

**PIONEER DISTRICT- BARBERSHOP HARMONY SOCIETY**  
**MINUTES**  
**MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING**  
**October 17, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Pioneer District President Jim Kunz called the meeting to order at 10:36 am in the Miller Room at the McCamly Plaza Hotel, Battle Creek, Michigan, and directed the group in the singing of The Old Songs. .

District President Jim Kunz then explained that District Secretary Joe Serwach was unable to attend due to scheduling difficulties with his employment at University of Michigan and that former District Secretary Marvin was contacted and agreed to be Acting District Secretary for today's Management Team Meeting, Board of Directors Meeting and House of Delegates Meeting.

President Jim Kunz then inquired of Acting Secretary Skupski if we had a quorum present.

**ATTENDANCE:** Acting Secretary Marvin Skupski reported that a quorum was present. (Also in attendance was Society Treasurer Jim Lee, Mt. Pleasant Chapter member Joe McDonald and Muskegon Chapter member Jeff Pierson.)

**PRODUCT OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The Product of the September 25, 2008 Management Team Planning Session had been distributed by e-mail attachment. Discussion was invited and there was no discussion. Motion to approve as submitted was made by Immediate Past President Raleigh Bloch, supported by Director of Contests & Judging Al Fisk. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Financial reports had been distributed by e-mail attachment.

Treasurer Robb Smith explained that, as to the 2009 budget, not knowing which revenue generating events were to take place and not knowing what the income and expenses for those events would be, he wanted the 2008 budget accepted as a "Continuity Budget" for 2009, the process to be followed being that when the plan for an income generating event was finalized and revenue and expenses could be approximated, the budget could be amended to reflect that approximation. Discussion followed and no formal action was taken at this time, but it was agreed that Treasurer Robb would make the same presentation to the House of Delegates Meeting.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:** President Kunz announced that Director of Contests & Judging Al Fisk would be stepping down after many years of outstanding service and that Ron Eubank, Pioneer District's newest certified judge, is being appointed to fill that position.

President Kunz then announced that Joe McDonald from Mt. Pleasant Chapter is being appointed as Director of Chapter Support and Leadership Training, CSLT. For several years now the duties of the CSLT Director have been being performed by the Executive Vice President.

President Kunz then reviewed for those present the positions which the District needs to fill, those positions being Director of Membership, which has been vacant for some time; Director of Financial Development as to which Roger Lewis wants to step down; District Historian, currently Jeff Gougeon who wants to step down; and Director of Events, currently Jerry Ditto who wants to step down after many years of service.

**CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS:** President Kunz had our Management Team Directors review the highlights of the Consent Calendar Reports and the CSLT and COTS report from Executive Vice President Brian Dunckel.

Director of Chorus Director Development Jim Ryan advised of the problems the program faces due to an apparent lack of interest on the part of chapters and on the part of chorus directors. In the past we have had a chorus director class at COTS and at Mini-Hep, and there was suggestion that we seek to have Harmony College do a three day program for those who cannot get a whole week off work.

Director of Marketing and Public Relations Rick Anderson explained the problems Mike Baribeau was having in producing a hard copy of the Troubadour.

Guest Jeff Pierson from the Muskegon Chapter advised the attendees of the progress of the “Rockin’ Barbershop” program for early next year in Interlochen, that event to be conducted in conjunction with our first-in-a-long-time Mini-Hep School to be conducted at Crystal Mountain Lodge, with the two events culminating in a joint show.

No formal action was taken.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**COST OF UNPUBLISHED ARRANGEMENTS:** Grand Rapids raised this issue seeking the District’s support. After discussion President Kunz indicated that he would let Grand Rapids Delegate Derek Hatley review the situation at the House of Delegates Meeting.

**NEW YOUTH MEMBERSHIP RATES:** President Kunz reviewed the new Youth Membership rates for all members under age 26. First year no dues at all, just a \$10 enrollment fee. Then until age 26 international dues at half the regular rate. This rate will apply to all new members under the age of 26 and in order to get the rate the new member does not have to be a student. After discussion, but with no formal action taken, it was agreed that Pioneer District would do the same for members under the age of 26, no dues the first year and then one half the regular rate until the member attains 26 years, then dues at the regular rate. Also without formal action taken it was agreed that at the House of Delegates Meeting the Delegates be informed of the Youth Membership Rate process and urged to have their chapter dues reduced in the same way for new members under the age of 26.

No formal action was taken.

**LEADERSHIP FORUM PLANS:** President Kunz reviewed the Leadership Forum situation, that being that due to the budget constraints we had no Leadership Forum in 2007 and 2008. The District Presidents advised Nashville that the Forum was a valuable process and which district officers should attend and what subjects should be covered. It will be picked up again by Nashville, perhaps at first as a Mini-Forum and then continuing from year to year and possibly expanding, but with the districts covering the travel costs of their attending members as they did previously. .

**NEW DIRECTOR APPOINTMENTS:** President Kunz reviewed with the attendees that Ron Eubank is appointed to be Director of Contest & Judging and Joe McDonald is appointed to be Director of Chapter Support and Leadership Training. Jim urged all in attendance to respond positively to these two new directors, especially when they seek assistance in performing the duties of their office.

**UPDATE ON COTS 2009:** Executive Vice President Brian Dunckel advised the attendees that COTS will be on January 3-4 of 2009 and again will be in Okemos. Registration materials will be provided for

each chapter at the House of Delegates Meeting. David Wright will not be available to teach his Barbershop History class. But those attending not as chapter officers but as Joe Barbershopper will be able to get a piece of Harmony University. To replace the Barbershop History class we will be having the most popular Harmony University class, Vocal Techniques. Additionally the registration materials will be on-line on the Pio Web Site.

No formal action was taken.

Additional discussion was had as to several miscellaneous items. No formal action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn was made by Director of Events Jerry Ditto, supported by Director of Chorus Director Development Jim Ryan. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:56 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marvin Skupski, Acting Pioneer District Secretary

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