

**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of  
Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Incorporated  
October 13, 2013**

Meeting called to order by President Shannon Elswick at 7:00 p.m. EST

The following action was taken:

Quorum: The Secretary confirmed the presence of a quorum.

The following were present:

Officers

Society President Shannon Elswick  
Society Immediate Past President Alan Lamson  
Society Executive Vice President Don Fuson  
Society Treasurer Dwayne Cooper  
Society Executive Director and Secretary Marty Monson (non-voting member)

Board Members

Rick Ashby  
Gerry Borden  
Clarke Caldwell, Harmony Foundation President/CEO (non-voting member)  
David Calland  
Gary Plaag

The following were absent:

John Miller

Society Staff Present

Patty Leveille, Executive Assistant/Office and HR Manager  
Heather Verble, Director of Finance

Guest

Jim Warner, Governance and Bylaws Chair  
Chris Buechler, Governance and Bylaws  
Brent Benrud, Governance and Bylaws  
Joe Berger, Society Nominating Committee Chair  
Bill Colosimo, District President's Moderator  
Skipp Kropp, Board Member Elect  
Dick Powell, Board Member Elect

## **BUSINESS**

### **Nominating Committee**

President Elswick called on Joe Berger Nominating Committee Chair. The committee has been working to develop a slate of potential Board nominees one of which would be elected to fill the vacancy caused by the recent resignation of Board Member At-Large, Mr. Joe Cerutti. Mr. Berger reported on the application process which was slated to close October 13, 2013. The committee has received three applications and expects to forward at least two of those applicants to the Board for vote.

President Elswick requested the Board to hold October 27, 2013 open for a special Board teleconference where Board candidates may present their speech to the Board and an election held prior to the November 1-2, 2013 Board meeting in Nashville.

### **Governance**

President Elswick called on Jim Warner, Chair of Governance and Bylaws. Mr. Warner reported that the Governance and Bylaws Committee continues to discuss two topics:

- Society Youth in Harmony programs
- The definition of the phrase “men of good character”

Committee member Brent Benrud discussed with the Board the committee’s thoughts on the matter of Society held Youth in Harmony programs and events. The committee will continue to discuss these topics and will report any progress regarding the “men of good character” discussion and possible Youth In Harmony rule recommendations at the Board’s November meeting.

CEO Marty Monson will investigate the potential operations and budgetary impact of the possible rule changes regarding the Society’s Youth In Harmony programs.

### **Executive Limitations**

The CEO’s Executive Limitations on Conventions, which states, “With respect to the Society midwinter and international conventions, the CEO may not fail to choose an international convention site less than five years from the date of that convention” was discussed.

The Board discussed the lack of flexibility in the Executive Limitation as it currently reads. The Board will discuss this topic at their November 1-2, 2013 Board Meeting. In the meantime the CEO will not enter into any additional convention site contracts.

### **District President Moderator**

President Elswick called on Bill Colosimo, District President’s Moderator. The council will meet at the November Fall Forum and will be meeting with both the CEO and the Society Board.

Districts are benefiting from the Board liaison’s reports to their House of Delegates. The new Saturday Night Spectacular DVD is being played at conventions and has been well received. The President’s/CEO Bulletin to the district’s House of Delegates is a valuable tool for districts and chapters.

## **2014 AIMS**

President Elswick called on Executive Vice President Don Fuson. The Annual Planning Cycle Committee is working to complete the final touches on the 2014 Society AIMS and have started preliminary development of the 2015 AIMS. Two weeks prior to the November Board meeting, the Planning Cycle Committee will present their recommendations for the Board's adoption.

## **23K**

President Elswick reported that he had requested of DP Moderator Bill Colosimo that the DP Council identify a DP and an EVP to assist the 23K team.

President Elswick has appointed three members to the 23K team:

- Jack Fitzpatrick, Volunteer Army Commander
- Keith Eckhardt, Chief Volunteer Information Officer
- Pete Carentz, Chief Volunteer Officer

President Elswick will update the Board at its November 1-2, 2013 meeting on the progress of the 23K project.

## **Honorary Membership**

President Elswick reported on behalf of the Honorary Membership Committee Chair, John Miller. The committee continues to work on possible honorary membership candidates. No decision has been made regarding the committee's recommendation to the Board for a slate of 2014 Honorary Membership candidates.

## **Board Meetings**

President Elswick held an open discussion with the Board regarding the November 1-2, 2013 Board meeting topics as well as Board meeting dates for 2014. The Board's first meeting of 2014 will be held at the Midwinter convention in Long Beach, CA.

2014 monthly Board WebEx meetings are tentatively planned for the third Sunday of each month with a starting time of 8:00 p.m. Central Time. There will not be a Board WebEx meeting in January of 2014.

## **2014 Budget**

President Elswick called on Rick Ashby, Finance Committee Chair. Mr. Ashby reviewed for the Board the program based 2014 Society budget.

Board discussion was held with CFO Heather Verble participating.

The 2014 Budget will be presented to the Board for approval at its November 1-2, 2013 meeting. If the CEO thinks the budget requires modification, he may request changes to the Budget at the Board's January 2014 Board meeting as described in the Society Rules and Regulations.

## CEO Report

President Elswick called on CEO Marty Monson who updated the Board on various topics: membership numbers, chapter charters, Aptify upgrade, Executive Limitations regarding convention bids and contracts, CEO visit to Districts, Midwinter convention PR, and Mini Forum.

Mr. Monson and CFO Heather Verble discussed with the Board various programs impacting Society budget and cash flow. Discussion was held. No action was taken.

## Parking Lot

David Calland reported the following Parking Lot items:

- Executive Limitation regarding contracting of Convention Cities more than 5 years out. Board
- 23K Update Elswick
- Youth In Harmony Rule suggestions G&B
- G&B Ethics committee recommendation on “men of good character” G&B
- AIMS update Fuson
- Possible Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> Board Conference Call (Nominations) Berger/Elswick
- Research impact on BHS budget/staff regarding background checks of Society YIH volunteers Monson
- Youth Protection Policy/ Society Rules G&B
- APC Committee – discussion in joint DP/Board session Fuson
- 2014 Budget approved Monson

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m. EST.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin L. Monson, Secretary