

Minutes of the meeting of the House of Delegates of the Pioneer District of SPEBSQSA, Inc. held on October 19, 2018, in the Branson Ballroom of the McCamly Plaza Hotel in Battle Creek, MI

1. Call to Order:

District President Dave Montera called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. He asked Aaron Pollard, the District Director of Youth in Harmony, to lead everyone in the singing of "The Old Songs".

2. Quorum:

District Secretary Jim McMahan determined that a quorum (30% of authorized delegates) was present.

**[NOTE: The sign-in sheets were attached to the original hard copy of these minutes.]**

1. Call to Order (back to):

Dave Montera mentioned that Society board meetings always open with the reading of the Mission and Vision statements. He asked that the District statements be read at this meeting so that they can serve as a guide in the discussions in this meeting. He noted that a committee is working on updating those statements.

Craig Roney was asked to read the Mission statement. Roger Boyer was asked to read the Vision statement. Finally, Dave Montera read the District theme which was adopted at the last HOD meeting.

3. Agenda (return to agenda):

Dave Montera asked if there were any additions or corrections to the proposed agenda. The secretary asked that anyone making or seconding a motion to identify himself.

Doran McTaggart (Windsor) moved that the agenda be adopted. Earl Berry (Detroit-Oakland) offered the second. **Motion approved.**

4. Minutes of the previous meeting:

Dave Montera asked approval of the minutes from the meeting held on April 20, 2018. Craig Roney (Detroit-Oakland) moved for approval, and Steve Lewis (Battle Creek) made the second. **Motion approved.**

5. Memorial for deceased members:

Dan Bezaire (District Director of Marketing and Public Relations) conducted the ceremony. He indicated that the names of members would be announced during the event, and asked that the phrase "Rest in Peace" be sung after each name is given.

The following individuals were honored:

John Balint	Detroit-Oakland
Erv Erickson	Gaylord
Len Barnes	Pontiac-Waterford
Dale Wells	Flint
Jim Quin	Gaylord
Dave Davis	Gratiot County
Jim Bosworth	Kalamazoo
Larry Hein	Grand Rapids
Jack Schneider	Grand Rapids
Derek Hatley	Grand Rapids
Jim Townsend	Sault Ste. Marie
Barb Budinger	Marquette County

6. Treasurer's Report:

Chris Berry began with a report of some items in his highlights. He noted that the District was using a new credit card. Previously, we had a debit card with a \$5000 limit, but it got stolen and had to be replaced.

6. Treasurer's Report (cont.):

Another experience that Chris has had for a few months was to resolve the state sales tax number. Because the District began collecting this tax last year, he had applied for a tax number. He subsequently learned that the number he was given was incorrect, and the state was claiming that our taxes had not been paid. The problem was finally resolved around the 9th of this month.

Chris declared that his report was stated as profit and loss items, but as a non-profit organization, losses are the things the District does to support the membership, and profit is monies that can be used to support more activities. He indicated that, as of the 15th, we have a profit of \$7808. There will be some expenses incurred this week because of the convention. He noted that the Leadership Academy held in February had a loss of \$79.93. Top Gun had a loss of \$2093.82. The spring convention, however, made a profit of \$7394.47. The Bush League in August experienced a loss of \$1891.45. Finally, the Music Summit had a loss of \$252.75. Chris concluded that all of these expenses were not outside of the budget approved last fall.

Chris noted that the QCA account covers Top Gun activities and a show that will be given later in the evening. He observed that the account is showing a net loss of \$495.92. All of the expenses for QCA are paid out of the general account, so the QCA is somewhat like a savings account. When QCA has a net loss, it is handled as a transfer from the general account.

Chris moved on to the Profit and Loss by Class sheet. He mentioned the contributions income section which included some interest income. Some income (\$300) was received from The Voice Barbershop Chorus since it closed out its account. Member contributions are the monies received from Harmony Foundation, and member dues are monies returned from the Society. The income from conventions was noted, including the \$12,895 received to date for this convention.

Income from the last Harmony Marketplace was identified as being \$1375.57. Chris reported that the present inventory in H-M is worth about \$2600, so about 50% of the inventory is being sold each convention.

A detailed breakdown of the income from Bush League was shown next.

Chris jumped to the next page to the topic of contributions expense. These are the donations that are made to the quartets and choruses that go to International events. That was followed by mention of another \$1400 of inventory that was purchased for the Harmony Marketplace store.

At the bottom of the page, Chris pointed out the \$7808 profit, and the QCA loss of \$495.92. He told the delegates that QCA covers \$845 of the cost of Top Gun, while the District covers \$2000. The income from that activity was about \$700.

In response to an inquiry from Doran McTaggart, Chris identified the \$2400 that is held in escrow for the chorus that will go to next year's International.

Chris moved to the Balance Sheet where he cited that \$599.94 cash on hand that is mostly held in the Harmony Marketplace and the registration area. There is \$35,841.14 in the District's banking account, and \$3116.73 in the QCA banking account. There is also \$50,215.47 in the savings account. Chris offered the reminder that money is set aside as a reserve to handle two conventions. Consequently, the District really operates off of its banking account. The savings account only generates about \$2 of interest per month. There was \$571.75 shown as receivables, but Chris indicated that some of those have since been paid to the District.

Because it was decided last spring to pay registrations for all quartets going to the International, Chris bought three sets in August when they were cheaper. If any more qualify, he will have to buy more sets at the higher price. Unneeded sets, however, can be sold on-line. One set of registrations was also purchased for a senior quartet to go to Mid-Winter. **[NOTE: Two additional senior quartets qualified at this convention, so sets had to be purchased for them.]** Another expense was the \$1000 sent to the Traverse City venue for the next convention.

Chris reiterated that there is an escrow set aside for the Windsor Sendoff. It was explained that the Windsor chapter sends monies from the current year's show to the District so that a check can be issued to the chorus that will go to International in the following year.

6. Treasurer's Report (cont.):

Doran McTaggart noted that, the more people that come to the Sendoff, the bigger the check is. The amount is normally \$2400, but any surplus also goes to the chorus. It used to be that the Sendoff monies were given to quartets, but with the re-establishment of Jug Night by the Detroit-Oakland chapter, \$1000 is now being given to each quartet.

Chris summarized this part of his report by declaring the District is within its budget. He moved on to discussion of the proposed budget. Dave Montera pointed out that the presentation from Chris thus far had been for information.

Chris displayed the budget that was being submitted for approval. He cited that two changes had been made at the BOD meeting that preceded this meeting, and he would cover them later.

He began with the income side which showed the contributions that usually come from member dues and the HFI donor choice program. Convention income for the Traverse City event was shown next, including all of the details of registrations, Big Screen, etc., and was based on past experience. That was followed by a projection of what will be received at Muskegon. Harmony Marketplace plans to earn \$1500 at each convention.

It was noted that there are plans to hold two CDWIs in 2019, so those were budgeted at \$750 each. Income for those events will come from five directors at \$150 each. Two leadership events (Leadership Academy and an Everyone in Harmony session) are planned. Anticipated income from Bush League was projected to be \$1000. Two Music Summits with \$700 each of income are planned. That number could go up if more than 32 attend, since there is room for 150. Since Quartet Boot Camp and Top Gun were run together this year, they were left together in this budget for an income of \$1050. Chris summarized that the total income for 2019 should be about \$70,650.

Expenses for credit cards were expected to be \$1200. Chris hoped that number would be higher, since that means more registrations would be made and more sales at HM would be made. Because a tri-district meeting was held with CAR and JAD this year, it was assumed that expense would be incurred again. Costs associated with board meetings were included, along with costs for C&J persons to go to International events and the cost for the DP to go to the Mid-Winter board meeting. Office expenses were also included. Chris explained that Wufoo fees are associated with on-line registrations.

Contribution expenses included the support given to quartets and choruses that compete at International events. Chris noted that this item was changed at the BOD meeting. The contribution amount for senior quartets was increased from \$750 to \$1500 so that two quartets would be covered.

It was pointed out that convention expenses for the Traverse City event were budgeted to be greater because of the distance. The cost for inventory for Harmony Marketplace was set at \$2000 from normal expectations.

The cost for a CDWI runs at about \$2650, and this is determined mostly by the cost of air travel for two judges, along with venue cost and food. Chris noted that the event usually produces \$750 in income. This means that the event gets about \$2000 of District support.

The cost of the Everyone in Harmony was incorrectly understood to be \$4000, and was reduced to \$2000 at the BOD meeting. This was the second change to the published document. Meanwhile, the cost of Leadership Academy was set at \$3150, but is expected to break even.

Bush League expenses are expected to be about \$4375, but Chris noted that the event brings in about \$1000. Each Music Summit is expected to have an income of \$700 versus a cost of \$1100. Top Gun and Quartet Boot Camp should have an income of about \$1000 against an expense of \$3500. Typically, seven quartets are involved in each Top Gun event.

Chris brought the numbers down to the situation that, if everything budgeted was spent, there would be a net loss of \$18,775. With the changes that were made earlier at the BOD meeting, the loss drops to \$17,250. It was noted that we usually don't spend down budgets fully as they are projected.

6. Treasurer's Report (cont.):

A question was asked if the budget takes into account any trends in attendance at conventions. Chris confirmed that those numbers are considered, and also the typical expenses incurred at specific locations.

Dave Montera indicated that the budget, as amended, was approved by the BOD that morning, and a motion to approve it was needed from the HOD. Ed Bax (Rochester) moved for approval. Earl Berry (Detroit-Oakland) made the second. Chris Berry urged that everyone in the room work to double the income numbers.

Action on the pending motion was taken. **Motion approved.**

7. Harmony Foundation International representative report:

Dave Montera introduced Brian Nelson, who began by mentioning the Chapter Challenge concept in which chapters are encouraged to be donors to HFI. Chapters with the highest percentage participation will then be recognized on stage at International events. The goal is to get 100% participation by as many chapters as possible.

Brian stated that his second purpose in coming to this convention was to distribute donor's choice checks. Brian wanted to see more individuals taking advantage of the opportunity to give back up to 30% of their donations to their chapters or districts.

He began with a check to Pioneer District in the amount of \$1600. He went on to distribute checks to these chapters: Detroit-Oakland, Grand Rapids, Grosse Pointe, Gratiot County, Holland, Hillsdale, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Rochester, Pontiac-Waterford, Saginaw Bay, Traverse City, Battle Creek, Huron Valley, Monroe North, and Mt. Pleasant.

Brian indicated he would be around all weekend to answer questions and to hand out donor cards.

8. Barbershop Harmony Society representative report:

Dave Montera then introduced Steve Scott, who indicated that his staff role is to be in charge of music education. He noted that he has been a BHS member since 1991. He began his career in higher education, and then was recruited by the Society. His first day on the job was at the 2017 International convention.

He chose to focus on several activities that the staff is pursuing. The first of these is in outreach through youth programs. There is a lot of work being done with music educators through conferences and festivals. Much of this work is supported by HFI.

Another area of outreach is resources for chapters to engage with their local communities. A pilot program being offered in this area is called Music Meds.

The outreach team is partnering with the education team to develop a show production guide. As the staff travels around, it has seen ways that shows and contests can be done better, and how things like lighting can be improved. This guide will involve a video and a document.

Examples of successful grant applications are another topic of outreach being offered.

Attendance at Harmony University reached an all-time high this year. Over 800 attended. This is about double the number who attended the event when it was held in Missouri. Steve mentioned that there nine music educators who attended in 2013. This year there were over 130.

Steve reported that he is in charge of an initiative to develop on-line education programs. The classes are being advertised through Live Wire and the Harmonizer. Some of these classes are on-demand, and can be watched whenever one chooses, and as often as desired. Many of them are free.

Some classes are offered as hybrid courses where the student meets weekly with an instructor on-line at a specified time. That is followed with off-line study by the student.

8. Barbershop Harmony Society representative report (cont.):

Steve reported that the Society has been offering Continuing Education Units and graduate credits for music educators that attend HU. Those CEUs and credits are now being offered at Mid-Winter and International events, and they can take up to 4 units. The price is \$55 for four units.

In the publishing and marketing area, Steve mentioned that a new booklet of Disney songs was introduced this year. The inventory was completely sold out at International.

The plan for this fall is to introduce more mixed group charts. Another item added this year in Harmony Marketplace was digital downloads of learning tracks. Those are selling very well.

The impact team is working a lot for chapters. A new employee in this area is James Pennington, who was originally at HFI. He is identified as the chapter success manager, and a person that chapters will want to consult if they are considering becoming a mixed chorus. He has developed a Chapter Considerations Guide which is available on-line. This document identifies the questions that chapter members need to ask themselves and their fellow members as they consider the Everyone in Harmony initiative.

Steve pointed out that the Society is getting more national and local publicity about conventions and the impact of barbershop groups in their communities. He also noted that the Society's YouTube channel in 2014 had 150 hours of content, and now it has several million.

Finally, Steve said that the membership team is providing more opportunities for people to enjoy barbershop. A music educator partnership was recently launched whereby they can become Society members at a lower cost. This kind of membership will mostly give them access to music and conventions at reduced cost.

In the one year that Steve has worked for the Society, he has seen the passion for the Everyone in Harmony program increase exponentially. He is convinced that the staff wants to provide more ways to enjoy barbershop. He remembered that, when he first saw the strategic vision, he realized how much this hobby impacts people's lives. He recognizes that not everyone wants to compete. He told the story of seeing the purest moment of brotherly love when he saw a senior quartet sing "When I'm Sixty-Four". The bass and baritone shared a visual glance that conveyed love and harmony.

Steve said he was glad that he works for an organization that allows men to share those kinds of feelings. He observed that men are usually not allowed to share emotion. However, barbershop lets us do that. He was glad that he gets to facilitate that experience as an employee of BHS.

He felt the E-I-H initiative was a lovely thing, but realized that there are many questions to be answered. He mentioned that he and Dick Powell will be holding a listening session in Branson 4 after the conclusion of this meeting. He hoped that the delegates could take into their minds all of the things that are being done so that more people can have barbershop in their lives. The goal is to "make barbershop happen in your life the way that you want it to happen".

9. Barbershop Harmony Society BOD representative report:

Dave Montera proceeded to introduce Dick Powell, the president-elect who will take over in January as the Society president.

Dick said that he wasn't expecting the room to be so cold, but the warmth of the welcome he had received, and the generosity of the spirit in conversations with him, made the cold disappear. He referred to Steve Scott's observation that there is a magic that happens between us when we sing. It is a balm for the evils of the world. No matter where one lives or what one does, when times are difficult, the only thing that keeps the evils away is the raising of voices in song, and the magic that occurs when we do so.

Dick declared it was a privilege for him to work at the Society with people like Steve to bring that "salvation" to those who are present at this meeting and to those who are not present, and to plan seeds for the future. Dick said that he hoped to preserve the opportunity to sing barbershop for his grandsons and great-grandsons, and for his granddaughters and great-granddaughters. Because barbershop has been such a profound experience in his life, he felt called to share it---and hoped that others felt the same way.

9. Barbershop Harmony Society BOD representative report (cont.):

Dick reinforced Steve's observations that a lot is happening in the Society right now. He could not recall a time when everyone has been so busy trying to breathe life into a vision. He observed that it is both a curse and a blessing to live in interesting times. Everything is changing, and at a pace faster than we would like. While people say they like change---"They lie!" When one starts to change something that has been largely unchanged for 60 years, it creates tension and stress within the organization and among the members.

Dick felt that change has been a constant within BHS since its inception. He quoted Freddie King who declared that barbershop singing has been evolving ever since it was started. However, it was noted that some things have never changed---the barbershop seventh chord, and the joy of raising four voices in perfect harmony. Those items are the "holy grail" of barbershop. They are the core of our shared experience, and what keeps us returning.

Although our music has been unchanged, there have been many changes in how the Society has governed itself, how it has been administered, and how it has been operated. However, two principles have remained constant. The first is local control, and the second is the joy of four persons joined in song. We have worked hard to preserve those principles.

Dick offered a perspective. In 2015, we recognized that everything in the world was changing. The pace of life around us was changing, the challenges to the BHS organization were getting bigger, and we needed to do something. Anywhere one is---is the right place to be if you don't know where you're going and why. It was decided that discussion of change needed to begin. It was realized that the last time BHS had this discussion was at the same time (1964) when Elvis Presley was getting started in his career. That led to two years of surveys, etc. that led to creation of the strategic plan in 2017.

When the plan was released, a vision statement was included---"Everyone in Harmony". That led to constant inquiries about what had to be done next, and where the resources were that were needed to implement the vision. The honest answer then was, "We don't know". It took time to work out those details. Dick alluded to activities described by Steve Scott as examples of things that have been done over the last year.

The culmination of implementation of the vision statement was the announcement in June of this year of the inclusion of women in the membership of the Society. This was probably the most profound change ever made in the BHS framework. Dick noted that he would be willing, in the listening session after this meeting, to answer questions about that change. The important thing is---the change has been made, and we are moving forward. Now is the time to move. He declared that the key to making that move is to realize that "everyone" should experience the joy of barbershop singing. The goal is to create singing communities throughout the land.

Dick noted that he lives just outside of Washington, D.C., and dreads turning on the radio or TV because of all of the fighting that he hears from people who are all human beings who are taking the same journey. He felt the world desperately needs what we have to offer. He asserted that it is our mission to bring harmony to the world. He said that we will do it---with help of everyone.

Dick finished with the statement that "we're not taking anything away; we're adding options". The doors are being opened to chapters to let them choose how they endorse the Everyone-in-Harmony concept. The choices may be large or small, but we will be taking a journey together to create a world in harmony. Dick stated that he would have not accepted the position he is about to assume if he did not truly believe what he just said.

He concluded with thanks to the delegates for their attention, and for the warmth of their reception. While he was willing to take questions right then, he suggested that everyone attend the listening session at 3:00 p.m.

10. Consent Calendar (Listed as Item 9 in agenda):

Dave Montera moved on to this topic, and indicated that a contact person in each chapter should have received reports from District directors through proscribed channels. He noted that, for the second time this year, all of the directors provided reports in time for distribution.

10. Consent Calendar (Listed as Item 9 in agenda) (cont.):

Dave asked for motion to receive the reports. Earl Berry (Detroit-Oakland) moved this action be taken, and Dave Anderson (Rochester) offered the second. **Motion approved.**

Dave noted that there were a few items within those reports that should be mentioned. He asked Jamie Carey (District Director of Chorus Director Development) to address the 2020 senior chorus and also Bush League.

Jamie deferred to Doug Weaver, who displayed info signs that have been distributed. Doug pointed out that there would be a meeting at 4:00 p.m. in the Custer Room. Jamie added that Doug, Mike Hansen, and many others had organized this informative meeting about the topic. Plans will be discussed, and there will need to be a consensus developed. He noted that the plan is to hold once-a-month rehearsals on Sunday afternoons in Lansing. Efforts are being made to avoid schedule conflicts with chapter or District events. More details will be given at the 4:00 p.m. meeting. Jamie felt comfortable with the size of the group. He noted that a lot of directors would be involved.

Jamie asserted that we had a great Bush League contest this past summer. He noted that golf was added, four foursomes competed, and that activity will be repeated next year. He did indicate that the location will be changed to Cadillac, which is quite accessible. The location is still "in the north". The city has two large lakes, several pubs, and is a fairly large town. The specific location is the Evergreen Resort. The date will be August 16-17, 2019. The golf will again be on Friday. Karaoke will be available in the sports bar from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. A platoon event will be held.

The Saturday night show will be in the Cadillac H.S. auditorium. Connections are being made with the Rotary club and the high school choir to make the show a fund-raiser. That causes the city to drive the sales of tickets. Additional show sponsors will be sought. Jamie noted that the location is in his "back yard", so he knows who to contact to be sponsors.

It was noted that everything is close. The hotel is a ½ mile from the auditorium. The location is on the lake. He urged everyone to put B.L. on their calendars. They can organize a quartet in advance, or come alone, play golf, and participate in the platoon.

Finally, Jamie anticipated great deals on the hotel rooms, which have double queen-size beds. A hot breakfast is included. He expected that rooms will cost about \$204 per night, double occupancy. When Jamie mentioned the possibility that some individuals might come in a group of three or four, the manager offered to work the price down to \$75 per person. A couple's package that includes dinner will also be offered. A couple's golf package is also available.

It was asked if B.L. would be held in conjunction with quartet Boot Camp. Jamie indicated it would not.

A question was asked about the possibility of camping. Jamie will check with the state park about that option.

Another question was asked whether the same format will be used for quartet coaching. Jamie acknowledged that different things were tried this year, but they may revert back to previous procedures. Quartets will be consulted. There is a committee that will be looking into this topic. Doug Weaver, Roger Lewis, and Chris Berry have all been a part of this discussion. Dick Hartrick and Dale Hanson have been involved as well.

The date was verified as being August 16-17, and golf will begin around noon on Friday. Jamie stated that his goal is to have 100+ attendees.

Dave Montera invited questions that should be directed to other directors. There were none.

11. Old Business (Listed as Item 10 in agenda):

(There was none.)

12. New Business (Listed as Item 11 in agenda):a. Possible District dues increase:

Dave Montera reported that the BOD reviewed the current dues structure in conjunction with discussion of the budget. It was determined that an increase would not be requested for 2019. Any planned increase would have to be reported to the Society in November.

b. District board planning session:

Dave noted that the board had a work session in March where development of a District events timeline was begun. Another meeting will be held in early November to add to and amplify that document.

One item that has been added already is the creation of an Everyone-in-Harmony task force. There are seven board members in that group who will look at how E-I-H will impact the District, and how it will be implemented. That group will have further discussion with the board at the November meeting. After that, there will be discussions with chapters. More information from the Society is expected in January in the form of standard district and chapter bylaws options. Then it should become possible to be implementing policies and programs. There may be policies that the HOD will need to approve.

c. HFI raffle management change:

Chris Berry suggested that this topic be mentioned. Dave Montera agreed, and noted that the raffle has historically been run by the host chapter. However, the raffle license must be signed by the District president. This results in an awkward situation for District officers. Therefore, the raffle has been changed into a District-run activity. The monies will be run through the District financial records. However, the 50:50 split with the host chapter will be maintained. A check for the HFI portion will be given to the host chapter which it can forward to HFI, or it can be sent directly to HFI with credit given to the chapter. The main change that has occurred is control of the finances.

13. Other business and announcements (Listed as Item 12 in agenda):a. Traverse City convention:

Roger Lewis pointed out that the host chapter for this event in the spring will be Mt. Pleasant. The location for the fall convention will be Muskegon, and the Grand Rapids chapter will be the host chapter---with assistance from Muskegon chapter members.

Roger indicated that those conventions are the only two for which he has host chapters, but he has conventions scheduled through 2022. He urged the delegates to talk to their chapters about being a host. He reminded them that the host chapter receives \$1000, and receives up to 60 complimentary registrations. He observed that benefit is worth more than \$1000. About 40 persons are needed to run a convention. Roger asked that chapters that have an interest to contact him. He noted that events in Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, and Battle Creek are scheduled for the next two years after 2019.

b. Community Outreach project sponsors needed:

Roger Boyer knew that most members were familiar with the service projects that have been held during our conventions. Those projects have been successful in supplying the needs of the charities that were selected. In the past, the host chapters have selected the charities. The original intent was to connect chapters with their own communities. The Battle Creek chapter established a relationship with a charity at a previous convention held here.

It was decided that chapters that were not serving as host chapters should have the opportunity to connect with charities in their areas. That means that a person from a charity-sponsoring chapter should be working closely with that charity. Roger noted that it takes three to six months to make a connection and to identify needs.

13. Other business and announcements (Listed as Item 12 in agenda) (cont.):

b. Community Outreach project chapters needed (cont.):

This year, Roger sent out invitations to all of the chapters to become a charity-sponsoring chapter at a future convention. Unfortunately, he got almost no response. The Rochester chapter did accept the role for this one at Battle Creek.

Roger would like to see more chapters to get involved. He sees this as a real chance for chapters to connect to a charity in their home communities. Some chapters have suggested that everything be given to the host chapter so that chapter can enhance its role. However, the intent was to expand the program across the entire District and not just to the four or five host cities. Roger would still like to have chapters from other cities to have local participation.

It was noted that the Mt. Pleasant chapter will be both the host chapter and charity sponsor for the Traverse City convention, and the Grand Rapids chapter will have a similar role at Muskegon. Roger was hoping that chapters will offer next spring to be a charity sponsor for a convention in 2020 or later.

Dave Montera brought up an additional concern that Roger had previously presented to the BOD. Roger needs someone to job shadow his role as Director of Community Outreach. There is a need for someone to take on his role for about a year or two while Roger is out of the country. Dave urged that any delegate who is interested in this role, or knows someone who might be interested, to let him know. We need a volunteer. Roger added that everything about the job has been laid out in writing. All of the information is in place.

c. Leadership Academy planning:

Joe McDonald (District Executive Vice-President) reported that there will be an Academy held in January or February. He invited the delegates to share with him topics of interest that they would like to see covered at this event.

He mentioned that the Society has a leadership operations program in which people are trained to be specialists in various topics. He noted that chapters that want the services of those individuals should provide timely notice.

d. Mt. Pleasant chapter open house:

Joe also reported that his chapter has moved to new rehearsal location, and it having an open house on Sunday, November 11. Three CMU acapella groups, along with other guests, will perform. Everyone is invited.

e. QAC show at this convention:

Roger Lewis promoted the show that will occur 30 minutes after the Friday quartet contest. It will be held in the adjacent Branson ballroom. The four quartets that will appear were identified. The cost is \$5.00, and there will be a cash bar out in the hallway.

f. Motor City Metro show:

Cody Harrell (chapter president) announced that his chapter will be having its first chapter show on March 23, 2019, at a church in Northville. He indicated that more info will follow.

g. Canada Night:

Earl Berry (Detroit-Oakland) announced that this annual event is always held on the first Friday in November. The location is a venue at the corner of Telegraph Road and Warren Avenue. He asked that chapter presidents or EVPs in the Detroit area give him a head count of attendees no later than October 26.

h. Marquette County chorus show:

Peter Stephens-Brown announced that da Upper Yoopers chorus will hold its fourth annual show on October 13. "Sled dogs are optional".

14. Adjournment (Listed as Item 13 in agenda):

At 2:46 p.m., the meeting was declared adjourned by Dave Montera. Steve Scott was asked to lead the delegates in the singing of "Keep the Whole Singing".