

**Far Western District
House of Delegates Meeting
Minutes**

Stockton, California

May 13, 2022

Hybrid Meeting in-person and via ZOOM®

1. Call to Order with the singing of The Old Songs Bill Rosica

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Rosica at 4:22 PM with the singing of The Old Songs led by Kathy Kileen.

2. Roll Call Jim Maass

The following board members were in attendance:

Bill Rosica, Kenny Rios, Jim Maass, Rich Owen, Kathy Kileen, Cody Littlefield (ZOOM), Rich Postal, Chuck Root, Adam Kaufman, Rob Menaker (ZOOM), and Craig Hughes.

The following management team members were present:

Scott Suwabe, Kenny Rios, Roe Darnell and David Melville.

The following past FWD presidents were in attendance:

Craig Hughes, Chuck Hunter

The following chapters were present in the room:

Bakersfield, Central California, Stockton, Fremont-Heyward, Las Vegas, Greater Los Angeles, and Santa Rosa, and Greater Phoenix.

The following chapters were represented via ZOOM:

California Delta, Sacramento, Sun Cities, Aloha, South Bay, Southwest Vocal Alliance, Barbary Coast, Crescenta Valley, Mesa, and Walnut Creek.

3. Opening Remarks and introduction of guests Bill Rosica

President Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting. He made reference to his president's message which was sent out to everyone and is posted on the FWD Website. He highlighted some of the points he

made.

- a. Remarks Society Representative Devin Anna Bradford

Bill introduced Devin Bradford, Society Rep. She said she is excited to be here today and is looking forward to the competition and festival today as well as the International Convention in July.

- b. Harmony Foundation JJ Hawkins

Bill introduced JJ Hawkins who was in attendance representing Harmony Foundation. He shared some items with the board which included a review of how the district direct funding works. Up to 40% HFI donations goes back to the district and chapters as designated by the donor. The chapter maximum the donor can designate is 30% with the remaining 10% going to the district. If the donor does not designate, then the district gets the entire 40%. He mentioned the AIC, HFI, with SoCal Vocal Association hosting a Youth in Harmony workshop last October and that there is a second one taking place in So Cal today with Signature quartet the headliner. He also made reference to an Ohio program reaching out to incarcerated youth with music educators and performing quartet and choruses working with them.

4. Approval of Agenda Bill Rosica

It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda as presented. All Aye.

5. Approval of Minutes Bill Rosica

- a. October 8, 2021, Fall Board Meeting

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. All Aye.

6. Vice-Presidents Reports (Oral)

- a. Division 1 Southwest Kathy Kileen

She brought up that there are chapters in her division struggling...no director, out of the habit of meeting during COVID, etc. There are choruses which are also doing well. She tried to contact all the chapters and is having difficulty having them call her back.

- b. Division 2 Southeast Cody Littlefield

Cody reported that the response to his mass mailing to all his choruses resulted in only two responses. He will continue to reach out and will be visiting them as well.

- c. Division 3 Northwest Rich Postal

He has contacted six of his chapters and has visited four of them. Most are back up and meeting. Two chapters are in a director search now. Chapters are beginning to plan shows and other

activities. Some have used the Next-Door social platform and have had some success in getting visitors. The president of the Santa Rosa chapter was introduced, and he mentioned that the chapter is planning Day Camp program. The Fog City director will be assisting as well as Deke Sharon. It will be held on November 19, 2022. Kenny Rios ask him to keep him in the loop as the FWD Youth in Harmony chairman.

d. Division 4 Northeast

Chuck Roots

He commented that even with the ups and downs the past two years, he sees things growing and that there is a desire to connect with people and enjoy singing barbershop harmony. He encourages all chapters to focus on the singing.

e. Division 5 Arizona

Adam Kaufman

Adam welcomed all the AZ delegates who logged into the meeting on ZOOM. He outlined some of the activities the chapters are doing and announced the August Bash will be restarted this year.

f. Contest and Judging

Randy Meyer

He mentioned that the weekend contest and festival will have 14 quartets and 5 choruses. One chorus cancelled due to a COVID outbreak among its members. Eight of the quartets are competing for qualifying International scores. The others are singing for evaluation only. The October Convention in Fresno will be an open convention. However, there will be a limit set so he encourages everyone to sing up early. A triple judging panel can handle 30 quartets and 20 choruses.

g. Music and Performance

Rob Menaker

He reported that things are returning to normal. He also reminded everyone that there is district support for quartet coaching and any quartet interested should contact him for details.

7. District Management Team

Kenny Rios

Kenny Rios, Executive Vice President

a. Membership

Jeremy Loper

No Report

b. Chorus Director Development and Directors Guild Scott Suwabe

Scott mentioned that a chapter in need of a director should reach out to him for assistance. Now that COVID restrictions are easing, there will be a move to getting back together for “in person” directors guild meetings.

c. Events

Bill Rosica

Bill reported that contacts for the hotel and venue for October FWD Convention in Fresno have been signed. Dates for next Spring 2023 have been set.

Bill also mentioned that he is looking for a permanent Events Chairman. Contact him if interested or know someone who can do the job.

Convention Manual

Bill Rosica/David Melville

Work in progress. He has finished part one and has two more to go in combining all the manuals into one more concise comprehensive manual. Hopes to have it finished in the next few months.

d. Marketing and Public Relations

David Melville

David reported he is continuing to update the FWD website. The email system is having problems working well with the interface with BHS data base. He mentioned this to the Society Rep in attendance and begged....please fix it! He also requested chapters to send him director search information and he will publish it in Westunes and the website, no charge. He is also looking for division editors for Division 2 and Division 4.

e. Youth in Harmony

Kenny Rios

Kenny briefly mentioned the successful youth festival last October and that a second one was taking place today with AIC, HFI and SoCal Vocal Association as sponsors.

f. Financial Development

Roe Darnell

Roe thanked HFI for the donations the past few years.

g. Endowment Funds

Roe Darnell

He reported that the Harmony Camp and Harmony Foundations are both doing well. There was some discussion on the issue.

8. Old Business

a. Financial Review

Rich Owen

Rich mentioned the detailed report which is attached to the BOD HOD brochure posted on the FWD website. Rich reported that there is \$180,355.80 in the FWD account. Harmony Foundation donor program netted \$18,962. The Bay Area Chapter has been dissolved and their assets of \$10,000+ have been transferred to the FWD treasurer. He also reported that the Far Western District Outreach Fund fiscal year value is now \$56,137 and recommends its dividends be rolled over.

There was also some discussion of travel funds and Rich indicated that the BHS dues structure makes it more difficult to determine what's available. He will have a proposal to change how the district allocates the funds for the summer board meeting.

b. Leadership Academy

Jeremy Loper

No Report

c. Community Outreach

Charles Carothers

No Report

9. New Business

a. Grants from the District

Bill Rosica

President Bill said we need something in place to assist chapters struggling with their budgets due to COVID in requesting grants from the FWD. He announced that Rich Owen will head up a committee to put together guidelines and have a report back to the BOD at its next meeting.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 with the singing of Keep the Whole World Singing led by JJ Hawkins.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Maass

Secretary

Far Western District

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