

**FAR WESTERN DISTRICT
HOUSE OF DELEGATES MINUTES
MARCH 16, 2018 -- 1:30 PM
ATRIUM HOTEL GARDEN BALLROOM
IRVINE, CA**

President Craig Hughes called the meeting to order at 1:38 pm.

Brent Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nick Papageorge directed the Star-Spangled Banner.

Brett Littlefield directed the Old Songs.

Bill Rosica gave the Invocation.

President Craig Hughes welcomed all the delegates and encouraged everyone to review the HOD brochure. Lots of good stuff there!

Introductions

Past Presidents:

Chuck Hunter	1988-1989
John Krizek	2001-2003
Peter Feeney	2004-2005
Bernard Priceman	2010-2011
Russ Young	2012-2013
Allan Webb	2014-2015
Gordon Bergthold	2016-2017

Other Dignitaries:

Holly Kellar. Chief Marketing Officer, Barbershop Harmony Society
Sean Devine. Harmony Foundation

Roll Call (voting members)

Board Members

Craig Hughes, President
Bill Rosica, Executive Vice President
Jim Maass, Secretary
Rich Owen, Treasurer (**absent**)
Brent Anderson, VP Division 1 Southwest
Nick Papageorge, VP Division 2 Southeast
Dick Whitten, VP Division 3 Northwest
Ron Black, VP Division 4 Northeast
Adam Kaufman, VP Division 5 Arizona
Craig Ewing, VP Music and Performance
Brett Littlefield, VP Contest and Judging

Chapters in Attendance

D005	Bakersfield
D008	Santa Rosa
D012	South Bay
D014	Conejo Valley
D021	Sacramento
D022	Palo Alto-Mountain View
D023	San Diego
D028	Santa Maria
D037	South Orange County
D041	Palomar Pacific
D046	Santa Fe Springs
D052	Chico
D055	Orange (Quartet)
D056	Fullerton
D057	Central California
D066	San Fernando Valley
D069	Mesa
D072	Central Arizona (Quartet)
D075	Las Vegas
D085	San Luis Obispo

D103 Rincon Beach
D116 Brea
D123 California Delta

Secretary Jim Maass reported that there was a quorum present.

District President's Remarks: President Craig Hughes impressed upon everyone the need for good communication...to and from the chapters and that the DVPs are a good resource to make that happen. The district communications team, David Melville and Ray Rhymer along with the Westunes digesters, are an important part of communications. He also brought up membership issues because membership has been on the decline. He reported that things are looking up for this year with a possible turn around. And FUN. Craig encouraged bringing "fun" back to barbershop with chapters sharing what they are doing in 2018.

Approval of Agenda

MSA to approve the agenda

Approve Minutes of Fall 2017 HOD

MSA to approve the minutes of the fall HOD meeting.

Receipt of HOD Report

MSA to receive the HOD Report

Additional Officer/Committee Reports

None to report

Spring Board Meeting Highlights

President Craig Hughes reported that the district finished 2017 "on budget" and reversed a downward trend. Craig thanked treasurer, **Rich Owen** and all the board members and management team for making this happen. Craig also reported **Rich Owen** said that the FWD receipt of dues from the Society in the first part of the

year was “legered back” to the previous year. This was not done this year, so the 2017 budget took a one-time hit, but the district still made the budget last year.

Mark Freedkin reported to the board about the Youth in Harmony program. Also discussed were two endowment funds: The District Outreach Endowment Fund and the Lloyd Steinkamp Endowment Fund for harmony camps.

Craig reported that **Bryan Forbes** discussed district convention costs going up and attendance going down and the need to address this issue.

Harmony College West was also discussed and the need to revitalize it. There is a committee reviewing this issue and will report to the board at its spring meeting.

President Craig Hughes introduced **Brett Littlefield** to talk about a trophy to be awarded for the Mixed Barbershop Harmony Association participation at conventions. This mixed group participation will be rolled out next year. This competition will not affect the men’s competition but will enhance attendees experience at the convention as well as increasing attendance.

President Craig Hughes introduced **Brent Anderson** who talked about Harmony Foundation and signing up for Ambassadors of Song and President’s Council. He noted that up to 30% of member donation can be directed to chapter or the district or a combination. He encouraged members to participate in this donor choice program.

Bruce Sellnow made a brief presentation regarding the High School Quartet contest and related items. It was suggested that the HOD “pass the hat” to help out with the kids’ pizza party Saturday night.

Society Update

Holly Kellar, BHS Chief Marketing Officer, was introduced. She spoke about her background, offered “greetings” from BHS and gave a “thank you” for all work the district and chapters do. She indicated she is here to listen to the members and take messages back to BHS. It was noted that she would be remaining after the HOD meeting for a listening session.

Harmony Foundation Update

President Craig Hughes announced that the District commitment of \$10,000 a year to sponsor the Youth Festival at Midwinter is suspended.

Sean Devine was introduced to talk about the Foundation. He announced that Jim Clark is the new regional representative. Yes, he's Back! He also thanked the district and chapters sponsorship of recent Midwinter Convention. He emphasized that this is a convention and not a contest and encouraged all to come and participate and have fun. He also mentioned the Donor Choice as part of the Ambassador of Song and President's Council program. The Legacy of Harmony program (estate donation) now sits with \$10M in the endowment fund. He reminded everyone of the Keep a Melody Ringing program which is for a gift in honor of someone who has passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

IPP Gordon Berghold announced the nominees for the 2017 Chapter of the Year award. AZ, Mesa; Southwest, Masters of Harmony; Southeast, Inland Empire; Northwest, Walnut Creek; Northeast, Voices of California. Winner will be announced Saturday night.

It was noted that Justin Miller is this year's convention Honoree.

Awards

No Report

Future Convention Update

Bryan Forbes reported that registrations will be open soon for the October convention in Fresno. In 2019 the fall contest will be back in Sacramento. The dates for next spring are set—working on locations and will be updated as they are secured. Also, the dates for contest for the next several years are set and are

accurate with no conflicts. Next year's Spring Prelims will be in Stockton. Bryan reported on the discussion evaluating increased revenues--dues increases--and lowering convention registration fees. More on this later. There was also a discussion on various aspects of the conventions with questions and answers.

Next HOD Meeting

It will take place at the Fall Convention in Fresno October 11-14, 2018.

It was announced that the "pass the hat" for the high school quartet contest pizza party garnered \$434.

Keep the Whole World Singing was directed by **Ron Black**.

President Craig Hughes adjourned the meeting at 2:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Maass

Far Western District Secretary