

PIONEER DISTRICT, SPEBSQSA, INC.
MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
APRIL 26, 2002

CALL TO ORDER: President Bonney called the meeting to order in the Michigan Room of Holiday Inn West, Lansing, Michigan at 9:05 a.m. The singing of "The Old Songs" was directed by Pioneer District VP of Chorus Director Development Gene Hanover.

ATTENDANCE: Secretary Skupski reported that a quorum was present. The total attendance was 12 District Officers, plus a number of Committee Chairs, Past Presidents and guests (including Society President Roger Lewis).

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Minutes of the February 2, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting was submitted. Corrections were made to eliminate a negative reference to a potential convention site, and to clarify that a motion to send a Pioneer District director to Directors College at District expense meant only a front-line director, but it did not have to be a first-time attendance.

Motion to accept the February 2, 2002 minutes as corrected made by Larry Parker, seconded by Bruce Smith carried unanimously.

Minutes of the October 19, 2001 Board of Directors Meeting was submitted. No additions, deletions or corrections were suggested. Motion to accept the October 19, 2001 minutes as submitted made by Doran McTaggart, seconded by Brian Dunckel carried unanimously.

Report of the e-mail vote taken on February 28, 2002 in the matter of grant writing and submission for 2003 was made by President Al Bonney. No vote taken on acceptance as it is just being recorded in these minutes that it occurred.

BY-LAW AMENDMENT: Taken out of order, the proposed By-Law Amendment dealing with E-Mail voting, telephone voting, et cetera, to be submitted to the House of Delegates for decision was read by Laws & Regulations Committee Chairman Steven Foster and the procedure we went through for having the wording approved by the Society Laws & Regulations was explained,

Motion that the Pioneer District Board of Directors recommend passage of the Amendment to the House of Delegates made by Gene Hanover, seconded by Dave Anderson, carried by a vote of eleven to one.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: At the request of Larry Parker an item was added to the agenda under New Business: Vote on Spring 2003 contest site.

At the request of Ed Fritzen an item was added to the agenda under New Business: Expense at International Convention for Contest & Judging Vice President.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Stan Williams Treasurer's advised of his inability to produce a Treasurer's Report at this time due to a computer crash and a change to the Quicken Program, but indicated that a report would be forthcoming as soon as possible.

District Auditor Dale Hanson was present, was appointed by President Al Bonney to be auditor for another year and accepted the appointment.

CONSENT CALENDAR: Consent Calendar Reports were submitted. No reports were pulled but discussion was had concerning our delinquency in making District Officer and other reports and an effort

to be made to make all reports timely and in the same format; competition video tape quality and price; chapters losing members and the growth of the dual-member syndrome and the positives and negatives of allowing dual membership. President Bonney spoke briefly regarding the two recent e-mails from Kenosha chastising us for failing to live up to some pre-set standards. Clearly we are a hands-on board and our jobs are results oriented. We can expect those who depend on us doing our jobs well to be critical if we fall short of their expectations or our own standards.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: President Bonney indicated that his comments concerning correspondence and other matters were made in the Consent Calendar review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CREDIT CARD CHARGES ON-LINE: Treasurer Stan Williams advised that this item comes up every convention but that it is business for two months and then no business for four months and so it is not worth the expense. No action taken and this item is to be removed from future agendas. President Bonney indicated this question will be put in the hands of the e-business team and considered as part of our growth in this area.

INACTIVE CHAPTERS: President Bonney reported that the Petoskey Chapter Charter is now revoked and the chapter has officially ceased to operate, and the status of Petoskey Chapter is removed from future agendas.

Doran McTaggart, Dave Anderson and Brian Dunckel reported that Milford Chapter closed their checking account a year ago but will not fold at this time even though they have no plan for revitalizing the chapter. DVP Dunckel will follow-up on Milford Chapter.

Brian Dunckel reported that Swan Valley Chapter was in the same position as Milford Chapter but that we could probably close it when its current President Dean Moore, returns from wintering in the South. DVP Dunckel will follow-up on Swan Valley Chapter.

Secretary Marvin Skupski indicated that he would secure the procedure and requirements for voluntary closing of chapters from the Society Web Page and incorporate those procedures and requirements into our Pioneer District Policy Manual, and that he would also take note of what is on the Society Web Page concerning involuntary charter suspension and revocation as a result of failure to pay Society billings to chapters.

TWO-YEAR TERMS FOR VICE PRESIDENTS: President Al Bonney advised the two-year term for vice presidents and whether it would be limited to two two-year terms for a maximum of four years was a matter to be placed on the agenda for the August 7, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting. President Bonney will bring a formal proposal forward at the August meeting.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION COORDINATOR: Larry Parker volunteered to coordinate for the International Convention for Pioneer District ribbons and on-screen Pioneer advertising. Larry Parker will do the ribbons; Greg Humbel will do the Big-Screen advertising and Dave Anderson will confirm whether the college quartet winners will be going so if they are their name can be on the Pioneer ribbons along with Power Play and Great Lakes Chorus. 500 ribbons will be ordered and distributed at the Windsor International Send-Off Show on June 14.

TROUBADOUR PRINTING COST REDUCTION: EVP Bruce Smith indicated a new printer has been located with the possibility of reducing the cost by \$400 per issue without changing the quality. Gary Simon will try the new printer and get bids from other printers.

We will make a survey next year of customer happiness over the change in issue dates.

Electronic distribution may be investigated again after the printing cost issue is resolved. Only one-third of the district members are currently on-line. Follow-up needed on this possibility.

FUTURE CONVENTION LOCATIONS: Events VP Larry Parker confirmed that in the fall of 2002 and 2003 the District Convention will take place in Battle Creek with McCalmy Place as the headquarters hotel but with the competition being held not at Kellogg High School Auditorium as in the past but at Northwestern Middle School Auditorium. The spring of 2003 District Convention will take place in Lansing with Holiday Inn West being the headquarters hotel but with the recommendation that a decision be made to hold the competition at Eastern High School when that issue comes up later in the meeting under New Business.

The District Convention for spring of 2004 will take place in Gaylord and the District Convention for the fall of 2004 is not yet determined.

Bid requests are going out for spring and fall of 2005, 2006 and 2007. Larry Parker will circulate the requirement specification sheet for various convention requirements (number of hotel rooms needed, number of seats in auditorium, number of restaurants in the area) so chapters interested in hosting in their own venues will have the information required to determine if their location is adequate for our needs. President Bonney requested that DVP Parker provide the board with an updated spec sheet outlining the number of rooms, seats, price targets, meeting rooms, hospitality suites, etc., so everyone can know the specifications required to host a convention. President Bonney also requested DVP Parker to include the Events VP nominee John Szewc in all activities regarding district events throughout the balance of DVP Parker's term of office to insure the smoothest transition at the end of the year.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING FOR TROUBADOUR AND CONVENTION PROGRAM:

This item was passed as neither Greg Humbel or Gary Simon was present. This item will be on the August 7, 2002 District Board Meeting Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

SPRING 2003 CONVENTION COMPETITION SITE: Events VP Larry Parker reported that Waverly High School in Lansing was behind in construction and will not be ready for 2003 Spring Convention. He reported that he received a bid from Eastern High School in Lansing to be the competition site for the 2003 Spring Convention, and he recommended that it be accepted. After some discussion a motion to accept Eastern High School was made by Larry Parker and seconded by Gene Hanover, and after further discussion, the motion passed with two opposed.

CHAPTER COACH PROGRAM: VP Doran McTaggart reported that the Chapter Coach program is being investigated by a Society committee and recommendations will be forthcoming as to the best way to proceed in the future with the program. In the meantime, in Pioneer, we have a full complement of chapter coaches, they are all assigned to chapters and they are continuing to do their job until further instructions are forthcoming.

COTS CHANGES: Announcement of COTS change from the first week-end in December to the first week-end in January of each year, announcement only because it is already accomplished. Events VP Larry Parker indicated we need to vote on the contract with Holiday Inn Express in Okemos, and gave an overview of the facility and services available. Motion to accept made by Larry Parker and seconded by Dave Anderson passed with one opposed.

President Al Bonney announced that John Gillespie was stepping down as COTS Coordinator and that Doug Lynn, current President of Flint Chapter, is appointed the new COTS Coordinator.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Nominating Committee Chairman Don Bazely reported we have a slate for the election at the Fall House of Delegates Meeting. All incumbents except Larry Parker will stand again for re-election. Steve Foster of Holland and Grand Rapids Chapters and John Szewc of Macomb Chapter have indicated an interest in becoming Events VP and both are going through an in-training period with Larry Parker. (Subsequent to this meeting, Steven Foster withdrew his name from the Events VP nomination list.)

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS: Doran McTaggart suggested we reschedule the February Board of Directors Meetings to take place at COTS as they did previously now that COTS is moved to January; issue to be revisited at the August 7, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting. President Bonney said he would take that under advisement and will inform the board of a final decision not later than the August board meeting. Please continue to hold the February date until it is formally cancelled.

VP Ed Fritzen will rewrite the policy for the District paying expenses for District Officers who are required to attend meetings at International Conventions, paying for travel and for the time that the District Officer must be there. District President Al Bonney and C & J VP Ed Fritzen will operate under the current schedule for the 2002 International Convention. Ed Fritzen's rewrite to be on the agenda for the August 7, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting. We agreed that the policy had been changed but not rewritten to indicate that the district will pay for only the number of nights required by any board members to attend required meetings at International or Midwinter conventions, together with reasonable meals and travel.

Treasurer Stan Williams' Event Planning Guide for events in which the District is a sponsor or promoter was discussed. Parameters must be submitted to the Board so the Board knows what expenses will be involved, and results must be archived for future reference. It is an approval request so it needs submission ahead of time.

Motion by Stan Williams that the Events Planning Guide and the process for its use be added to the Pioneer District Policy Manual and that its use be required for every complex event (Convention, Harmony Blast, Bush League, Chorus Director Intensive), seconded by Brian Dunckel, after further discussion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn made by Brian Dunckel, seconded by Dave Anderson. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marvin Skupski, District Secretary