

Barbershop Harmony Society

Public Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 29, 2026

Location: St. Louis, MO / Public Board Meeting

Presiding: Kevin Keller, President

1. Call to Order and Opening Business

- The Public Board Meeting of the Barbershop Harmony Society Board of Directors was called to order with President Kevin Keller presiding.
- The meeting proceeded with reports, receipt of written materials, elections, and closing business.

2. Chief Executive Officer Report

- CEO report presented by Robert Rund.
- Upon motion duly made, the CEO report was received without objection.

3. Financial Update

- Financial update presented.
- 2025 revenue finished approximately \$423,000 ahead of budget.
- Positive operating income reported at approximately \$176,000, with operating cash flow of approximately \$242,000.
- Through Q1 2026, BHS was approximately \$61,000 ahead of plan.
- Permanent annual property-tax reduction of more than \$35,000 reported.

4. Philanthropy and Harmony Foundation Integration

- Harmony Foundation International transition to a Type 1 supporting organization under BHS noted effective January 1.
- BHS assumed responsibility for fundraising.
- Ring True campaign update received.
- New philanthropy website, give.barbershop.org, launched.
- Phase 1 of the Ring True campaign exceeded its \$250,000 goal, with approximately \$300,000 committed.

5. Marketing, Communications, and Engagement

- Marketing, communications, and engagement update received.
- Google Ad Grants program reported live for BHS as of May 13.
- Social media and YouTube audience growth reported.

6. Music and Education

- Music and Education update received.
- Priorities reported included Polecats 3, woodshedding pedagogy, tag singing education, educator resources, partnership development, and the Great Black Composer Series.
- Collaboration with the National Museum of African American Music reported.

7. Strategic Framework and Volunteer Structure

- Strategic framework update received.
- Framework work noted around three pillars: mission and music; engagement and growth; and philanthropy and financial sustainability.
- VOICE volunteer-structure initiative update received.

8. Committee and Council Reports

- District Presidents Council report received without objection.
- Governance and Bylaws Committee report received without objection.
- Leadership Development Committee report received without objection.
- Finance and Audit, CEO Evaluation, Strategic Planning, Philanthropy Committee, and first-quarter Executive Limitations reports received without objection.
- Recurring waiver related to 90 days cash on hand noted in the Executive Limitations report; all other items reported in order.

9. Formal Board Actions

- CEO report received without objection.
- District Presidents Council report received without objection.
- Governance and Bylaws Committee report received without objection.
- Leadership Development Committee report received without objection.
- Finance and Audit, CEO Evaluation, Strategic Planning, Philanthropy Committee, and first-quarter Executive Limitations reports received without objection.

- Previously tabled governance items acted upon, including rescinding consideration of eliminating the immediate past president role and rescinding the tabled issue related to DPC moderator ex officio status.
- External auditor's report and related financials received without objection.
- February Board minutes received without objection.

10. Recognition and Administrative Items

- Sue Melvin recognized as board member at large elected by special election to fill the vacancy created when Michelle Neese was retained as BHS Director of Marketing.
- Board member at large pin presented to Sue Melvin.
- Receipt of Kathy Hawkins and Noah Funderburg as Harmony Foundation International trustees for additional terms discussed; formal action deferred to a later date.

11. 2027 Officer Elections

- Election process reviewed by Terry Reynolds.
- Floor nomination of Dwayne Cooper for Executive Vice President accepted after notice requirements were determined to have been met.
- Zach Materne elected Society President-Elect.
- Dwayne Cooper elected 2027 Executive Vice President.
- Larry Bomback elected 2027 Society Treasurer by acclamation.
- Tim Myers elected 2027 Society Secretary by acclamation.

12. Board Members at Large Elections

- Elections held for two 2027–2029 board members at large.
- Ted Byers elected as 2027–2029 board member at large.
- Bari Courts elected as 2027–2029 board member at large.

13. Closing Business and Adjournment

- No additional parking-lot items requiring follow-up were identified.
- Meeting closed with “Keep the Whole World Singing,” led by Larry Bomback.
- Board members reminded of photo opportunities for the 2026 and 2027 Boards.