

## **IDEA Trustees Meeting**

June 19, 2023

### **I. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM via ZOOM by Executive Director B.Cearnal.

Trustees present: R. Hansen, B. Squires, E. Holtz and E. Meseth (via phone).

Guest: Past President Jim Waldorf.

### **II. Additional Agenda Items**

There were no additional items offered.

### **III. Secretary's Report**

Minutes from the Trustees meeting of September 16, 2022, and electronic business conducted in March of 2023, relative to the topic of Trustee recusal. There were two editorial corrections: a. the paragraph titled "2020 IDEA Grant" would be better titled "Covid IDEA Grant" for specificity and b. that the adjournment paragraph should be moved to just before Electronic Business. With those changes the report was accepted on a motion by R. Hansen and second by B. Squires.

### **IV. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Holtz reported that as of June 7, 2023, the fund had recovered from a downturn and now is valued at \$157,863.32. The report was received on a motion by B. Squires and second by R. Hansen. Other items from the Treasurer had been moved to the Business Items below.

### **V. Business Items**

A. Grant request from Center Ring for \$1000 to defray costs of representing the Illinois District at the upcoming International Convention. (This item had been previously moved by R. Hansen and seconded by B. Squires and now released for discussion.)

Trustee Emeritus J. Sullivan wrote that, in his view, IDEA should only fund educational requests and subsidize International bound quartets. B.Cearnal pointed out that our Procedures Manual does, in fact, allow for a variety of fundings for quartets including International support.

Other Trustees suggested that quartets should take the initiative to self-fund and not rely on IDEA. Quartets traditionally have earned money by appearing on Chapter shows and providing entertainment for non-barbershop functions.

E. Meseth pointed out that best practices regarding distributions from endowments should not exceed 5%–6% of the total funds available. E. Holtz reminded Trustees that we have already expended \$4500 in the first 6 months of 2023 (\$2500 for Mt. Zion HS, \$500 for Chicago Metro Chapter, \$1500 for Harmony College Midwest).

After discussion, Hansen and Squires were willing to change their motion so that the grant for Center Ring should be \$500, matching that offered by the Illinois District. This amended motion passed 3:1.

**B. Should there be a donation button on the District's website?**

This idea had been brought up in previous meetings. R. Hansen said that the "button" project might be worth pursuing, since: a. many people simply don't carry cash with them so that impromptu solicitations might not be worthwhile; b. most people now carry credit or debit cards and a "button" for donations would be more attractive.

E. Holtz said he had investigated the cost of a donation "button" and found that there would be a \$100 setup fee, a \$10/month maintenance fee and a minimum charge of 2.9% + \$.03/donation.

Consensus of Trustees was that, for now, the level of contributions do not justify this expenditure. However, emerging from the discussion was the need for IDEA to become more proactive by, for instance, composing a donation letter to the Illinois District. Toward that end, B. Cearnal proposed formation an IDEA Promotion Committee; R. Hansen and J. Waldorf volunteered their services.

**C. Do Trustees need to recuse themselves for YIH request?**

E. Meseth responded that according to the policy recently adopted, a Trustee may solicit funding for projects and take part in discussions and should recuse himself from the vote if he, in any way, would benefit from the project. A Trustee should ask himself, "Am I unbiased in rendering a decision?" If the answer is "no," then the Trustee should recuse himself.

**D. R. Hansen's 5-year term expires this year.**

Trustee Hansen announced his intent to resign from the IDEA Board of Trustees at the end of this calendar year. He cited his teaching commitment at Mt. Zion HS and his wish to devote more time to the Illinois District Quartet Champions Association. B. Cearnal thanked him for his devoted service to IDEA and all Trustees wished him well. As is customary, a retiring Trustee has the privilege of nominating a replacement and Hansen suggested that Past President Jim Waldorf be brought before the Illinois District Executive Committee by Executive Director Cearnal and, should they approve, be moved for a vote by the Illinois District House of Delegates.

**VII. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Trustees will take place on the Friday morning of the Fall Illinois District Convention weekend, tentatively in DP Terry Ludwig's hotel room.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by E. Holtz and second by E. Meseth.