

SHRINE CHANTERS ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL
ANNUAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 10, 2017

In attendance by login time was:

Del Kroon (EL RIAD)-Treasurer (via conference call)

Barry Spitzer (MOOLAH)-Secretary

Bill Bradford (MOOLAH)

Jim Gesell (MOOLAH)

Lee Pfeifer (SYRIA)

Bryan Hartman (RAJAH)

Bruce Rohrbach (RAJAH)

Dave Turk (RAJAH)

- Barry Spitzer, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 8:10 pm Eastern Time in the absence of President Bruce Redding.
- Jim Gesell made a motion that we approve the minutes from 5/21,2017, Board Meeting, seconded by Del Kroon. Motion carried, minutes approved.
- Del Kroon gave the Treasurer's Report: SCAI has \$10,104.06 as of 7/1/17. Interest of \$2.64. Total SCAI dues of \$480. Checks written 7/3/17: Judge 1, \$250; Judge 2, \$250; Trophy for Quartets \$103.52. Total is \$603.52. \$9501.14 balance after bills paid. One outstanding bill pending for SCAI website for \$468.00. Bills outstanding will be paid by next Board Meeting. Del moved the Treasurer's Report as reported, seconded by Bryan Hartman, motion carried.
- Committee Reports: none
- President's Report: none

Old Business

- Imperial Session Update: Rajah, Syria and Moolah all competed in Chorus and Quartet Competition.
- Current officers of SCAI will be retained for 2017-2018 year per the decision by a vote taken at the 2/21/17 Executive Board Meeting.

New Business

- SCAI purchased a new trophy for Quartet Competition moving forward. Traveling trophies for Choral and Quartet were in Daytona and presented at today's competition. Jim Gesell presented church songs to each music director before competition and all units participated in the church service on Sunday. Current Imperial Potentate, Chris Smith, told us how much he appreciated us being at the church service. Deputy Director thanked us, also. He said that this was the largest participation of Chanter singers at a church service since Indianapolis.
- We talked of setting a precedence of all the Chanter singers who compete to sing in the church service.
- SCAI was preparing to pay for two adjudicators for the chorus and quartet competition. There were to be two, but one could not make it which we were informed of one hour before the competition.
- Del Kroon said he would like to have 3 adjudicators.
- Bryan Hartman advocated that sometime the weakest judge can determine the outcome or the winner, and that may not be what we are looking for when you have 3 adjudicators.

- Del Kroon, Treasurer, agrees with Bryan Hartman that since we have the funds, we would rather pay more to qualified adjudicators and raise the standard.
- Barry sent out 20 emails to colleges and universities in Georgia, S. Carolina and Florida with only two colleges responding, Daytona State College and Stetson University. Bethune-Cookman University did respond saying they were booked for that date. We were willing to pay mileage and high adjudicator fees if someone had responded out of Daytona. The adjudicators we hired had high credentials from Disney World Music and Voice Auditions, including singers through voice competition. Both adjudicators had over 30 years experience each as professors of voice and music at their respective universities.
- Dave Turk from Rajah mentioned that adjudicators need to be adjudicators and not an accompanist. One cannot adjudicate and accompany at the same time. Barry commented after Dave's remarks that the accompanist was hired first only as an accompanist. Had the other adjudicator shown up we would not have had this unusual situation.
- Our accompanist did say she was uncomfortable being put into an adjudicator position, so therefore, she did a scoring sheet but it was not counted in the final numbers.
- Bryan Hartman mentioned the fact that Barry called him one week before the competition and that no adjudicators had been acquired.
- Bryan Hartman asked for a motion pending the by-laws regulations, to amend the by-laws, if needed, to only have 2 adjudicators for competition. Jim Gesell seconded the motion. During discussion, Del Kroon asked if we needed more than 2 adjudicators if we have more units competing, ie., Nashville and Kansas City. Lee Pfeifer mentioned it should not make a difference how many groups compete, the number of groups should not determine the number of adjudicators. Del mentioned that most boards have an uneven number of members, however, motion was seconded and carried. Jim Gesell mentioned that a third adjudicator would just add more points and not be a tie-breaker.
- Motion: If the by-laws say 3 adjudicators, we are going to amend them to 2 adjudicators. Motion carried.
- Terms of service and fees were agreed upon by SCAI and the adjudicators and fees were paid.
- It was mentioned that since there was no MC in charge of the competition, that perhaps the explanation of the unfortunate situation could have been explained to the audience beforehand.
- It was agreed by most members present that the old ways of the Chanter competition would be changed going forward to promote camaraderie and brotherhood.
- Choral conductors and music directors can share favorite and best performed music to improve repertoire of each Chanter Unit, and church conductor for that year will send list of songs to each competing unit for the church service.
- Bryan Hartman with Jim Gesell commenting we need to continue the precedence of all Chanter Units competing to sing at the church service. The choral conductor at the church service will rotate as each Chanter Unit participates.
- Motion: Bryan Hartman made a motion that all Chanter Units competing be invited to sing at the church service. Seconded by Dave Turk. After much discussion motion carried with one nay.
- Renewal of Premier Business Advantage to maintain SCAI website, motion was made by Barry Spitzer, seconded by Bill Bradford and carried. Del will send Barry a check for the annual fee.
- SCAI website is www.scaichanters.org. Pictures and comments are welcomed anytime to the website. Please use the website as communication to other Chanter Units.
- Nominations were opened for 2019 SCAI Session. Barry Spitzer nominated Bill Bradford from MOOLAH for First Vice President, Bruce Rohrbach nominated Gregory Lewis from RAJAH for Second Vice President, and Bryan Hartman nominated Lee Pfeifer from SYRIA for Third

Vice President. Nominations were closed and all agreed and voted by acclamation to accept the incoming officers.

Closing Comments

Del thanked Barry for taking charge of the meeting in Bruce's absence. Barry stated that we did not have any Board Members on the call. Question is raised who are Board Members-they are past officers of SCAI.

Bryan Hartman raised the question on how we can attract more Chanter singers to improve participation. Barry said let's use the SCAI website to reach out and use as a communication tool to other Chanter Units across the country, post pictures, include their Chanter News, Shrine Information and advertise the next year's Imperial dates and times so all can be informed. Unfortunately there seems to be no active Chanter Units south of the Missouri line, or at least no one responded from that region of the country.

Further discussion on accommodations such as host hotel, convention center and practice arrangements will be brought before individual temple's Potentate and Divan. We need to assure that the all Chanter Units competing are afforded the same consideration to be able to stay in the same hotel to promote camaraderie and allow the Chanters to perform at various places in the hotel, ie. hospitality suites, lobby, and designated singing areas.

Bruce Redding, President, was able to attend via conference call near the end of the meeting. Bruce's father-in-law was taken to the hospital in an emergency situation.

Next Quarterly Conference call is set for September 24, 2017, at 8 Eastern, 7 Central, 6 Mountain and 5 Pacific Time.

Barry, as presiding President, closed the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Barry Spitzer, SCAI Secretary