



SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND PROPAGATION OF BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN THE UNITED STATES

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 18, 2019

Location: San Antonio, Texas

Members Present: Jack Fitzpatrick, Bill Biffle, Paul Cohen, Jim Bagby, Jim Gallagher, and Joe Pollio. Guest: Terye Senderhauf.

Meeting was called to order at 9:11 am CST by Jack Fitzpatrick, President, who was chairing the meeting.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

No previous minutes to approve.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made and passed to approve the Style Examination Committee Report (Appendix A) defining the style SPPBSQSUS is dedicated to preserving.

A motion to accept Kevin King as the new member of the Style Examination Committee was made and passed. Bob Disney has resigned from the committee. Ben Ayling is retained as an advisor.

Discussion was held regarding the time and location of the next gathering. It was unanimously agreed that a mid-year gathering is desirable. Although it is virtually impossible to find meeting times that do not conflict with some other gathering, it was agreed that all efforts would be made to not conflict with any major gatherings such as Harmony University, Mid-Winter, etc. A motion was made and passed to hold a "bare bones" mid-year gathering annually in the weekend following Harmony University. Raymond Schwarzkopf is willing to visit potential venues in the Chicago area and develop recommendations for a gathering in the July/August timeframe.

In light of the success of the gathering in San Antonio a motion was made and passed to hold subsequent January gatherings at the San Antonio Hilton Airport Hotel, in the weekend following the BHS Mid-Winter convention. Next year's dates will be January 16-19.

Discussion ensued regarding a permanent or ad-hoc events team. Paul Cohen has taken the lead on arrangements and negotiations for events thus far. It was agreed that Paul will try to identify and recruit at least two, but possibly more, members who would be able and willing to succeed him in this role. It was also suggested that Paul begin to create a manual of instructions for what he does and how he does it, so that someone else could step in in a pinch.

A motion was made and passed to adopt procedures for handling ethics violations (appendix A). These procedures will be incorporated into an Operations Manual when it is established.

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President
Jack Fitzpatrick

**Executive Vice
President**
Bill Biffle

**Secretary and
Advisor to the
Board**
Paul Cohen

**Board Member
at Large**
Jim Gallagher

**Board Member
at Large**
Jim Bagby

Ex Officio
Joe Pollio

SPPBSQSUS Ethics Complaint Procedure

Jack presented information about public accommodation laws. According to the State of Montana laws, the only exception what will allow male-only groups is to be organized as a Fraternal Organization having Lodges. It was felt that more information was needed as far as how lodges would be added and whether and how resultant procedures would need to be codified. The board approved the bylaw changes but left undecided for study the requirements for a group to become a lodge. The one requirement approved by the board was that all present and all future members of any group desiring to become a lodge would have to be a member of SPPBSQSUS. The topic was deferred pending a report to the board of suggested requirements and procedure which will be prepared by Jack, reviewed by Paul and E mailed to the board members.

Jim Bagby presented a report from Charlie Drake who has visited the Heartspring facility in Wichita, Kansas. Charlie's recommendation is that this organization would be a good one for SPPBSQSUS to adopt as a service project. Charlie felt that our support could serve as an impetus to cause Heartspring to make a more significant use of music in their therapeutic programs. A suggestion was made to poll the members for interest in this project or suggestions for other organizations to support. The topic was tabled for future action pending results of the member polling.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report was not presented.

OTHER DISCUSSION

It was agreed that the "Old Codgers" contest rules would be suspended for today's contest only, so that any quartet could participate as desired.

It was agreed that Paul and Jack would come up with a list of questions that will be sent to attendees of the inaugural gathering in San Antonio to gauge the successes and opportunities for improvement. These will go out via Survey Monkey or similar program.

Joe Pollio gave a quick briefing on the Friday night schedule of events for the banquet.

With no further topics of discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Paul Cohen", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Paul Cohen, Secretary

SPPBSQSUS Ethics Complaint Procedure

Abiding by the Code of Ethics is a condition of continued membership in the Society. This document sets forth the procedures to be used whenever a member has been alleged to have violated the Code of Ethics.

FILING: Before filing a complaint, the parties involved should make a good faith effort to resolve the issue informally. If this effort is unsuccessful, a Complaint may be initiated by any person, organization, or their representative, irrespective of their membership in the Society. Allegations of Ethics violations against a member (the Respondent) shall be made in writing and sent directly to the Chairman of the Society Ethics Committee. The person or organization alleging the violation (the Plaintiff), shall submit the Complaint, which shall state all relevant circumstances surrounding the alleged violation, including the names and contact information of all those directly involved, including direct witnesses to the violation.

INVESTIGATION: Upon receipt of an Ethics Complaint, the Chairman of the Society Ethics Committee shall initiate a confidential investigation, or delegate such investigation to another Ethics Committee member(s). The investigation shall be conducted to verify, amplify, and provide context to the facts and information relevant to the Complaint. The investigation shall be accomplished in a fair manner, but it need not conform to any governmental legal process or system. All Committee members are to treat the matter as confidential and on a “need to know” basis, and advise all whom they contact that the facts and circumstances of the matter are in the process of being developed, and the fact that an investigation is being conducted should not be shared with others.

REPORT AND DISPOSITION: The person or persons conducting the investigation shall make a written Report,

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together with a recommendation for disposition, to the full Ethics Committee. This Report should be submitted in a timely manner, considering the circumstances surrounding the matter. After the Ethics Committee receives the investigative Report, some of the possible actions for disposition are:

1. Dismissal of the Complaint
2. Written Reprimand to the Respondent
3. Recommendation to the SBOD for temporary suspension of membership
4. Recommendation to the SBOD for expulsion from membership

The Ethics Committee shall then prepare a written summary of the Report and the Ethics Committee's disposition (Summary), which shall be made available to the Respondent, Plaintiff, and if appropriate, the Society Board of Directors (the SBOD).

NOTIFICATIONS: Upon receiving a Complaint, the Chairman of the Ethic Committee shall notify the Respondent of the Complaint by both mail and email within two weeks of its receipt. Such notification shall include a copy of the Complaint. If the Respondent desires a telephonic or personal meeting with the Ethics Committee, the Respondent must make such request within 30 days from the date the Complaint was received by the Respondent. The Ethics Committee shall, within one week of its decision, provide a copy of the Summary to both the Respondent and the Plaintiff, which shall include its decision and disposition regarding the Complaint.

APPEAL: A Respondent may file an appeal of an Ethics Committee decision directly to the Ethics Committee Chairman and/or the BoD. The appeal must be in writing and both mailed and emailed no later than two weeks after the

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Respondent receives the Ethics Committee Summary. The SBOD has the authority to grant or deny an appeal, or to accept or modify the recommendations of the Ethics Committee. The SBOD shall provide written notification to the Respondent and the Chairman of the Ethics Committee within two weeks of its decision. All decisions of the SBOD regarding Ethics Complaint disposition or appeals are final.

“The expulsion of any member by the Board of Directors will be effective immediately upon the Board reaching a decision to expel the member and posting such notification to all concerned. After any appeals have been made, the decision of the Board is final and forever.”

The suspension of any member by the Board of Directors will be effective immediately upon the Board reaching a decision to suspend the member and posting such notification to all concerned” Anyone, having been suspended by the Board of Directors can only be reinstated by applying through the Secretary to the Board and being approved for reinstatement by the Board. Prior to reinstating a suspended member, the Board must determine that the suspension has been effective in correcting the situation which prompted the suspension. Additionally, if restitution has been directed, the Board must ascertain whether appropriate restitution, if necessary, has been made to the offended party. If the reinstatement is not

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approved by the Board of Directors, the former member may reapply after a period of one year has elapsed. If the Board does not approve the second application for reinstatement, the matter is considered closed forever.

Suggested changes to By laws to comply with Public Accommodation laws, rules, regulations and court decisions.

2.01 Purpose

The Society is a national, private, all male, fraternal organization ~~club~~ whose purpose shall be to preserve and perpetuate the historic tradition and American cultural institution of the all-male barbershop quartet; to promote and encourage the enjoyment of singing barbershop harmony; to foster good fellowship among its members; and to support one or more national charitable service projects.

The activities of the Society shall be conducted without personal gain for its individual members, and any available funds shall be used to further the purposes of the Society. The Society may authorize the reimbursement or payment of expenses of members incurred in the furtherance of the purposes of the Society not to exceed amounts or rates permitted by Society policy, or federal or state law. The Society shall not pay for services to be performed by, or make any loan of money or property to, any officer or director of the Society.

2.02 Activities and Mission

The individual members of the Society are encouraged to gather together in local ~~clubs, chapters, or~~ lodges to form quartets for the purpose of enjoying singing the style of music known as barbershop harmony and for good fellowship in song. Although group (or gang) singing may be a natural outgrowth of such affiliations, singing in quartets is to be given priority. Other activities include periodically gathering in larger meetings as may be found desirable or necessary, and to do all other things incidental or reasonably necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Society. The

Suggested changes to By laws to comply with Public Accommodation laws, rules, regulations and court decisions.

Society, and any of its lodges, shall have no power to engage in activities not in advancement of its express purposes to more than an insubstantial extent.

Style Examination Committee Report

Barbershop Harmony Guidelines

What is barbershop harmony? What are we trying to preserve? These are questions that on the surface seem simple. Barbershop harmony is a four-part unaccompanied vocal style that started in North America in the mid-19th century. At its core is a easily singable melody. Something that the average person, “Joe Barbershopper,” can have fun singing. By watching the Dave Stevens video from the 1970’s, you can gain an understanding of the basic concepts of barbershop music. Though the concept is simple, the execution is more complicated than it appears.

Below are some guidelines describing what is barbershop:

1. The four parts of barbershop harmony:
 1. A melody sung by the second highest voice, the Lead
 2. A harmony part above the melody, the Tenor
 3. A low harmony part, the Bass
 4. A harmony part moving above and below the melody to complete and fill the musical chords, the Baritone
2. Barbershop harmony is generally homophonic in nature. Minor deviations of short duration are permitted such as a call and repeat section (e.g., Sweet Adeline, Bright Was the Night).
3. The strongest barbershop songs exemplify characteristics of songs from the “Gay Nineties” era through the “Roaring Twenties” era - songs with a simple, singable melody that also suggests chords and chord progressions that are readily apparent to the ear of the harmony devotee. They

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utilize melodies predominantly deemed tuneful by way of outlining closely-related harmonies, creating little dissonance within these implied harmonies. However, that doesn't eliminate songs written after 1930. Many of these songs can also lend themselves to the barbershop style.

4. Songs harmonized in the barbershop style imply tertian harmonies that generally follow the circle of fifths with a proliferation of dominant and secondary dominant seventh chords.
5. Barbershop harmony is primarily accomplished through singing by ear. If the basic harmonies cannot be hummed along with the melody, the song will not "barbershop" well.
6. Barbershop music features major, minor, and dominant (barbershop) seventh chords, primarily moving along the circle of fifths. Sixths, ninths, and major seventh chords are avoided unless demanded by the melody or as a passing chord to get to the next chord. Minor seconds are not used.
7. Barbershop music features numerous opportunities for embellishments (e.g. swipes) to provide harmonic interest and rhythmic momentum. These embellishments add interest to the song, and are tools to provide an effective ending, usually through what's commonly called a tag.
8. The performance of quality barbershop singing features "just intonation" (Pythagorean tuning), creating a preponderance of audible overtones, resulting in an expanded sound.

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9. The melody is lyric driven. The barbershop style's musical interpretation, as well as physical expression by its performers, is emotionally based. While these are guidelines for what best fits the description of good barbershop, barbershop singing is much more. It's about the fun you have with friends, new and old. It's a totally unique and fulfilling hobby.