

# Spring 2021 CSD Board Meeting

Via Zoom

March 21, 2021, 6:00 pm



*Where the Harmony Began*

President Duane Lawson **opened** the meeting at 6:03 pm with a recording of *The Old Songs*. (performed by the Long Island Sound chorus).



President Lawson reminded us of the Society's Vision and Mission statements: Our mission: To bring people together in harmony and fellowship to enrich lives through singing. Vision: Everyone in Harmony. Board meeting will operate under the Robert's Rules of Small Boards.

**Present:** Board Members, Duane Lawson, President; Matt Suellentrop, Executive V.P.; Chad Schuetz, Immediate Past President; Larry Warrick, Treasurer; Lyle Schwery, Iowa State V.P., Leonard Kinzie, Kansas State V.P.; Jake Bartlett, Nebraska State V.P.; David Stephenson, South Dakota State V.P.; Michael Bass, Missouri-Arkansas State V.P.; PAT members, Carter Combs, Contest and Judging V.P.; Don Fuson, Membership Development V.P.; Doug Brott, Events V.P.; Tom Schulein, History V.P.; Brett Randolph, Chapter Support and Leadership Training V.P.. Absent: Mark Fuerniss, Secretary.

Chad Schuetz and Don Fuson are the past District presidents in attendance.

## Treasurer's Report

District Treasurer Larry Warrick reviewed the **Financial Reports**.



- Final Fall Convention 2020 cancelled, no report
- Profit & Loss Statement for 2020. Gross Profit, \$32,631.42. A late request from one of the judges, Andrew Rembecki, \$451.20 expense. Net income, \$21,755.23.
- Balance Sheet. Total Assets are \$88,866.41. \$52,900.87 in our checking account. Money market has \$11,818.75; Certificate of Deposit, \$21,046.79. Good financial position.
- Budget 2021, approved at the House of Delegates meeting Fall 2020.
- 1st Quarter Actual vs. Budget. Basically same as profit/loss report.

Will have an updated Financial Report as of March 31 for the House of Delegates meeting next month. Paul Cartwright has done our **financial review**, and completed a **990EZ tax form**, set to IRS, and posted on BHS Member Center 2.0. It is possible to transfer some of the funds in the checking account to the money market account.

Carter Combs stated Treasurer Reports are not voted on, but accepted for audit or review.

**Minutes** of last meeting distributed electronically by Secretary Fuerniss. Warrick moved that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted. Suellentrop (me) seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Minutes are approved. **Consent Calendar** will be approved at the House of Delegates meeting.

## PAT Reports

**Carter Combs, Contest and Judging V.P.** C&J Report is totally contingent on what we decide on the fall convention. The thought was to do the entire year's District level awards during the fall convention, also our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. If we have a significant turnout, especially in the choruses, we will need to consider slightly extending competition schedule to fit in a fairly significant number of quartets on Friday and chorus and quartet finals on Saturday preceding a huge celebratory show Saturday night. Details are in Consent Calendar report. If we have all these contests, its a ton of awards but a good way to recognize and celebrate the opportunity to get back together.



**Doug Brott, Events V.P.** Contracts for Fall Convention in Lawrence are still in place at this time. Need to contact the Lied Center to see if there are any changes that would allow us to use more of the rooms than we used two years ago. Would make it easier if we can do the entire pattern work at the Lied Center.



Fuson asked if there was a break-even number on convention registrations to keep us from losing money on the Fall Convention. We have a steep hill to climb just to get guys back to singing much less committing to come to Lawrence. Brott, yes we will have contests but want to do more of a festival for both choruses and quartets, just to allow people to come and sing and have fun. This aspect will take additional time and coordination. Encourage chapters that wouldn't normally be there to participate. Information on the convention has not started yet. We will start putting together a marketing program. Regarding contest evaluations, Combs said if we go to more of a festival format we would need to make sure we have contests to qualify a senior chorus and a senior quartet for mid-winter and choruses for International next year. Perhaps have evaluations after the convention via Zoom. Combs will bring this idea to SCJC community. Lawson: this would be an opportunity for State V.P. to **get a feel about interest in the Fall Convention from their chapters.**

Brott added, we're still in pretty good shape for future contests. Spring and Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 conventions are taken care of. Thinking of returning to Mason City for a Spring or Fall perhaps Fall 2023. On the last site visit, Mason City was building a new Hyatt Hotel across from the Music Man Square, and there are wonderful facilities at North Iowa Area Community College. Iowa City changed to spring of 2023 and we also have Iowa City scheduled for Spring 2025. We're looking to see if we can get Lawrence again in Fall 2024. Perhaps Lincoln, Springfield, Cedar Rapids, Altoona at some future time.

**Jeff Veteto. Virtual HEP school** happened yesterday. Extremely easy to get coaches for this event. No travel involved. It was free. Seven quartets being coached by about that many coaches. Suellentrop took care of Zoom technology issues. Feedback has been good. Suellentrop: it was great that we provided this opportunity to quartets rather than skipping it this year. Thanks to Jeff for making it happen. Veteto commented having the ladies as a part of HEP adds a nice dimension to HEP; the amazing coaches available in CSD. It was suggested to have at least one more before fall contest. A great day. There were couple quartets leery about getting together just yet. Suellentrop may put together a tech sheet for future virtual HEP. An external microphone seemed to work well.



**Brett Randolph, Leadership Training.** Had to scrape original plans as Missouri Western was not allowing outside groups onto their campus. Leadership Academy was grouped with Harmony Hall and housed with virtual Mid-Winter. Created our own space at Mid-winter. Anyone with registration to Midwinter was allowed to attend our Leadership Academy as well as access to all the shows, Harmony U classes, and events during Mid-Winter.



Probably the highest value we were able to offer our members for Leadership Academy.

No travel, hotel, food costs. We did not have as many people attend as we were hoping especially from Central States. Can't replace the face-to-face interaction with others sharing same role. The line-up we offered and facilitators were top notch. Did not get a firm schedule of events set until a few days before the event. The event was very beneficial for those attending. Randolph estimated that about 10% of our attendees were from outside out district. Harmony Hall has provided no attendance statistics. Schuetz challenged the president to work with Society LOPT to get information solidified well before the event to share with our chapters. If we are going to get people at LA, we need to be able to share what is happening. There was a question as to who at Harmony Hall we need to work with following recent Harmony Hall "reorganization". Erin Harris, Dustin, and Brent were the ones Brett talked to. Erin should know.



**Tom Schulein, History.** Nothing to share.

**Don Fuson, Member Development.** Working with Mark Fuerniss to get data into a usable format. Problem with chapters not reporting their leaders. Don was informed that if there is no chapter secretary listed, renewals go directly to the member, thereby making a chapter celebration on a renewal impossible. A list of current chapter officers in necessary for District communications. There are still a few chapters with no leadership reported.



### Other items

**Donation to another Legacy Program.** Similar to [the Legacy Quartet Championship](#) project but chorus oriented. Harmony Hall asked for financial assistance, ~\$700 - \$1200, to help with an archival project with chorus performances from past chorus contests. Veteto, Legacy Quartet Championship project kept us connected, a small investment is a good thing. Society doesn't have the in-house capabilities to digitize chorus archives. (\$800/district x 17 districts = \$13,600). Schuetz asked if we know how much Districts contributed, how much the Society paid, with the Legacy Quartet project. If a profit was made is it being reinvested in the new program? Will put a pin in this topic until we get more information.



**Power of Harmony Presentation.** Will forward an email. Chapter in Columbus, Ohio, Men of Independence Chorus, working with Juvenile Detention Center. Tied to Harmony Foundation and Quartet Champions. Asking for a 10-15 minute presentation during the House of Delegates meeting.

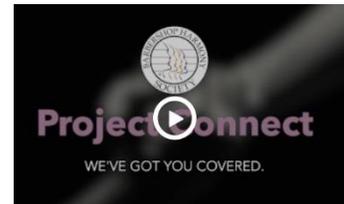


**Virtual Presentation of HFI Checks.** Harmony Foundation would like to do a virtual presentation of checks during the House of Delegates meeting. HFI has a list of donors and will not ask Districts for membership lists. HFI is interested in knowing how we are using the money we are given through HFI donor program, e.g. investing in our conventions, working with youth choruses, creating a festival or brigade, etc., any



additional ideas. (Duane Henry, in Cardinal District Grand Puh Bah of Brigades) Fuson, how are other districts responding to HFI outreach in comparison with BHS funds coming back to district. Lawson: Dependent on their relation with HFI or BHS before the split. No united stance from the districts. Lawson is not aware of anyone taking advantage of the \$5,000 that was budgeted by the District for regional festivals. Lyle Schwery said the Waterloo (Black Hawk Metro) Chapter is discussing having a festival rather than their annual show, invite quartets and choruses from around the state, free to the public. They may be interested in some financial support with their festival.

**Project Connect.** A program hardly anyone understands. For lapsed members or renewing members, you can contact Society to negotiate your Society dues, e.g. 50%. Is this something we want to do with District dues? We can't control chapter dues but can control District dues. Regular District dues is \$30/year. Leave dues alone, or contact Society to match what they do? Might be a worthwhile cost to keep a member singing in the Society. Were there other issues besides financial due to Covid that caused them to quit? Do they need to demonstrate their hardship? Bass asked about the financial impact on the District. Lawson, if they don't join, we get nothing. Would this be for this year only? How will this be communicated to District members/past members/chapters? Reaction of members that paid full price when they renewed? Bring in an "specialist" to our House of Delegates meeting. Use our CSD P.R. distribution list, Facebook, foggy mirror, to get the word out. Essential that our chapters understand what this means. They know who is missing from their risers. Want to wait to see how long this program will be in process. At district level, the District has the control to make the decision at to how long we want the program to last. We need more clarification. Have a proposal for the House of Delegates based on the Society presentation. Veteto: Board makes the decisions; House of Delegates okays them. Board needs to have a solid proposal before it goes to HOD. Lawson and Suellentrop will get more information and decide if another Board Zoom meeting is necessary.



**Member Center 2.0.** What information do you need to do your job? How often do you need this information refreshed? By default only the barbershopper's member number is viewable until the member releases their hidden information. "A dragon yet to be understood."

**State V.P.s goals.**

President Lawson reminded the State V.P.s to ask chapter leaders whether their choruses are planning to come to the convention/celebration in the fall when they visit with their chapters.

**Nebraska, Jake Bartlett.** To get Nebraska chapters singing again. Would like to establish a brigade in Lincoln.



**Kansas, Leonard Kinzie.** Goal is to meet with all the chapters in Kansas during the year.



Has requested invitations to chapter zoom meetings from chapter presidents. Has received one invitation. As long as he can meet his obligations remotely he will complete his term unless it becomes a problem with the District. He has informed Kansas chapter presidents that he will not stand for reelection and they should suggest who they would like to represent them as State Vice President. Kevin Barker would consider rejoining



the board.

**Iowa, Lyle Schwery.** Wants to get out and meet a few more chapters. Communication with chapters has been difficult. Chapters have been meeting virtually if not in person, perhaps not as frequently. Denison Chapter is in critical condition, down to six members.



**South Dakota, David Stephenson.** Hopes to get out to meet chapters, learn the personalities of the choruses. May be losing chapter in Milbank. A lot of older members, director issues. Two of the five choruses have been meeting in person. Viborg plans to have a summer show, with “New Fangled Four” quartet.

**Missouri-Arkansas, Michael Bass.** Make chapters aware of what resources/platforms are available to them. Support their contingency, post-Covid, plans.



### Unfinished Business

- Chapter Festivals
- Review of Bylaws, no action as of yet.

Events V.P. Brott announced that Central Standard (Metro Kansas City Chapter) will be the host of the Fall Contest, October 7 & 8, as posted on the web site.

*Keep the Whole World Singing* postponed until House of Delegates meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Spring 2021 Board minutes recorded on Zoom, transcribed by District Secretary

Mark Fuerniss

## Project Connect Proposal

Motion made on April 3, 2021 by Executive V.P. Matt Sullentrop: “I move that CSD matches the negotiated percentage of district dues that a member agrees to with Harmony Hall for their Society dues under Project Connect through the end of 2021.”

Seconded by South Dakota State V.P. David Stephenson.

Motion passed, six in favor, zero against.

Hi Everyone-

Thank you for your attention and the discussion over Project Connect.

The motion did pass and the decision was sent to BHS.

Thank you,

CSD President Duane Lawson

April 6, 2021