

PAMV Board Minutes
Saturday, July 9, 2016
Submitted by Nigel Endersby

Final version approved by the board August 13, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am

Present: John Hinkle, Dave K., Jeff Harris, Andy Maurer, Terry Moore, Jim Sherman, Sean Abel, John Wanless, Nigel Endersby and guest - Burt Laurence

Not present: Bill Faught

The following reports were approved as submitted for May and June: Treasurers, Music, Chapter Development and Marketing.

1. Chapter Development

Andy requested that more money be set aside for chapter development (for example, we need more guest books). There was also a request to define “restricted funds” as they relate to “social funds” and “operating funds”:

Social Funds Include dues and uniform deposits are “social funds” and can spent on any expense that the board wants, they are not restricted.

Operating Funds – Include shows, donations, advertising “operating funds” are “restricted funds”.

Cannot use operating funds into the social funds bucket and pay for social fund expenses. Operating funds are restricted to pay for operating expenses. Social funds can be used for anything.

We currently have \$5,400 in the bank

Voice clinic – the board discussed that the clinic was successful with everyone in the chorus involved with welcoming participants, singing tags with clinic students and having fun. Bay Area Showcase was entertaining, had a great sound and moved well to the music.

Andy We had 9 guests on Thursday night and 8 potential members. He hopes to convert most, if not all of these candidate into members. Cecil – has joined the chorus for the summer, in the fall he will be singing with VIH. He wants to sing with us long-term.

2. 2016 Cabaret

Jim Sherman said that the headliner quartet will be “Some Friends of Mine”. They were ranked 6th in our district. They represented a good value for the cost to have them perform: \$600 total cost which includes \$500 for performing, \$100 for expenses and we provide them with

dinner. They will perform in both our afternoon ice cream show and in our evening cabaret show

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2. 2016 Cabaret, cont.

Jim mentioned that other quartets in the society would have been more expensive to hire than “Some Friends of Mine” because of the travel expense to fly one or more of the members in these quartets to the Bay Area.

Dave K. mentioned that he has not seen a budget yet from the show chairman, Paul Freudenthal. There was a discussion about the cost of the show. The board discussed, voted on and passed: that ticket sale price of \$18 per person - ice cream social, \$28 per person - cabaret show. Ticket prices for at the door (on the day of the show): \$20 per person - ice cream social, \$30 per person - cabaret show, children under 5 will be free. For roughly 5 years we have left the prices at \$15 per person for the ice cream social and \$25 per person for the dinner show.

Attendance last year 220 people – ice cream social, 170 people - cabaret show.

John Wanless – Paypal doesn’t present a transaction fee as an added cost to the patron (the Peninsulaires’ pay the fee).

3. New Rehearsal Site

We would be willing to lease rehearsal hall space at Cubberley, but M4 is taken on Thursday nights by someone else. There is no other available option with reasonable acoustics on Thursday evenings at Cubberley. Julie, the director for Bay Area Showcase, said to Sean that she did not know how he was able to hear choral members’ voices at our Sunnyvale church hall (the room acoustics are too lively).

The monthly rent for VIH’s rehearsal space is \$900. Their rehearsal hall is located near I 880 and Brokaw Road in San Jose. The only value-ad for us at our Sunnyvale church hall is that we get to perform there on occasion. Burt – Would the space located across the street from the Performing Arts Center be suitable and affordable for us to use? He will check into this and get back to us.

4. New Business

a. New By-laws

New By-laws were submitted to the Peninsulaires by national. John H. has reviewed them and he said that they are less restrictive compared to our current by-laws. The board voted to approve the new by-laws. A board member stated that the new by-laws need to be filed with the State of California. This is Bill Faught's domain.

b. Application Process for Returning Members

Sean mentioned that an inactive Peninsulaire returning to the chorus after a minor lapse in time, should not be required to wait 3 weeks, prior to being reaccepted. However, we need to be cautious and not simply let any past Peninsulaire be readmitted quickly. The VP of Chapter Development may have a short history with the chorus and may not know the history of a past member and if there were issues the board had with a past member that might keep them from reaccepting him.

John Wanless mentioned that it should be a board decision as to whether an old member, looking to rejoin or reactivate his membership, should be readmitted.

c. Current Candidates for Membership

Michael is a baritone and is in his third week of the three-week waiting period. VJ said that he plans to come to rehearsal on a regular basis. The board voted to accept VJ as regular member of the chorus.

We have two candidates in their 3rd week of the 3-week waiting period, after passing their respective auditions: Gary Johnston and Andrew Lu. The board discussed that we could hold an ad hoc meeting on Thursday night to vote on both of these candidates for membership.

d. Date set for Upcoming Board meeting

The date for the August board meeting will be the 13th.

e. Harmony Camp scholarship

1 youth member is planning to go who was encouraged to attend by members of our chapter. The Peninsulaires have sent a donation to Harmony Camp.

f. Harmony University

Sean mentioned that his contract states that the Peninsulaires would cover the cost of him attending Harmony University, but he does not plan to attend this year.

g. John Jones' Board Resignation

The board discussed John's resignation from the board which he did for personal reasons (busy schedule and out of town a lot). John is a member-at-large. There generally are 3 at-large board members serving at any one time. The board determined that it would not be necessary to find another board member prior to the next slate of officers to serve in 2017. The by-laws don't require 3 members-at-large.

Jeff mentioned that the national board of directors has 1 non-barbershopper on its board. Jim Sherman mentioned that he approached Mark Tabry to consider being a board member our PAMV chapter.

h. Barbershopper of the Quarter

Dave K. mentioned that the most significant event of this past quarter was the voice clinic. Andy, Paul Eastman and Jerry Wong should all be considered as candidates for Barbershopper of the Quarter for their tremendous efforts that led to a great vocal clinic. A total of 84 people attended.

Jim Sherman motioned that all three men, Andy, Paul and Jerry be honored as Barbershopper of the quarter. Dave K. seconded the motion. The motion passed (Andy abstained from voting, he felt it was not appropriate to vote for himself).

i. Scratched Rehearsal Hall Floor

Dave K. discussed that our rehearsal hall floor was damaged / scratched from moving the large set of riser used for our joint "performance" with Bay Area Showcase on the last night of the Vocal Clinic. The scratch resulted because our chorus members are unfamiliar with the assembly and disassembly of these risers. John Hinkle will follow up about this with Dave K.

j. August 6th Cubberley Rehearsal

Terry volunteered to oversee bringing our risers (the 4-step, 5 set kind) to Cubberley for the all-day session on August 6th.

k. Song Selection

Bert Laurence discussed his frustration with song selection and that we are not singing enough true barbershop songs. Sean interjected that there is no song that we are currently doing that is not barbershop. Bert expressed his desire to sing more contestable songs with 4 parts, with all parts singing words (fewer boom pop songs). Considerable discussion followed regarding song selection and how these songs are generally chosen by Sean and then reviewed by the music committee.

k. Song Selection, cont.

Sean mentioned that barbershoppers love ballads, but they tend to bore most people in the audience. Upbeat songs oftentimes have the bass notes sung without words, imitating a bass stringed instrument. This is stringed instrument bass note singing is what Bert finds objectionable.

John H. stated that the by-laws are vague about music style. Nothing in the by-laws states that the chorus is to sing a particular style of music.

Sean mentioned that he reviewed 20 songs, prior to selecting the charts we are currently singing. He reviewed these songs keeping in mind: Bert's passed objections to the chorus's song selection, but also keeping in mind the audience and wanting to keep them interested.

Sean explained that barbershop music is generally defined as 4-part harmony, sung by one gender with a dominant 7th chord. Additionally, he said that there are some songs that were once considered non-contestable that are now contestable. He said that he certainly is not going to propose Glee Club style music with the melody predominantly the highest note in the chord.

I. Recruitment Proposal

Audition for Admission – prior to vocal clinic a prospective chorus member could audition for the chorus. If the prospective chorus member seemed musically promising to Sean, the prospect could be given the opportunity to go through the clinic and participate with the chorus and then given a final audition at the conclusion of the vocal clinic.

The proposed pancake breakfast for a July 4th would be a place where this audition for admission idea could be helpful in recruiting new members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.