

FAR WESTERN DISTRICT Board Meeting Agenda

DoubleTree Hotel – Meeting Room
2233 Ventura St, Fresno, CA 93721
October 11, 2018 -- 2:00 PM

Board Minutes

Call to order—President Craig Hughes called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM

Old Songs—Craig Ewing led the group in *The Old Songs*.

Invocation—Chuck Roots offered the invocation.

Roll Call—Jim Maass called the roll of the board. All were present.

President Craig Hughes
Executive Vice President Bill Rosica
Secretary Jim Maass
Treasurer Rich Owen
Division 1 VP, Southwest, Brent Anderson
Division 2 VP, Southeast, Nick Papageorge
Division 3 VP, Northwest, Dick Whitten
Division 4 VP, Northeast, Chuck Roots
Division 5 VP, Arizona, Adam Kaufman
VP Music and Performance, Craig Ewing
VP Contest and Judging, Brett Littlefield
Immediate Past President, Gordon Bergthold

Opening Remarks—President Craig welcomed everyone to the Fall FWD board meeting. He recognized David Melville and commented on his morning convention newsletter to the membership. Great Job! Craig also encouraged all the board members to get the delegates to the HOD as there are several important issues to discuss and vote upon.

Approval of Agenda—It was moved, second and approved.

Approval of Minutes for June 16, 2018 Board Meeting (Spring) It was moved, second and approved.

Introduction of Guests—President Craig introduced the special guest present: Bernard Priceman, Society Board Member. Erik Dove, Chief Financial Officer, BHS. Jim Clark, Harmony Foundation. Russ Young, past president. Chuck Hunter, past president, and Joe Salz Hall of Fame. There were additional guests in the audience.

Vice President Reports

Brent Anderson, Division 1, Southwest. Brent has been talking with his chapters regarding the Everyone in Harmony and at this time there did seem to be much of a “big deal.” He also mentioned a few things in his written report that appear in the HOD brochure.

Nick Papageorge, Division 2, Southeast. He reported that he called all this chapters and has discussed the Everyone in Harmony with them. Only Orange Quartet chapter is not interested as they are a quartet chapter. He discussed with the board the feedback he has received. The issue he reported was a concern for music arrangements that meet the mix group voicing. He also brought up the issue of contests. Brett Littlefield mentioned that in the FWD there will be contests adjudicated same as the men’s contests.

Dick Whitten, Division 3, Northwest. Dick also reported discussing Everyone in Harmony with his chapters. There was some uncertainty but if they include women, they will use same music arrangement.

Chuck Roots, Division 4, Northeast. Chuck also reported discussing Everyone in Harmony with his chapters. Some of the chapters were frustrated that there was no prior information and that it appeared to “come out of nowhere.” There was concern as to how all this will play out. He has three mixed choruses now—Stockton, West Valley and Mighty Oak. Also of concern is where the small choruses will fit in. Are they being considered in the big picture with the larger chapters.

Adam Kaufman, Division 5, Arizona. Nothing to add to his published report.

President Craig asked the DVPs to go onto Basecamp and fill out the information regarding the input they received about women inclusion.

Brett Littlefield, Contest and Judging. Brett reported that there are 25 competing choruses this weekend. One judge got sick and will not make it to Fresno. However, a judge candidate, already on site, has been approved to fill in. Brett also mentioned he is for women inclusion but was concerned about “poaching” from SAI or Harmony Inc. Brett asked Chuck Roots how Stockton is doing with the mixed chorus. Chuck gave a brief description as the chorus is about 50-50 mix and it was a survival issue which put them on the path of women inclusion. The Stockton chorus will be performing on Saturday.

Craig Ewing, Music and Performance. Craig reported on Harmony College West. Everything appeared to be in order, but the facility fell through at the last minute and HCW had to be cancelled. He also announced he will not be returning to this position next year and is preparing all the information for an easy transition to the new person. He again mentioned that there is coaching money available to the chapters and it is very much underutilized. Amount available--\$150.

Management Team Reports

EVP Bill Rosica introduced the Management Team members. Jeremy Loper is new to Membership, Steve Salmon, Youth in Harmony, David Melville, Marketing. Bill also mentioned he is taking on Long Range Planning and has some ideas he will be sharing. Roe Darnell is now Financial

Development. He is a past college president and has expertise in this area. Bill introduced Bryan Forbes, Events and praised all the guys for the job they are doing for the District.

(Secretary Note: At the HOD meeting on Friday, President Craig mentioned that for the first time in many years, all committee positions are filled. A list of all committee chairs can be found on the FWD Website.)

Steve Salmon, Youth in Harmony. Steve reported he is here this weekend to promote Youth in Harmony. He has no money to support his program, so he will be asking chapters to “pass the hat” at their first meeting in November. He also reported that the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund support for music camps will be having a “double match” fundraising drive. For every dollar donated an additional two dollars will be matched. Spread the word about this double match fundraiser. Also, the high school quartet completion in 2019 will be only for young men but he will be promoting Everyone in Harmony...male, female, mixed quartets, for 2020.

Bryan Forbes, Events. He reported the following conventions for 2019. The Spring Prelims/Northeast-Northwest Division Convention will be in Stockton on March 21-24. The Southwest/Southeast Division will be in Ontario on May 10-11. Arizona is looking for a site, but it will be on April 12-13.

Bryan also brought up the “fee structure” for minimum convention reimbursement to the host chapter which is currently in the SOP and proposing it be moved from the SOP to the convention planning manual. This will require a vote of approval in the HOD and is on the agenda for Friday’s meeting.

Leadership Summits are on the calendar. SoCal on Nov. 3, 2018, NorCal on Nov. 17, 2018 and Arizona on Jan. 12, 2019.

Bryan gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed dues increase and convention registration fee restructure. He will make the same presentation to the HOD on Friday where a vote will be taken on the propose dues increase of \$20 per year.

Convention Manual Update. Bryan Forbes said he is in the process of revising the manual. It is a major undertaking putting it all together. He will come back to the board at a later date.

Marketing and PR. David Melville reported that he has been looking to add website security and the cost is three times what he originally put into the budget. He will ask for an increase in the budget for that line item. He also discussed his approach for publicity for next year’s conventions.

Go to Meeting. David Melville reported that he has been looking at options for web conferencing. He presented a matrix chart looking at the options available. He compared six different providers. The two big players are “Go to Meeting” and “Zoom Conferencing.” Pricing is base upon number of users who can set up meeting. There was some discussion regarding the best approach. BHS Erik Dove indicated he might have an option. This item was put over to a later time as David gathers more information.

Finance Update—Rich Owen had provided the board with an updated financial statement vis e mail.

Society Board Update – Bernard Priceman, Society Board Member at Large reported the biggest thing to happen in the past years is Everyone in Harmony. He went over “who the society board is”...two entities run the Society, Governance/Strategy and Operations (CEO and the Staff) and the Society Board of Directors made up of four officers and six at large member which server three year terms on a rotating basis—two board member terms expire each year. They board meets at least twice a year plus additional meetings as necessary.

Society Staff Update—Erik Dove, BHS Chief Financial Officer, gave a brief bio background. He also discussed how things are generally going at the society level. He reports to the BHS CEO, Monty Monson. He shared what everyone is doing for the Society. Decisions are made after collaboration. He shared more about Everyone in Harmony and will be sharing more at the HOD meeting on Friday. He mentioned that the vision supporting Everyone in Harmony is a “choice” by each chapter. Additionally, he mentioned the mission of Everyone in Harmony is to have 1.2 million interested in Barbershop harmony in the next 10 years. This is NOT members but the general audience awareness of the artform. He also mentioned that deficit spending has been and will be happening for the next few years. This spending plan had been anticipated and has been planned for.

Harmony Foundation Update—Jim Clark, Harmony Foundation, said that the mission of Harmony Foundation is to enrich lives through singing. It is independent of the BHS and works with the BHS. He also wanted to clarify that Harmony INC has asked the Foundation for help to raise funds to get their directors to BHS Harmony University. So, Harmony Foundation is assisting Harmony Inc. to get their members to donate to HF with those funds earmarked for the Harmony INC director training program. No money donated by BHS members is going to support Harmony Inc. musical activities.

He also mentioned the Donor Choice program and the need to get a larger percentage of BHS members to contribute. Goal is to get 30% plus BHS members contributing something to HF. This HF will be able to go out and see major corporate donations as they look at the percentage of participation within an organization as a criteria before they will consider donating.

Again, he encouraged all who contribute to HF to donate up to 30% of their gift split between their chapter(s) and/or the district.

Old Business

Status on Fremont Hayward Chapter retention...Rich Owen reported that he, Bill Rosica and Jim Maass are now dual members. There will be final paper work making Bill the president, Jim the secretary and Rich the treasurer of the chapter. This would create a corporate shell to enable the license to be kept active pending it’s use to form a new FWD chapter.

Update on Mixed Chorus and quartet participation—Brett Littlefield and Craig Ewing gave a brief report on the status.

Update—Fall 2022 Convention at Sea...Bill Rosica gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on the costs of a regular convention versus held on a cruise ship. He will make a presentation to the HOD on Friday and ask that chapters do a “straw poll” to determine interested in this convention concept for the Fall of 2020.

New Business

Advocate Program for Chapter Choice –Gordon “Mongo” Bergthold gave his report about women inclusion. His feedback was that some said they would cancel their President’s Council membership in Harmony Foundation because of the women including issue. He also reported that more information is coming out in January regarding direction of Everyone in Harmony and asked that if anyone hears anything regarding this issue to let him know. He also talked about the legal issues regarding the decision to move in the Everyone in Harmony direction.

Leadership Forum. Bill Rosica covered this topic in his earlier report.

Harmony College West. It was reported the HCW has been cancelled due to last of a facility.

Miscellaneous Issues. Chuck Hunter reported that Dave Briner is this week’s convention honoree. He announced that Chris Hebert will be the honoree for the spring convention. David Mellville will be honored at the fall convention.

For the Good of the Order. There were several announcements from various board members.

Keep the Whold World Singing – Brett Littlefield directed the group in song.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Maass
Secretary
Far Western District.