

MINUTES
FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

June 20, 2020
9:00 AM
Electronic meeting via ZOOM

1. Call to Order Bill Rosica

The meeting called to order by President Bill Rosica at 9:07

2. Invocation Chuck Roots

Chuck Roots offered the invocation.

3. Roll Call Jim Maass

Secretary Jim Maass called the roll.

The following Board Members were present: Bill Rosica, Nick Papageorge, Rich Owen, Jim Maass, Brent Anderson, Kyle Williamson, Dick Whitten, Chuck Roots, Adam Kaufman, Rob Menaker, Brett Littlefield and Craig Hughes.

A quorum was present.

Management Team Members present: Jeremy Loper, Scott Suwabe, David Melville, Kenny Rios, and Roe Darnell. Bryan Forbes was absent.

Guest present: Russ Young, Gordon “Mongo” Bergthold, and Charles Carothers.

4. Opening Remarks Bill Rosica

Bill welcomed everyone to the ZOOM June board meeting. He mentioned that three of five divisions have had ZOOM meetings and he reported that chapters seemed to like doing it. Hopefully, next quarter all five divisions will be involved. He made mention that most of his time taken up by HFI BHS rift and the October FWD Fall convention and cruise issues.

District presidents have been having ZOOM meetings regarding the BHS and HFI issues. He had nothing specific to report. Stay tuned on this issue. The Society has put out its budget for next year which does not include anything for Midwinter or International in Cleveland. There are also no Harmony University budget items. Budget based upon worst case scenario with the assumption that there will be very little money coming in.

Regarding the cruise, Bill reported that he has talked with Donna who indicated 10 to 12 people have cancelled but she has received lots of calls. Cruise line is not sailing through Sept 15. He and Donna continue to work with Carnival Cruise on rescheduling the FWD Convention and cruise to October 2021.

5. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. All Aye. Motion Passes.

6. Approval of Previous BOD Meeting Minutes

- March 27, 2020----It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion Passed.
- June 3, 2020--- It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion Passed.

7. Vice Presidents' Reports

- Division 1 Southwest

Brent Anderson

Brent mentioned that ZOOM meetings are good and commented that we are “five years ahead” on the technology front for holding virtual meetings. A nice positive result of pandemic, Brent commented. He has participated in other chapter meetings the past few months. He mentioned that the Tampa chapter ZOOM meeting is a great example of a chorus rehearsal. Suggested anyone interested should contact Tony DeRosa to find out what they are doing. He also shared some additional experiences using ZOOM. And he suggested looking at Kathleen Hansen and her programs.

- Division 2 Southeast

Kyle Williamson

He mentioned he is encouraged by what is happening online with ZOOM amongst his chapters—tag sessions, virtual rehearsals, etc. He will continue to put on ZOOM meeting with the chapters. (He hasn't had a zoom with his Division yet but will.)

There was some general discussion regard ZOOM and helping those chapters not yet using ZOOM get onto this platform for chapter meetings etc.

- Division 3 Northwest

Dick Whitten

His division has had only one ZOOM meeting...three chapters participated...and it was sparsely attended but successful with the guys talking together. He also made reference to the old “presidents' meetings” we used to hold once a year at the Novice Contest site. He suggested

revising presidents' meetings using ZOOM. He will continue to try to set up quarterly meetings with his chapters.

- Division 4 Northeast

Chuck Roots

He discussed the logistics issues he is having of interaction with the chapters while staying active with his own singing choruses. He also mentioned that Richard Lund had a pacemaker installed and is doing well. He has had two ZOOM meetings. The first one was with the chapter presidents. It was good. The second meeting had Joe Cerruti as a guest. It was a productive meeting. He mentioned that the guys are raising questions regarding BHS HFI issues. Bill Rosica asked how Fresno is doing. Chuck said that they weren't at the last ZOOM meeting...but hopeful will be at next meeting Jim Turnmire is helping their new director.

- Division 5 Arizona

Adam Kaufman

He, too, reported successful ZOOM meetings. He also discussed what a few of his chapters are doing using ZOOM. Some of his chapters are discussing how and when to physically get back together.

- Contest and Judging

Brett Littlefield

Brett reported that the qualifying score for International has been raised for this year from 76 to 78. Midwinter might be cancelled. That decision will be made by July 1. He does not think it will be a go. He reported that four judge candidates in FWD have been approved for this cycle. Ben Porter, Contest Administrator: Will Lagos, Performance; Blair Brown, Performance...but she has since moved to Florida. And also, Candra Rice, Singing. All strong candidates. Cruise Update regarding judging panel. The 2020 panel will remain in place for 2021. There were only two who have opted out at this time. He will keep judges informed on what is going on. Spring contests for next year...there is no info as of yet regarding those contests.

- Music and Performance

Rob Menaker

Rob made reference to his submitted report. There are two things he is working on. He mentioned virtual chapter meetings. He suggested putting together a roster of coaches who would be available to chapters for ZOOM meetings. He also mentioned helping directors organize ZOOM meetings. Has suggested need for a budget to assist in this project.

Regarding the BHS HFI issue, Rob mentioned that the AIC is aligned with BHS and a subsidiary of BHS. The AIC is now thinking about operating independently. He has reached out to HFI to assist with the AIC show on July 3 which is sponsored by HFI. For 2021 he said that during the springtime, they are looking to a youth outreach program which would be tied in to the AIC show and HFI. The show will be in LA and allow the AIC to use the talent in our District at little or no cost.

8. District Management Team

Nick Papageorge

Mentioned that his report was small as not much is going on. Nick introduced each of his management team members present for their input.

- Membership

Jeremy Loper

Not much going on with Covid-19 hampering things. Has taken part in some chapter ZOOM meetings. He is also available for help with the chapters on membership issues. He reported that membership in the district is down 16.5%. -- 610 no renewals at this time. He asked that all reach out to chapters...keep meetings ZOOM...keep the guys involved.

- Chorus Director Development

Scott Suwabe

With Covid-19 not much going on. He discussed about someday being able to hold director schools and is doing research on getting that program back. He is also looking at virtual classes like virtual Harmony University. Rich Owen suggested that the Board reimburse Scott for his attendance at virtual Harmony University. It's in the budget to assist...\$249 available for Scott.

- Events

Bryan Forbes

Bryan was not in attendance at the meeting.

Convention Manual

Host Chapter Payouts for 2021

Convention Venue Rotation

Convention at Sea... Carnival Cruise Update (see cruise discussion under President Bills remarks, above).

- Marketing and Public Relations

David Melville

David summarized what he has been doing—damage control and refunds. He mentioned a few projects outlined from his report. He briefly discussed refund from spring contest. Members had a option...refund or donate. There was a deadline for each member to respond. Quite a few did not respond. Those who donated along with the non-response resulted in the district receiving a bit over \$6,000 for the general fund. He also mentioned that Ray Rhymer will be retiring at end of 2021 year as Westunes editor.

- Youth in Harmony

Kenny Rios

Because of Covid-19 it is a difficult time. Lots of things have been cancelled so it has been difficult to monitor youth activity. He is looking to the future for next year and asking DVPs to

involve him with their division chapters. He also discussed HS quartets participating at contests. He will be visiting chapters virtually and in person when that time comes.

- Financial Development

Roe Darnell

No report...Roe had left the meeting early.

- Endowment Funds
- Donor's Choice Awards

9. Old Business

- Directors Guild

Scott Suwabe/Nick Papageorge

Nick is still looking for past files he has at his house. They are still looking to reestablish directors' schools. Scott will continue working on putting this together.

10. New Business

- BHS Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) update

Nothing to report.

- Awards Management

Nothing to report.

- Financial Review

Rich Owen

-Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet review—the report is in the Board Brochure.

-Travel Funds for competitors (SOP)

Rich discussed this fund and how it is funded. Total in the fund \$8466 for choruses and quartet expenses to International. Nothing has been spent except for the Midwinter quartets in January 2020. He asked that the money not spent for 2020 be put into general fund. **There was a motion to make a one-time suspension of the travel fund for the remainder of 2020. It was moved and seconded. All Aye. Motion passed**

-Varsity and Junior Varsity Quartets—no information presented.

- Leadership Academy/Harmony College West

Jeremy Loper/Scott Suwabe

Nick looking for files on this as well. Brent suggested looking to use ZOOM for leadership academy teaching various chapter leadership jobs.

- Nominating Committee Report

Craig Hughes

Presented the proposed slate of officers for 2021. General discussion on the slate presented. It was moved to accept the slate as presented. All aye with Nick Papageorge casting a no vote. Motion Passed. The Slate will be placed on the October HOD agenda for election of 2021 officers.

Board Position	2021
President	Bill Rosica
Executive Vice President	Nick Papageorge
Immediate Past President	Craig Hughes
Secretary	Jim Maass
Treasurer	Rich Owen
VP Div.1 SW	Kathy Kileen
VP Div. 2 SE	Kyle Williamson
VP Div.3 NW	Rich Postal
VP Div. 4 NE	Chuck Roots
VP Div. 5 AZ	Adam Kaufman
VP Contest and Judging	Brett Littlefield
VP Music & Performance	Rob Menaker

- Various Issues

Carnival Cruise—President Bill has talked with Donna and he emphasized that the cruise has not been canceled but will be postponed to 2021. Moving all the information to 2021 is quite a task. There was general discussion. No action at this time.

David Melville brought up changing Division names...it was put over to October meeting.

- BHS/Harmony Foundation Issues

President Bill mentioned two things that BHS was not happy with HFI. Their concern was that Harmony Foundation was not seeking out corporate sponsors. The second item BHS was not happy about was the HFI financials -- programs, admin costs, and fundraising. The program not

providing enough, and the fundraising costs were too much. Bill will forward to us the information he has. There was general discussion.

o Community Outreach in Minority Communities

Charles Carothers

President Bill introduced Charles Carothers. He will be taking on the task of developing a community outreach to the minority community. He is looking out to find people who can see BBS as not “just for white guys” and hoping to start a conversation reaching out to African Americans and other nonwhite singers. Charles is looking for some positive outreach. He has started in Riverside with support of MOH. Rich Owen suggest Charles chair this new committee for FWD. President Bill said Charles would be appointed to fill this MT position. President Bill also mentioned that we are looking to diversify our choruses. Charles also said he is looking at this from the perspective that ”this is the past...let’s look forward.”

11. 2021 Budget Planning Workshop

Rich Owen

Due to the fact that all conventions have been cancelled, the status of the budget is unclear at this time. It was decided to put over the development of the 2021 budget to a special budget meeting.

Defer budget workshop to August 30th Sunday 2 PM.

12. For the Good of the Order: Comments were made by several of the guys.

13. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:06PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Maass
Secretary
Far Western District