, up 1 from December. Tom Millot (deceased) is dropped.

Two new members were added, Daniel (Bart) Bartholomew and Walter (Wally) Thornton.

St. More's Catholic Church informed the board in January that they were terminating their agreement to allow us to meet at that church. Board Member Bob Murphy, who is a deacon with St. Peter's Episcopal Church, was able to obtain an agreement from that church to meet there. Our board meetings will therefore henceforth be at that church.

Harmony Explosion! 2017 is scheduled for February 18th at Olathe East High School. Trails West chapter (Olathe) will assist by helping in the serving of lunch. The \$1,500 Harmony Foundation grant should arrive this week. The boys chorus will sing "Who Will Buy" and the girls chorus will sing "We Are Family". BoomTown is the BHS quartet representative and either Dynamix or Flourish will be the women's quartet representative. There are 185 students from 9 schools registered (106 girls, 79 boys), up from previous years (best year was 160).

Music Team Report (Bob Velazquez) Provided a written report.

The music team met Sunday, February 12th.

A summary of items in the report:

1. Discussion about quartets to perform on the Annual Show (June 17th) was summarized. The headliner quartet will be Throwback. Harmonium has also been invited, and will perform for no fee. Jerry Meier will be inviting quartets from Harmony Explosion to perform, and expects a good response. Time constraints will limit the number of quartets that can perform, decisions remain to be made in this area.
2. Discussion also focused on costuming for the show, and costume chairman Marty Oldenhoeft likely will be included in future meetings. Several ideas were discussed, a final decision is yet to be made. The objective is to present a show with an Americana theme, and present a show that is attractive and entertaining.
3. There was also discussion about backdrops on a song by song basis. We will have the ability to project scenes using video equipment and that narration would also be a part of this plan.
4. There was also discussion about the song order, and an agreement was reached and listed in the report. Included are 11 songs, three songs we have done recently were dropped from the list.
5. The show title suggested was "Spirit Within Us: Songs of America".
6. Looking forward, next year will be the 80th anniversary of the chapter. We have a date for the 2018 show at the Bell Center, it will be June 2nd, 2018. The intent is to line up a gold medal quartet for that show.
7. Also looking forward, Bob suggested we plan for a chapter retreat at a site in LaCynge, KS. Concerns were expressed that members don't retain much from retreats and some members fail to come out for retreats.

Continued on next page.

Operations Report (Steve Keisker) Oral report.

1. We did find the missing black bag and several of our microphones. Some items remain missing. The church should now be aware and knowledgeable about what in the closet is the chapter's property.
2. Some investigation has been made to obtain stools that could be placed on the risers as needed to allow members unable to stand long periods on the risers to sit on the stool instead, thus remaining in riser formation instead of sitting in chairs off to one side. No final decision as yet on this suggestion.
3. The Sweet Adeline's chapter has requested use of our risers for a coaching event Sunday Feb. 26th, from 1 PM to 6 PM. This would take place in our meeting room, no need to move risers. This plan was agreed to in January.

Old Business: It was necessary to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Before adjournment:

1. It was agreed that the \$5,000 donated from the Wade Dexter estate needs to be in a distinct fund and not remain in the chapter checking account. Inquiry will be made about the feasibility of establishing a new fund in the Truman Fund to hold this money.
2. The chapter does NOT plan to go to the CSD spring convention as a chorus to compete for evaluation.
3. Singing Valentines is cancelled for 2017. Plans for 2018 were discussed and a handout for a proposal for an event at Union Station were distributed, but discussion was tabled for the evening.
4. President Barry Sanders also presented his plans for 2017 – starting to re-grow the chapter.

The meeting was then adjourned. It was agreed to continue the meeting on Tuesday, February 21st, after the chapter meeting. These minutes will continue after the completion of that meeting.

Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting
Resumption of Adjourned Meeting, February 21st, 2017

Location: St. Mary & St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church, 700 E. 110th Street, Kansas City MO 64131.

Meeting called to order at 9:30 PM by President Barry Sanders.

Board Members present at that time: Barry Sanders (President), Mike Schumacher (Executive VP),
Jim Porter (Secretary), Bob Velazquez (Music VP), Carter Combs (Imm. Past President),
Jerry Meier (Membership VP), Steve Keisker (Operations VP), Charles Ramirez (At Large).

Also Present: John Erwine (Past President).

Board Members Absent:

Harvey Shapiro (Treasurer), Ted Simon (Marketing VP), Bob Murphy (At Large).

Old Business: A motion was made to establish the Wade Dexter Scholarship Fund within the Truman Fund.

1. The endowment fund, presently with a balance of approximately \$2,100, would be increased to precisely \$5,000 with a deposit from the chapter checking account.
2. The Treasurer would show a transfer of the entire \$5,000 to the Truman Fund and a reverse transfer of the present balance in the endowment fund back to the checking account.
3. A second transfer could be made to withdraw the entire balance of the other Truman fund at the discretion of the treasurer to cover future bills. The Truman fund would then have only the one fund, which would henceforth be identified as the Wade Dexter Scholarship Fund. (This was not part of the motion.)

Old Business: Continued.

The motion was passed by a voice vote. Treasurer Harvey Shapiro will handle the needed transfers with Kent Miller.

John Erwine reported that while Singing Valentines were cancelled for 2017, Armchair Chorderbacks did deliver several singing valentines to fulfill the chapter agreement with the Kansas City Convention and Visitors Bureau. He also reported that the Trails West chorus delivered valentines and had a somewhat increased number this year.

President Barry Sanders then presented his proposal for 2018, **Valentines Rendezvous at the Station**. Overall, the proposal is to stage a banquet in the Belvidere Room of Union Station, food to be provided by Pierponts Restaurant. The evening would feature several quartets that would sing "love songs through the ages". After some discussion:

- a. The Belvidere Room has a seating capacity of 75 to 80. If there is sufficient interest, there could be more than one banquet, on separate evenings. It was agreed that Friday and/or Saturday (Feb. 9th & 10th) would be better rather than Valentine's Day evening, which falls on Wednesday in 2018.
- b. The room must be booked and President Sanders asked for a motion to book the room. The cost would be \$40 to \$50 per guest, and does NOT need to be paid in advance. This cost covers the cost of the food to be served. The board approved this action with the caveat that a cancellation agreement be included with the contract.
- c. There was discussion about the price to charge, originally proposed to be \$150 per couple, which would cover the cost of the food and hall and provide about \$2,000 profit if there was one banquet and a full room. As a budget was not yet prepared, the board did not agree on a final price per couple.

New Business: Tickets for the Annual Show.

- a. Discussion initially was over the question to sell tickets either as reserved seating or general admission. The theater would handle ticket sales if reserved seating and take \$1 per ticket as the price for this service. If tickets were sold as general admission, we could handle the sales ourselves.
- b. Discussion then was over what price to charge, whether \$15 or \$20 per ticket. It was agreed that a final decision would need to wait, as there was not yet a budget prepared for the show. One factor in the decision was the Central Standard show on May 13th. After the meeting, it was learned their ticket prices range from \$45 for the best seats down to \$15 for seats in the upper balcony. Main floor prices are \$25 to \$45.

This question, as well as all other items on the agenda for the meeting, was tabled to the March meeting. President Sanders promised that there would be decisions made via E-Mail prior to that meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

President Barry Sanders will be out of town March 13th; therefore, the next meeting will be on Monday, March 20th.