

Greater Detroit Chapter, Barbershop Harmony Society

Monthly Meeting

January 23, 2023

Attendees: Ted Barbret, George Burkett, Geoff d'Allemand, Joe DeSantis, Tom Marciano, John Marsh, Keith Opal, Craig Roney, Mike Schulte, Steve Sutherland.

Guests: Roger Boyer, Kyle Coykendal, John Paul, Herb Hebner, Pete Peters.

The meeting was convened at 5:58 PM by President DeSantis.

**C. Roney moved and G. d'Allemand seconded approval of the minutes of December 5, 2022. Motion carried.**

**Treasurers Report:** J. DeSantis for M. Schulte: Funds on hand at the end of December totaled \$39,842.18.

**Old Business:** J. DeSantis: Discussion regarding "Barbershopper of the Year" included a comment from S. Sutherland that, given the limited number of voting members, there has been no commanding vote for the eventual winner in recent years. He suggested that perhaps board officers should be excluded for consideration in future years. J. DeSantis suggested that, prior to voting, the number of nominees be limited then announced to the membership or that a nomination/award committee handle the process of identifying nominees and/or awarding the honor. No decisions were made and the Board was directed to think about the issue for consideration at a future meeting.

J. DeSantis indicated that the trailer, currently housed at D. Montera's, is still being repaired with the intent to eventually sell it.

S. Sutherland indicated that Lynne Peirce has been hired to coach the chorus; coaching sessions to take place on the Wednesday following the second Monday of each month in place of a Monday rehearsal.

**Music Team Report:** S. Sutherland: Section Leaders were identified: G. Milkie (T), K. Opal & D. Kemp (L), T. Uicker & J. DeSantis (Bt), G. d'Allemand (D. Montera & J. Paul assisting) (Bs).

The Ensemble hasn't been singing well due to erratic attendance.

Regarding a show theme, several ideas have been submitted by the members. The Music Team leaders will discuss and identify the new theme.

A performance has been scheduled for Nov. 30, 2023 for the Royal Oak Tree Lighting; a tentative show has been discussed at Sylvan Lake

**Chapter Development & Membership:** G. d'Allemand: Several articles publicizing the chorus are in the works for Royal Oak publications as well as on the Woodward Electronic Billboard. Geoff has had ongoing discussions with choral directors in the Royal Oak schools to augment the chorus' relationship with them and to further publicize the chorus to the community.

J. DeSantis noted that Harmony Foundation has a grant program to support school performances by headliner quartets. He also noted that he has been in contact with a member of the Wayne chorus who is has expertise in online recruiting of chorus members.

G. d'Allemand indicated that the Board needs to discuss and identify a policy statement regarding participation by members of our chorus who have chosen not to pay dues to BHS.

**Program Report:** G. Burkett: A date for the Sylvan Lake performance was set for July 24, 2023.

Discussion involved what to do regarding chapter officer installation. Do we want to do it in conjunction with a formal "Ladies Night" affair, or. More informally at a regular rehearsal. Members were directed to send ideas to J. DeSantis.

Aug. 7, 2023 was set as the date for the chorus picnic (at Sylvan Lake).

**New Business:** J. DeSantis: The board discussed whether or not to have a 2023 show. Among the issues discussed was the need to identify a show chair and individuals to help with planning a show, the expense of renting an auditorium, ticket sale expense and headliner quartet expense. Several suggestions were offered for renting alternate performance venues that are less expensive.

G. d'Allemand volunteered to serve as show chair.

**G. Burkett moved and T. Barbret seconded a motion to have a formal show in 2023. Motion carried.**

K. Opal indicated that he has made room reservations for the president to attend the district convention in Grand Rapids and reminded us that the chorus has paid for that reservation in the past. Evenin' Gentlemen will be performing at the convention.

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Craig Roney, Secretary

Minutes Approved: February 15, 2023