

Area 2 Council Meeting
August 16, 2008, Gardner, MA

Roll Call

Area 2 Rep – Gail Kelsall
Area 2 Advisor, Finance – Heather Solomon
Area 2 Treasurer – Cathy La Salandra
Area 2 Secretary – Gayle Jordan
Area 2 Parliamentarian – Marj Andrew
Area 2 Education Coordinator – Linda Parviainen
Borderlines Editor – Diane Zanetti
Area 2 ACJC, Retired – Dianne Clark
Area 2 ACJC – Tricia Harris
Manual Chairman – Marj Andrew
Marketing/PR Coordinator – Chris Kuntz
Website Coordinator – Cathy De Coste
Historian- Gayle Jordan
Finance Committee – Cathy La Salandra, Loretta Lapierre, Heather Solomon

Barre-Tones, Inc. – Barbara Ladabouche
Chair City Pipers – Lois Lundsted
Champlain Echoes, Inc. – Linda Janes-Delegate
Harmony Heritage – Loretta Lapierre
Maine-ly Harmony – Sue Staples
Montreal City Voices – Heather Solomon
New England Voices In Harmony – Kate Steer
Silk'n Sounds – Sharon Crawley
Sounds of the Seacoast – Heidi Berger
Women of Note – Tricia Harris – Delegate

Guests

Donna Danbury – Silk'n Sounds

Gail welcomed everyone to the meeting and was glad to see so many attending. She informed the council that Kathy Menzel of Women of Note and Marianne Cooke International Board Member had both lost their mothers recently and please keep them both in your prayers.

She also informed us that Aileen Murray is doing better but still recovering and wanted to be here but doctors wouldn't allow yet.

Gail thanked Chair City Pipers for all their attention to detail in planning our meeting and making all of the arrangements for it and all the GREAT FOOD! They have outdone their selves. Thank you! Thank You!

She let us know that Linda Parviainen has resigned from the education Coordinator position, but will continue until a replacement is found. She called Linda our Princess of the World and presented her with an official wooden name plate, which says, PRINCESS.

Gail informed the council that her official report for the meeting has been sent for inclusion on the Area 2 Website along with the other chapter reports.

Finance Committee

The final report from AC&C 2008 has been received. There was a profit of \$2,500.37. The finance committee is making the following recommendations for disbursement of these funds.

- A. Allocating \$75.00 each for Judges, Candidates, and Applicants to help defray costs of attending Category School.
- B. Allocating \$300.00 to NEVIH for their ABC Day.
- C. Allocating \$1,500.00 to Silk'n Sounds for defraying cost of AEP for AC&C 2009. This will give money back to Area 2 members.

They would also recommend that the Area 2 Dues be set at a price of \$5.00 a year for US and CND. Being as the currency has moved to be more even it makes sense for both countries to be paying the same and not one paying more.

After some discussion on these items the following decisions were made.

A Motion to accept the decreased amount of \$75.00 for judges, Candidates, and applicants from our AC&C profit of those that apply.

Motion made by, Heather Solomon and seconded by Tricia Harris.

Motion was retracted by Heather and seconded by Tricia

Retracted motion carried.

Motion to allocate \$1,000.00 to be divided amongst all the judges, candidates, and applicants that apply for assistance.

Motion made by, Kate Steer and seconded by Lois Lundsted.

Motion carried with 2 abstentions.

Linda Janes and Barbara Ladabouche.

Motion to send to membership for a vote a proposal to make our Area 2 Dues \$5.00 in both US and CND.

Motion made by, Kate Steer and seconded by Barbara Ladabouche.

Motion Carried.

Marj Andrew our Parliamentarian will take care of this area 2 vote.

Motion to give \$1,500.00 to Silk'n Sounds for help defraying the cost of the AEP for AC&C 2009.

Motion made by Linda Janes and seconded by Loretta Lapierre.

Motion Carried.

Motion to allocate one All Events Pass each to the four chapters identified as Non-participants , for this year only.

Motion made by Linda Janes and seconded by Heidi Berger.

Motion defeated.

Motion to support hostess chapter in their efforts to encourage the four inactive chapters, up to and including a free all events pass to AC&C 2009. Support means financial approval for money that needs to be spent.

Motion made by Linda Janes seconded by Sue Staples.

Motion Carried.

AC&C Reports

AC&C 2009 – Silk'n Sounds

The theme is the Fabulous Fifties. They are starting to define the committees now and moving forward. The hotel will be the Omni Hotel in New Haven, Ct. Contest will be at the Wilbercross High School in New Haven.

AC&C 2010 – Harmony Heritage – Will be in Warwick, RI. Crowne Plaza hotel and Winman Jr. High school for contest.

AC&C 2011 – NEVIH – Diane Coates is Chairman.

AC&C 2012 – tentative – Montreal City Voices

ABC Days

ABC Day 2008 will be with the New England Voices In Harmony. October 4 in Nashua. Registration is \$35.00 with an extra fee of \$3.50 for music. They will send out info to the choruses and quartets on the Harmony Connection and info can be found on the Area 2 website. Lots of great coaches attending and numerous chances for coaching. Some great info to be shared.

Capital Chordettes will be having an ABC Day in September of 2009.

Chapter Reports

The question was asked if the Chapter Reports written by the Presidents could be submitted in April at the end of the chapter fiscal year instead of August. Being in August makes it difficult for some to make sure info is updated.

It was decided that Chapter Reports will be sent to the Area 2 Secretary for inclusion on the Area 2 website by April 1 each year.

An adhoc committee of Chris Kuntz and Barbara Ladabouche was set up to design a template for the writing of this report. The council wanted to make sure that within the report we were given membership totals for the start and end of the year. This information will be added to the Chapter Presidents job description in the Area 2 manual.

Decreased cost of AEP for Non-Competing members.

This will be brought up again for discussion in April 2009 after International has completed their two-year trial with this and we see how it affected the costs of convention.

This would only be a reduced price AEP for Non –Competing Harmony Members.

Operation Sparkplug

Chris Kuntz reported that she and Aileen would like to do this again this year. It went over very well and increased 50% of Area 2 chapters.

Area 2 had the biggest increase Internationally more than any other area.

Harmony is considering another year also but has not made a final decision yet. Area 2 can of course do this anyway.

Harmony In Motion won our Area 2 prize of learning tracks for music.

It has been a great tool for all of Area 2 and sparked a lot of interest in growing our membership.

Motion that we continue Operation Sparkplug for this year starting April 2008 and ending April 2009.

Motion made by Loretta Lapierre and seconded by Barbara Ladabouche.

An amendment was added to the motion to allocate \$200.00 in the 2009-2010 budget for the prize.

Amended by Kate Steer.

Motion and Amendment both carried.

Because of the AC&C Final report being received this same weekend our treasurer Cathy La Salandra will have to make some changes to our treasurers report within the 2009 budget portion. Cathy will make these changes and resend out her report to the council.

Motion to accept the budget for 2009 with the changes Cathy La Salandra will make.

Motion made by Heidi Berger and seconded by Linda Janes.

Motion Carried.

Lunch Break

A GREAT Lunch was had by all. Chair City Pipers prepared a fabulous lunch for us and plenty of snacks to keep us going. They will be sending out lots of recipes to us. They also had a fun plate raffle for us. If we received a number on our plate we received a prize. Great fun was had by all showing off our prizes. Linda Janes really liked hers!

How to defray increased costs?

Our summer meetings have become costly with the price of travel and hotels to attend.

Some of the ideas tossed around were:

Eliminate the summer meeting.

Lengthen the April meeting to get everything done.

Teleconference instead of meeting.

Have the council members housed by a hostess chapter for the meeting.

We will do more thinking on this for our next meeting.

It was suggested that we need to do more promotion of our ABC Days to outside of our membership to increase our possibility of profit. Yes, this may mean taking some time from our membership away with coaching and such, but it may also open up communication with other avenues and maybe increase our ABC Day size. More thinking will be done on this.

Chapter Visits

Gail had a teleconference call on the matter of chapter visits. Only four of our area 2 chapters responded to the survey sent out. The results were discussed and it was felt we need more people to respond to this issue to make some decision on how to proceed.

Gail will survey again and it is asked that all chapters please respond.

Sister Chapters

Gail has set up some sister chapters for us to keep in touch more with one another. To see how things are going and if we can help each other with ideas or problems.

The following is how it is set up now.

Capital Chordettes and Barre-Tones

Women of Note – Noteable Blend

Silk'n Sounds – Harmony In Motion

Champlain Echoes – Chair City Pipers

Sounds of the Seacoast – Crosstown Harmony

Montreal City Voices – New England Voices In Harmony

Harmony Heritage – Cape Chordaires

Thousand Islanders – Maine-ly Harmony

These groups can start out small or they may reach out to others and form small groups if they wish. The presidents' emails and address will be sent out so everyone has them.

We will try to make up some criteria for this will be written up for suggestions on what to do.

Gail asked would all council positions please check their job descriptions in the Area 2 manual and make sure they are updated. Send any changes to the Manual Chairman, Marj Andrew.

Grantwriting/Fundraising/PR/Membership

There are more and more chapters interested in grant writing but not sure how to proceed with the writing. We have had a grantwriting class at AC&C before and can do again possibly, but this won't allow a lot of time for information.

It was stated that the Men's Society has a COTS program run in January that has had full day classes on grantwriting and this would be more informative for those seeking info. It can be tedious and has to be exact in order to get one. There is a website for grants called. Musscdrivesus.org this can be a place to start for those interested.

Kate Steer of NEVIH spoke of a fundraiser that they do that might be something others would be interested in called, scrip.com Kate will send out all the information to the council members. Thanks Kate!

Would all council members and Chapter Presidents please update their email info with Cathy De Coste website manager and Chris Kuntz. People are not receiving information because of changes in presidents.

Cathy Decoste stated that there is a resource tab on the website that has templates and PR material for anyone looking for it. More can be added.

Varia

There are still three more chapters that need to incorporate. Chair city Pipers are in the process and near the end. Also, Noteable Blend and Crosstown Harmony need to incorporate soon.

Chapter interests

Upcoming shows

Women of Note – September 6 – Harvard, MA

Harmony Heritage – September 20 – Warwick, RI

Barre-Tones – September 20 – Barre, VT – opera house

Champlain Echoes – October 11 – 50th anniversary party for chapter

Barre-Tones, Inc. have a new website which is:

Barretonesvt.com

Check it out!

Dianne Clark asked if the Area would like to do support ribbons for International 2008. The council said yes. Dianne offered to get them. Thanks Dianne!

Dianne also wanted the council to know that the Sing Magnets that Harmony, Inc. has for sale were designed by our own, Cathy DeCoste. We all use them in so many ways. Great Design Cathy! Thanks!

Dianne asked if it has been determined by the Finance committee what the cost of the AEP for AC&C 2009 will be. Having received the budget for AC&C 2009 from Silk'n Sounds and working on a worst-case scenario it has been determined that the price would

be, \$115.00 for AEP's. The cost of the dinner portion is \$51.00 with this and the possible high cost of judges' fees this is the best cost. The finance committee has approved the budget for AC&C 2009.

Motion to accept the price of \$115.00 for the AEP cost for AC&C 2009.

Motion made by Linda Janes and seconded by Sue Staples.

Motion Carried.

Gail has been talking with two possible people for the positions of Quartet Promotions and Education Chairman. She will let us know.

Meeting was adjourned,
Respectfully Submitted,
Gayle Jordan, Area 2 Secretary