

DRAFT MINUTES (2-Aug-2024) – NOT APPROVED

BHS Illinois District Board Meeting

16-Feb-2024

**Illinois District Association of Chapters
Board Meeting**
February 16th, 2024

Location: DoubleTree Hotel, Bloomington IL

Date/Time: Friday, Feb 16, 2024, 7:05pm

Roll Call

| Name | Governance Role | Operations / Other Role | Present | Quorum Count |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|---------|--------------|
| Terry Ludwig | President | | Y | + |
| Benjamin Dirks | Exec VP | | L | + |
| Mike Isely | Secretary | | Y | + |
| Leif Wildman | Treasurer | | Y | + |
| Doug Finkbiner | BMAL | Membership | Y | + |
| Jeff Bowyer | BMAL | Events | Y | + |
| Jeff Lathom | BMAL | C & J | Y | + |
| (open) | BMAL | | - | - |
| Jeff Lathom | Imm Past President | YIH | - | - |
| John Q Morris | | CSLT | Y | |
| Tim Beutel | | Music & Perf | | |
| Rich Hansen | | Historian | Y | |
| Evan Patrick | | YIH | | |
| Doug Ferrier | | Awards | Y | |
| Carrie Marcotte | | CDD | | |
| Glenn Mills | | Marketing & PR, webmaster | Y | |
| Jim Waldorf | | (guest) | Y | |

Totals: 12 of 15 7 of 7

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Called to order: 7:04 PM

ADMINISTRATION

- Minutes
 - Minutes posted from 8-Aug-2023
 - **Motion**
 - ◆ **Subject: Approve Minutes from 8-Aug-2023**
 - ◆ **Motion: Jeff Bowyer, Jeff Lathom**
 - ◆ **Result: Approved, Unanimous**
- Treasurer's Report – Leif Wildman
 - [Attachment: "rpt-treasurer.pdf"]
 - Ended up positive \$6600 from last year
 - ◆ Interest from the money market account
 - ◆ Decrease in loss from convention
 - ◆ No more storage rental fee
 - **Motion**
 - ◆ **Subject: Receive Treasurer's Report**
 - ◆ **Motion: Mike Isely, Jeff Bowyer**
 - ◆ **Result: Approved, Unanimous**

OLD BUSINESS

- Fall Convention recap
 - Overall
 - ◆ Overall great impressions
 - ◆ No significant issues
 - ◆ New location for quartet semi-finals (at the church) was terrific
 - ◆ Some tweaks for Saturday morning being considered, but nothing major.
 - ◆ Consider making the chorus contest start earlier with the convention activities happening in between chorus and quartet competitions – will allow choruses to participate more in the convention.
 - ◆ Best attended QCA show in years
 - ◆ A lot more singing at this convention than in years
 - ◆ Need to more formally set the time when the 50 year members are recognized – probably at the quartet finals or the president's reception.
 - Put the list in the program as well.
 - Notes about future conventions:
 - ◆ Note correction from last Fall's venue discussion: BCPA is in fact actually cost competitive compared to other possible venues.
 - ◆ Note also that ISU has their homecoming weekend overlapping our convention for this year – but ISU will be looking to October in the future.

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- Financial
 - ♦ Per-event ticketing needs to be improved. Will set up a table at the BCPA, in spite of the entanglement of TicketMaster.
 - ♦ For Fall 2023, loss of \$2500 (as opposed to \$10000 in prior years). But that's OK because it's part of what the district does and that's why we have dues.
 - ♦ Ads were a money loser, however it's because we didn't get the word out soon enough. Lesson learned, let's get this started sooner for 2024. Probably should be a dedicated focus for a single person.
- Website – Glenn Mills
 - We're very close. Everything is built and tidying up a few things
 - Was expecting a launch schedule, got a bill instead. Glenn won't pay the bill until the site is launched.
 - [Note to self, send self-photo to Glenn.]
- Four year plan update
 - Plan to be updated again this summer in order to keep things moving smoothly.
 - Looking to make HCMW break even in 2025.
 - ♦ Tim and Dan will be stepping away from HCMW after this year.
 - Regional social events
 - ♦ Try to get 1 or 2 social events going this summer.
 - Frequency and quality of communication with members
 - ♦ That is definitely happening
 - New participation in district board and committees
 - ♦ Going on, needs more
 - Establish district grant team
 - ♦ Falling short on that.
 - Two candidates in judging program
 - ♦ Got one so far (Jeff Lathom)
 - Establish a treble chapter
 - ♦ Peoria has a treble chorus forming up
 - District-wide Harmony-explosion camp
 - ♦ Nightmare, not happening any time soon.
 - Combined convention with another district
 - ♦ Cardinal is not an option (linked to JAD)
 - ♦ CSD – Next time they have a convention nearby...
 - ♦ LOL – probably fatal logistical issues
- District Chapter President's Group
 - Reaching out to chapters now (focusing on those not tightly coupled to the district)
 - Before the end of the month there will be an email sent out.
- Chapter Visit update
 - Need to still visit Lake County (Isely), just need to get of my butt and do it
 - Northbrook still needs to be visited
 - If there is a chapter you visited that you think could benefit from a second visit – do it!

- Director class update
 - Theo Hicks was supposed to do our director's class but canceled.
 - Probably would be good to get someone from a nearby district

NEW BUSINESS

- IDEA
 - Terry and Jim (Waldorf) pledged to IDEA to help them raise \$10K
 - A program called "IDEA Direct"
 - Mechanism is periodic ACH transfers or credit card posts
 - Will generate tax letters for those making donations
 - It's important for IDEA to become more visible and to give away at least 5% of the assets every year.
 - Looking for Board members to sign up – "lead by example".
 - If this generates an influx of huge numbers of donations, can IDEA's internal processes handle this? (Sure it's a good problem to have...)
- Funding for quartets and choruses for International
 - Current funding structure really isn't enough to cover a quartet's registrations. In the (distant) past, the funding was supposed to cover registrations, but that's back when it was scale of \$100. Do we update this?
 - The district is smaller now; we don't have the budgets we used to
 - IDEA has it written in their by-laws that they should be supporting quartets for International.
 - We need to get the word out about IDEA.
 - What about a district funded show, with profits going to the quartets. Similarities to the old CABC shows.
 - Table this for now; must be resolved before the next budget.
- HCMW status (this weekend)
 - Over 100 attendees.
 - All 10 quartet spots filled.
 - Prices somewhat higher this year.
 - Bottom line is expected to be similar to last year.
 - Only 6 or 7 (out of 10) IDEA scholarships have been mapped.
- District Dues
 - Should we consider a change? Raise? Lower?
 - Terry suggests dropping the dues by \$5. We have a good buffer, maybe we as a district can do something to show that we are sensitive to price increases (by BHS).
 - Suggest a drop of \$10 for 2 years, with an automatic restoration unless otherwise done.
 - What about lowering convention registration? A \$10 drop there will have a lower impact and it may help to encourage attendance
 - Last time this was discussed, the HOD leaned more towards dues changes over convention

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- Midwinter Meetings recap
 - ➔ Discussion about having Midwinter in NYC – conclusion is that this is absolutely “stupid”.
 - ➔ DPC working on a number of things
 - ◆ “Value exchange program” – DPC, Harmony Hall, and Society staff work together
 - Revisit the dues structure???
 - Communication issues with the Society (are poor...)
 - ◆ Joe Cerutti – “Barbershop Expert Network”
 - Online network where anybody in the society can put there name and skills as a resource to be available to others
- District Calendar
 - ➔ Let’s set up a Google Calendar for the district, damnit
- Next meeting
 - ➔ 25-Aug-2024 (preconvention meeting at 6pm, Board at 7:30pm)
 - ➔ [NOTE: This was later changed to 3-Aug-2024]

Adjourned: 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted by Mike Isely