

**AREA 4 COUNCIL MEETING
June 6, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Area 4 Director Betty Gunterman at 6:08 PM with the reciting of the Harmony Creed, and Betty welcomed participating Council Members. The meeting was held in Bloomington, IL and included the following Council Members, Chapter Presidents, Committee Chairmen and Guests:

Council Management

- Betty Gunterman – Area 4 Director
- Denise Struve – Secretary
- Linda Bloch – Area 4 Treasurer and AC&C Treasurer
- Janice Westphal – Education Chairman (AC&C only)
- Pam Ringo – Website/Facebook
- Beth Montgomery - Membership
- Sara Stone - Convention Team Manager
- Ria Bunte - ACJC

Not present:

- Linda Kersey – Associates Coordinator

Voting Members of the Council (Chapters officially represented) in this meeting:

- Bluegrass Harmony (Louisville, KY) – Charlotte Moore
- Covered Bridge Harmony (Greencastle, IN) – Kathryn Dory
- Harmony Magic (Central Indiana) – Susan Spencer
- Lake Ridge Legacy Chorus (Cleveland, OH) – Kelly Ramey
- Misty River Music Makers (Geneva, IL) – Barb Ries
- St. Louis Vocal Project (St. Louis, MO) – Susie Slavney (arrived at 7:30 PM)
- Sound Celebration (Plymouth, WI) – Marianne Cooke
- Village Vocal Chords (Metro-Chicago, IL) – Ria Bunte
- Wolf River Harmony (Shawano, WI) – Brenda Krueger (alternate)

Not represented:

- California Note Catchers (San Diego, CA) – Ann Ash
- St. Louis Chordinals (St. Louis, MO) – Ruth Farrel

Copies of this meeting’s Agenda and Treasury Reports were distributed via email prior to the meeting.

Welcome	Betty welcomed the Council Members and led all in reciting the Harmony Creed.
Minutes	➤ Minutes of the February, 2019 Zoom Conference were approved via email and posted to the website
Membership	➤ Area 4 membership statistics: 11 chapters (increase of 2), 257 members (increase of 59), 16 Associates (down 5), total 273, with 253 attending Convention
Youth AEPs	➤ Youth AEPs will be paid by Harmony for the current AC&C but not for IC&C 2019. In the past, youth AEPs were paid by the donation of one person.

<p>IBOD Mid-year Meeting</p> <p>Charter Ceremonies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mid-Year meeting of the IBOD will take place the weekend of June 15 ➤ Charter ceremonies taking place this weekend will be for St. Louis Vocal Project at the end of the Membership Meeting on Friday, and for Lake Ridge Legacy Chorus at the Moonglow, following dinner. Betty asked that members attend both ceremonies.
<p>Education</p>	<p>Janice Westphal reported that everything is ready to go for the AC&C Education Classes</p>
<p>Website</p>	<p>Council Members were reminded that there is a new and improved website: www.hiarea4.com Pam asked that chapter Presidents notify her of any information needing correction. Pam stated she thinks Pro Plan would cost approximately \$17/month and would enable having a “members only” section,. She will look into it.</p>
<p>Manuals</p>	<p>Betty reiterated that the Convention and Contest Manual will be revised following AC&C due to positions added to the Convention Team. She asked if the group would prefer it posted on the website of sent to each chapter President. Consensus was to post on the website.</p> <p>Marianne Cooke suggested a general timeline on the website for when specific info (i.e. draw, hotel reservations, etc.) will be posted, along with general descriptions for Area positions.</p> <p>Another suggestion was for a Members Only section where folks could access minutes and other past history. Pam said this would be possible to share on Dropbox.</p>
<p>Treasurer’s Reports</p>	<p>Linda Bloch, Area 4 Treasurer, reviewed the end-of-year 2019 financial statements and the 2020 Budget, which she had distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. She pointed out that in May, \$1,949 Area 4 dues and \$1,136 Area Director’s Funds were received from Harmony. There was no activity in April</p> <p>Following discussion, Motion by Ria Bunte, seconded by Susan Spencer, to accept end-of-year financials. Motion carried.</p> <p>Area 4 Net Worth as of (3/31/19) = \$10,659.89</p> <p>The 2020 Budget was approved at the fall meeting and was updated with actual to 3/31/19.</p>
<p>AC&C</p>	<p>Sara Stone reported that Ria Bunte took on judges’ meals, transportation duties, etc. to the great appreciation of the Convention Team. There was discussion whether judges’ arrangements should be taken on by the ACJC. Ria is willing. In other Areas, the ACJC handles IBOD Rep and judges’ flight info.</p> <p>An Onsite Mgr. is needed, primarily to handle the banquet.</p>

	<p>It was suggested that banquet responsibilities be handled by whomever handles the Moonglow. The group agreed that the Convention Mgr. or Onsite Mgr. should take on the banquet. Also that the holders of the new positions get half their hotel room paid for like other members of the Convention Team.</p> <p>Council members recommend that solid job descriptions for both positions be developed, and that Sara talk about the positions at the Membership Meeting.</p> <p>The group discussed the need for a new convention location due to our having outgrown the space. Also discussed was the fact that with the addition of two new choruses, the Area 4 central location has changed. It was mentioned that Helms-Brisco will be talking with the IBOD, and perhaps they would be an option to determine a new central location for Area 4 and to suggest potential new sites. Sara said she would volunteer to be a pilot for them.</p> <p>While there is no Sunday debriefing scheduled, Sara said she will let the venue know we can't honor our contract for next year. The Convention & Visitors bureau is already looking at other locations for Sara.</p>
OLD BUSINESS	Chords & More in Area 4!
Judges' Lights	<p>During the February Zoom Conference, approval was given for the purchase of 12 lights for the judges' tables at a cost not to exceed \$300. Lights were purchased using Area Director funds at a total cost of \$217.41. Harmony's tax-exempt letter was used for eleven of them.</p>
LCD Projector	<p>Last year, Betty accidentally left the LCD projector at the hotel. She called as soon as she got home and they said she had to go online and fill out forms. After Betty followed that process, the hotel said they didn't have it. When she checked in this year, she went to the manager and said she had left the projector, described it, and as soon as she got to her room, they called and said they had it!.</p>
NEW BUSINESS	Chords & More in Area 4!
New Chapter Presidents' Pins	<p>The IBOD had new Presidents' pins made featuring Harmony's current logo with a small pearl embedded in it. These were presented at the Membership Meeting.</p>
Funds Raised through Baskets	<p>The group discussed possible uses for funds raised through baskets and Moonglow events.</p> <p>It was approved via email that the money collected this year be split between those Area 4 members attending Harmony University. Last year, two (2) members received scholarships and ten (10) received funds to help with expenses. If anyone knows people who are attending from their chapter, they should notify Betty to determine how to split up the funds..</p>

<p>Directors First Program/Harmony Foundation</p>	<p>Marianne Cooke requested a discussion regarding the Directors First Program. She believes that more specific criteria should be provided, especially concerning how often people can apply.</p> <p>Marianne also expressed concerns regarding the Harmony Foundation. She believes (her personal opinion) that we were better off when we managed our own funds.</p>
<p>Harmony's 60th Anniversary Celebration at IC&C</p>	<p>Betty explained that the six Area Directors were each asked to decorate 10 tables at the showcase dinner in November, each with a different decade. Area 4 was given the 90s. Several members of the VVC have offered to design, transport and place decorations on the tables. Council agreed that they should proceed.</p>
<p>Harmony Dues Increase</p>	<p>Marianne Cooke expressed (personal) concerns regarding the proposed Harmony dues increase. She stated that while \$5 doesn't sound like a lot, she feels International should look at reducing expenditures rather than raising dues. Betty pointed out that the Executive Committee and Finance Committee had a Zoom call instead of arriving a day early to midyear meeting as a way to save money.</p>
<p>Vendors at IC&C</p>	<p>Chapter President's received an email from Jan DeVecchio (April 3) regarding suggestions for vendors who might be interested in selling items in the Hospitality Room at IC&C in Ohio. Betty asked that they respond to her at delvecc@ezlink.on.ca</p>
<p>Future New Business</p>	<p>A draft of the updated Area 4 Policy/Operations manual will include job descriptions for Education Chair, Membership Chair, Associate Coordinator, and PR/Website/Facebook Coordinator. Financial policies and procedures as well as other financial items will be included, along with future AC&C dates and Corporate Manual info.</p>
<p>Next Council Meeting</p>	<p>Betty asked if the group would prefer a Zoom conference or a face-to-face meeting for the Fall Meeting. Consensus was that a face-to-face meeting would allow better discussion of the budget. The group agreed to meet at St. Luke's Lutheran Church on Saturday, September 21, from 9am to 3pm.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.</p>