

**PIONEER DISTRICT, BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY**  
**MINUTES**  
**HOUSE OF DELEGATE'S MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 16, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER:** District President Brian Dunckel called the meeting to order at 1:41 pm. The singing of "The Old Songs" followed.

**QUORUM:** Secretary Joe Serwach announced that a quorum was present. Thirty officers and delegates out of a possible fifty-three were present.

**MEMORIALS:** George Doyle paid tribute to barbershoppers who have passed away this year.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes of the April 2009 House of Delegates Meeting had been previously distributed by e-mail attachment. Discussion and comments were invited and there were none. Motion to accept the Minutes as submitted was made by Windsor's Doran McTaggart, supported by Bob Winters. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Robb Smith reported the District continued to be in the black, spending less than had been budgeted. Proposed a continuation budget. Asked to pass a continuation budget and in April will present a budget that is more accurate, reflecting District decisions. Rockin Barbershop is now probably a \$10,000 loss but checks are still coming in. Proposing a deficit budget showing a loss of \$1,740. Can do this because we have a fund balance of around \$50,000 and normally would expect to have it at \$25,000. Moved to accept report: Larry Parker. All moved. Approved. Winters moved we accept continuation budget, supported by Jeff Woodward. Attendance at conventions is down but expenses up but have lowest convention fees in Society. Budget approved.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:** President Brian Dunckel said he'd received a letter from Harmony Foundation and a check for \$512 through the donors choice program of Harmony Foundation. Past President Raleigh Bloch is moving to Pennsylvania but another great past president, Roger Lewis, has agreed to take his place on the board. Letter from Dale Hanson on his audit, showing a good financial review of the district's finances, saying Robb Smith has done an excellent job overseeing district finances. What is it about this hobby that hooks us? The music but also the friendships. As Jim Henry said "It isn't the gold medals but the gold medal moments.... How many men have we made vulnerable enough to call their wives and tell them we love them?" There are two kinds of people in the world: givers and takers. Are we giving all we can

**SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVE ALAN WILE:** Hope you saw recent reports from Bill Biffle and Ed Watson. Society staff has been restructured. Documents have all the names and numbers. Old staff was designed for 33,000 members but now we're down to 26,000. Upcoming midwinter conventions: Tampa 2010, Vegas 2011, 2012 in Tuscon and for 2013 they're looking at the possibility of doing it on a cruise ship. As of 1<sup>st</sup> of January the dues discount for people turning 70 will be reduced 25 percent instead of 50 percent. Those already receiving the discount are grandfathered in. American Harmony: The Movie was recently voted the best documentary movie. On Nov. 22, the movie will play in Detroit. Harmonizer now available online. Your harmony explosion camp needs to be a going concern, Leadership Academy in January sounds great, encouraged attendance at both.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:** Consent Calendar Reports of the District Officers were submitted. Motion to accept the Consent Calendar Reports was made by past Society President Roger Lewis,

supported by Grosse Pointe's Doug Wheeler. Motion carried.

Jerry Ditto. Macomb would like to be host chapter in spring, looking for other hosts. Next convention: Kalamazoo, sites selected into 2012. Jeff said Rockin Barbershop was a success. Had one girl who came to drop off brother and decided to stay. Need more help for future camps. Gratiot County gained a new quartet of boys who attended h

**NEW BUSINESS:** Passing around hat for donations to Harmony Foundation. Jack Tueber top PR officer in district for years. Presented his PR Officer of Year plaque from PROBE. Service award for Al Fisk for his five years as a judge. Joe McDonald talked about Leadership Academy replaces COTS. Comes down to involving more members beyond the six track positions. Spread the word for this January event.

Ed Bax of Macomb presented an idea for Pioneer members to gather at the Freedom Festival for All Nations Rise. Any chapter would like to participate to get a mass audience to sing to a major crowd. What a great marketing tool to get our name out to the state and western Canada as well with the song ``All Nations Rise'' by Jay Lombardo. Mark Slamka and I are putting this together. Have to work with Parade Company, perhaps the night of fireworks when 1 million people attend. Song is an eight-part song. Every chapter would learn on own and we'd come together to sing en masse.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Brian Dunckel, President, two years.

EVP Joe McDonald

Secretary Joe Serwach

Treasurer Robb Smith

All supported.

Announcement about Canada Night.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn was made by Secretary Marvin Skupski, supported by Presidnet Brian Dunckel. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.