

Far Western District
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
August 12, 2023
ZOOM

Call to order by Kenny Rios at 10:02 am
Quorum established by Secretary Greg Dreyer

Present: Kenny Rios
 Adam Kaufman
 Greg Dreyer
 Bill Rosica
 Kathy Kileen
 Jeremy Loper
 Rich Postal
 Aaron Burleson
 David Melville
 Randy Meyer
 Chris Hebert
 Cody Littlefield
 Antwun Prescott
 Charles Carothers

Absent:
Ben Porter
Rich Owen
Chuck Roots

Welcoming by President to YIH Coordinator Antwun Puckett

Accepting the Agenda

Motion: Bill Rosica, 2nd Adam Kaufman - carried

Approval of Minutes from March 24, 2023 without corrections

Motion: Greg Dreyer, 2nd Cody Littlefield – Abstain – Randy Meyer - carried

Reports: All reports were sent separately by email

Treasurer Rich Owen (absent) discussed at previous meeting. 2024 Budget going to HOD in October

Division 1 Southwest - Kathy Kileen –Visiting all chapters in SW

Division 2 Southeast – Jeremy Roper – planning to connect with all chapters in SE

Division 3 Northwest – Rich Postal – visiting all chapters in NW

Division 4 Northeast – Chuck Roots (absent) by report was distributed via email

Division 5 AZ – Aaron Burleson –Bash in AZ was successful.

Contest and Judging – Randy Meyer – need for more registrations from Quartets and Choruses. Those Quartets and Choruses not attending should also contact Randy. C&J program has openings and applicants can apply by deadline December 15. (not again for 3 years).

Music/Performance – Chris Ebert - No program reports due to inadequate funding. Still looking at “Top Gun” program. Need to streamline communication with other Districts.

EVP – Adam Kaufman – Fall Convention coming along. A District Presidents Council will be scheduled

District Management Team:

Membership – Cody Littlefield

Chorus Director Development – Kathy Kileen – one half of chapters are without directors. There needs to be more recognition for directors at conventions. Director training is necessary. Randy added that there needs to be a plan for the preparation for directors and a plan for implementation. Kathy to confer with Chris, Adam, Randy and Bill. No chapters in SW have committed to Fall Convention

Events – Bill Rosica – Fall Convention is moving along in Gilbert, AZ. Director Training to be implemented at convention. Better communication is necessary to encourage attendance. David Melville is working on cleansing email distribution and also resurrecting the Westags. Namebadges question – Kenny to work with Adam on this. Possible use of Event Brite system.

Marketing and PR – David Melville – There have been problems with the Website and David is trying to stay on top of it. He is also asking for some help for some of his responsibilities. Event Brite system will be used for registrations. There are some fees attached. Randy also suggested that Westunes be an annual edition. This would have to clear FWD SOP. Ethan has been doing a good job with the use of social media.

Youth in Harmony – Antwun Puckett – new membership is up. Funding will be necessary for continued work projects. Kudo’s to Antwun and Kenny

Community Outreach – Charles Carothers – Having difficulty reaching out but conversations are continuing. Pursuing roots of Barbershop. Randy suggested looking at Jim Henry’s dissertation on the Roots of Barbershop.

Financial Development – no report

Old Business:

Budget for 2024 – Approved – Motion Adam Kaufman and 2nd by Bill Rosica, carried

To be presented at HOD meeting in October

New Business:

*FWD Roster – Secretary Greg Dreyer will forward updated roster to all asking for updates

*Discussions of having FWD Conventions once a year only in the Fall – There are reported problems going to a single convention for the district. There would be a feeling of being disenfranchised. There was discussion on the need to make improvements of what happens at the convention other than just competition. There was also discussion on where to hold “Pre-Lims”. Cody suggested having “Top Gun” program at the Pre-Lims. Rich Postal and Kathy suggested having more coaching opportunities at convention. Randy added that perhaps the Judges could come earlier to provide coaching prior to the competition.

*Discussion of registration costs for all District Events in 2024 – new fees will be implemented for the Fall with \$60 fee for Early reg. and then \$75. and then \$100 on-site, Non-singers would be \$35 for early, \$50. then \$75. on site. Under 12 years of age would be \$0 for early or regular reg. but \$25 onsite. There is currently no “single event “ registration.

*Discussion of any ways that BOD-DMT members suggest we cut costs, but not services . . . and also how to find additional sources of revenue. Kathy suggested that Rich Owen serve as a Grant Writer after his term of Treasurer has been completed.

*Chapter of the Year Awards: Asking DVP's to nominate chapters and submit to Kenny by 9/16 for him and Adam to make selection. A standardized list for criteria could be helpful. Adam will follow up. Could include, # of shows, # of community events, new chapter members, competition involvement, etc. Need to look into past recipients and see if there is a perpetual trophy or an individual award each year.

*Discussion of proposal for a 55+ Senior Chorus Competition to be added to FWD Conventions – Rich Postal will send out his proposal to the rest of the BOD and this will be on agenda for Fall.

*Communication with Chapters – Chapters need to update their 2023 list of officers to BHS. There is some confusion using BHS site and there is a problem getting a return response from BHS. There was a suggestion to contact Marty Monson at BHS. Aaron also suggested using “Chat” to get a more immediate response. David gets response sending emails to “Customer Service”.

*Memorial Day Bash – Cody offered the website for this www.sunshinedistrict.org

*High School Quartet contest resurgence. Funnel all info to YIH Antwun. Spring is probably the best time of year. Kathy suggested having existing members attending conventions to bring their teens.

*Email accounts ie. yahoo, gmail – David will be merging accounts to make things simpler.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm at Fall Convention -Hampton Inn, East Mesa, AZ

Adjournment at 12:26 by President Kenny Rios