



**Far Western District
Board of Directors Meeting
October 10, 2013
Bakersfield, California**

Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Young at 2:05 pm

EVP Allen Webb directed the Old Songs

Division VP Bill Rosica gave the invocation

Roll Call taken by Secretary Peter Feeney who reported to the president that one board member, Chuck Leavitt, was not present but that a quorum was in force. Board members present: Russ Young, Allen Webb, Bill Rosica, Peter Feeney, Max Bates, Bernard Priceman, John Bloomquist, Craig Hughes, and Richard Lund.

President Young welcomed all board members and other attendees to the board meeting and acknowledged Society Board Member John Miller, Society Executive Director Marty Monson and Harmony Foundation International CEO Clarke Caldwell. President Young also acknowledged each past president of the FWD in attendance.

President Young introduced Society Board Member John Miller. John spoke about the Society's aims for 2014 and indicated that they are different in form from past aims. Past aims were highly quantified and the new aims are more qualitative in nature. The aims focus on such issues as recruiting and retention of members, chapters' mission beyond competing, community service, visitation of other chapters, coaching, etc.

John Miller continued by recounting the experiences of the 75th anniversary both prior to and after the convention in Toronto. John summarized the results of a survey he commissioned a few years ago from which it could be concluded that the market for and interest in barbershop harmony could be more fully developed. He then concluded his comments by introducing Marty Monson, Society Executive Director.

Marty's comments were cordial and general in nature. He spoke about the reasons for the move of Harmony University to Belmont University in Nashville. Other topics included the need to promote the Society's brand locally, the publication of the HOD Bulletin, the Youth Chorus Festival in the Long Beach Mid-Winter which will be marketed to the community as well as attendees, and the show prior to the Finals on Saturday night. He spoke about the increase in the College Quartet Contest qualifying score to 73.

President Young entertained a motion to approve the meeting agenda. **Motion Carried.**

President Young entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the last board meeting. **Motion Carried.**

President Young entertained a motion to receive the Division VP reports printed in the Brochure.

Motion Carried.

Additional comments from Division VPs concerning various issues were made. Most were general comments about chapter issues, but Richard Lund discussed problems he was having getting the Elko chapter chartered. Marty Monson will try to assist.

Old Business:

Motion to recommend the 2014 Budget included in the final brochure to the HOD. Motion Carried.

Motion to receive the Treasurer's Report. **Motion Carried.**

Motion to amend the SOP to reflect the new allocation of travel funds to International bound quartets due to changes in the definition of Senior Member dues was made:

"Allocation of District Dues for the Chorus and Quartet International District representative--members paying less than full dues shall be allocated at \$1.50 per capita for chorus and \$.65 per capita for quartets." **Motion Carried.**

Motion to recommend SOP changes in the final brochure to the HOD. Motion Carried.

John Miller took note of the FWD cash balance and suggested that the board may want to review the balance to determine if more money can be spent on programs since the balance (approximately \$120,000) appears high.

Nick Papageorge, Music and Performance, reported that there were problems with the venue (Cal State East Bay) that affected attendance. He reported that Harmony College West may be combined with Leadership Academy in the future.

Ted Sayle reported that there would be number of convention bids presented to the HOD on Friday:

Spring Prelims and Southeast and Southwest Divisions. Bid by Brea

Arizona Division. Bid by Mesa chapter.

Northeast and Northwest Divisions. Bid by Stockton

2015 Fall Convention in Mesa. Bid by Greater Phoenix.

2014 Fall Convention in Fresno. The bid by Fresno was already approved.

Without objection the board supported each of these bids.

Jerry McElfresh, Marketing and PR, reported that email for the FWD website is up and running using Constant Contact. Russ thanked both Jerry and David Melville for their hard work on the site.

President Russ requested that DRCJ Ron Black return to the board with a proposal to improve division contests. He made this request after Ron identified problems with the College Quartet Contests at divisions and problems with division contests in general.

The SOP changes included in the Brochure will be considered by the HOD on Friday.

New Business:

Awards chairman Bill Cale announced the committee has selected Gene Clements to be the honoree at the spring convention in Riverside. **Motion to approve the selection carried.**

Gordon Bergthold and Craig Hughes reported that the Leadership Academies are scheduled but not yet fully staffed.

President Young asked the board to accept the recommendation of the nominating committee for the election of Bob Gray as FWD Secretary. **Motion Carried.** Bob will stand for election on Friday by the HOD.

After much discussion a motion to add two positions to the Board of Directors was made. The SOP would be amended to add the positions of Music and Performance VP and District Representative for Contest and Judging (DRCJ) to board positions. The change would be presented to the HOD in the spring of 2014 and if approved, candidates for these positions would stand for election at the Fall HOD and would take office January 1, 2015.

Information items:

Don Salz is the new CSLT Chairman

Shelley Albaum is the new Membership Chairman

There will be a mini-forum in Nashville in early November.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm with the singing of "Keep the Whole World Singing".

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Feeney
FWD Secretary