



HARMONY HEARTLAND, REGION 4 REGIONAL MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING SUNDAY, November 15, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Welcome and Agenda Review

Sue welcomed all to the Zoom meeting.

COVINGTON CONTEST UPDATE

Sue and Beverly meet with convention and Hotel contacts. Beverly sent a letter on 11/13 to cancel all hotel contracts for 2021 forward. Hotels did not charge any fees for 2021 cancellations but requested 25% cancellation fee for 2022. RMT went back with a no since it was further out. Willing to re-negotiate all contracts for the future if/when we can go forward. Convention Center rolled the 2020 payment, \$20,000 to 2021 and now to 2022. If we must cancel that contract, they will keep the payment. Region 4 will review other venues such as High Schools for future possibilities or just contract with the Convention Center and Members will need to secure their own hotel accommodations. This will eliminate the hotel blocks and contracts that potentially cost region money if not met. With the new normal Events Coordinators are also requesting the SAI Handbook Events section be updated to not require contracts be done for 5 year ahead.

RMT Training Week

SAI held a week of RMT training. Sue, Beverly, Kim, Marsha, and Deb all attended their Coordinator session. Here are some of the items discussed in each of their sections.

Team Coordinator - Sue reported they had discussion about several items, a few were:

- Grants for coaching being available from SAI.
- Chorus Buddy System set up – smaller choruses paired with larger choruses for weekly Meetings.
- Region 1 hosted a Saturday Morning Contest Package program. The person who put it together spent 125 hours on it...Thanks to our Jeanne for her time helping with ours.

Finance Coordinator – Beverly report on a few of their items

- Grants to Choruses to help support Zoom and other stuff – R4 could provide \$100 to our Region choruses and not hurt our budget
- AETs – Some regions did not give back any of their members
- Dues – steady for now
- 1099NEC IRS form is new and will have a Zoom meeting with Chorus treasurers to work with them so they know
- Reimbursements – Other regions provide mileage for events outside their region to region faculty not for events inside the region – will evaluate if something R4 needs to implement
- International Funded Visits – SAI has budgeted for these but not all has been used. Looking to see if regions can utilize for virtual trainings to Choruses due to COVID 19 – if so will need to submit for them.

Education Coordinator – Kim reported

- International Funded Visits – Checking to see if these can be used to pay \$50 to region faculty, which for several this is their income.
- Virtual Contest – a single Videographer for all quartets that want to compete to be consistent. Option of a couple of locations/dates to have done.
- Members are “Hold” status rather than quitting SAI – seeing more of this while things are in flux and not sure what will happen in the future.

Membership Coordinator – Marsha will gather her notes and send more comprehensive report but did share. Good ideas were tossed around including

- Some regions hold Saturday morning classes/meetings
- Monthly educational classes offered
- Small choruses across the organization are struggling

Directors Coordinator – Deb stated theirs was more in general Directors discussion and not Coordinators role. A couple of items shared were

- RMT involvement need to be proactive rather than reactive.
- “Approach” rather than “Recruit” members for joining RMT
- Regional Annual meeting – an option for one of our monthly sessions
- Song assessment is moving forward. Some members have elected to leave the organization due to this.

COORDINATOR UPDATES – Reports shared have been added to the website

Team Coordinator – RMT 2021 Elections will need to be done for the following Coordinators – Events, Marketing, Finance, Director, Secretary and Associate Members. January we will publish, February nominations will be due, March selections will be made and Announce RMT team in April. Director nominations will be sent to Chorus directors and they will select the new Director Coordinator. These terms will be for two years beginning May 2021 through April 2023. Please think about submitting your application for another term.

Finance Coordinator – Reports sent, and we are healthy currently. Need to be mindful going forward and hold the line to stay healthy. Rework on the budget will be done and shared at the next meeting. State of the Region report is being simplified by International.

Education Coordinator – Kim reviewed information for the following 3 events:

Singing Summit, January - Agenda was sent and times listed are for Central Time. Save the date information will be created by Kristie/Kim and posted on website and Facebook for members to add to their calendar. Electives will be from 12:30p – 1:30p and lead by Coordinators – if you want to host an Elective please get your information to Kim. Jennifer Paulus will be presenting her SAI History class in December as a Special event and then as an elective during Singing Summit. Any elective that was in high demand during Singing Summit will be offered again in February. Song Assessment overview might be an elective as well. Any member wanting to attend the Singing Summit will need to register to attend to get the link for the day sessions. This will be free for any R4 member. Any others wanting to attend will be charged \$10. Will share information with SAI and other regions to post on their websites/Facebook pages.

Regional Contest, April – “Walk Down Memory Lane”, working title, will be held on Saturday, Chorus Contest day. Choruses and Competing Quartets will be asked to submit their favorite performance to be shown. They can submit a contest package (2 songs or open division package) or another performance – 2 songs max. They will be shown during the program from oldest to newest ending with the 2020 International Competitors. Video submissions will need to be sent to Liz and history will need to be submitted to Kim.

Leadership Meeting, June – Hotels contracts will be cancelled. Marilyn Cox will be the guest faculty.

Kim is also checking with International to use the IFV funds to pay \$50 to region faculty to provide coaching to choruses. Choruses would not have to pay the fee. If this is possible a notice will be sent to Choruses to submit for these coaching opportunities.

Events Coordinator – Natalie will send official request to cancel the Leadership Training contract with the Hotel on Monday, 11/16. If we can hold in-person training, we will see about using Marsha’s church for the meeting and attendees will be responsible for getting their own hotel rooms. If SAI holds “virtual contest” this might need to be pushed back to July/August. Going forward Natalie will look at schools, churches, etc. to host in-person meetings/trainings to help re-coup some of the financial losses we have seen this past year.

Membership Coordinator – Marsh sent report out. First a huge Thank you to Liz for video work and all the others who made the region stuff in October during SAI week a success.

D&I Task Force is working on test groups to gather information prior to sending to the full region.

Revitalization is revised by SAI and all choruses will have to compete by 2023 and then the 3-year requirement will be reinstated.

Membership number are being updated. Request to SAI was made but those are not current. Beverly stated she has since just completing the region assessments back in May so she will pull and send to Marsha.

Director Coordinator – Deb reported she held another Zoom meeting with region directors. She also will be sending a Director Survey to see what is needed from RMT. Her full report was submitted and on the website.

Marketing Coordinator – Kristie has not had much since October. She will work with Kim to create/send out information on Singing Summit.

Communications Coordinator – Jeanne stated not much now but will work on setting up the registration for Singing Summit and post any marketing items as needed.

As a general note – as we return to “normalcy” we will need to look at membership growth.

REGION 4 CHORUS BUDDIES UPDATES –

Natalie –

- Harmony Rose is not doing well. Treasurer quit SAI; other members are leaving as well. They may not make it. On the at-risk list
- Harmony Hills – doing good
- Diamond Jubilee – not able to meet, were doing 10person meetings, now due to COVID19 cases increasing

Beverly – Not had time to contact her Choruses

- Almost Heaven – will reach out to them this week – in revitalization and on the at-risk list.

Marsha –

- SVC is doing OK
- Ohio Heartland – not much Zoom participation, struggling. On the at-risk list
- Spirit of Evansville – hanging in. On the at-risk list

Deb –

- TuneTown – ok
- Unbridled Harmony – not heard from them, most members are over 70 years of age. On the at-risk list
- Friendship VII – no response to Deb/Marsha emails in response to their questions. They are on the at-risk list

Kristie –

- One Voice – need to reach out to them
- Pride of Kentucky – need to reach out to them
- Metro Nashville – doing good

Kim –

- Cincinnati Sound – doing great and they love their new director
- K-Town Sound – not heard back from them yet
- Capital City – not heard back from them yet

Jeanne – will reach out to her choruses this week

Choruses that are currently on the “At Risk” list are:

Almost Heaven
Friendship VII
Harmony Roses
Ohio Heartland
Spirit of Evansville
Unbridled Harmony.

Deb will reach out to the 6 chorus directors on the at-risk list and see what they have planned. She will see what nights they rehearse and pair them up with a larger chorus for support as well.

Marsha will reach out to Betty Belcher at Unbridled Harmony to see if she can get any response.

REGIONAL CALENDAR 2020/2021

January 2021 Singing Summit - Will be a Virtual event. Working on details now.

April 2021 Regional Contest, Covington Ky - Virtual Event. Details to be shared.

June 2021 Leadership Training - Virtual Event currently with Marilyn Cox as guest faculty.

OLD BUSINESS/REMINDERS

Website/Emails – If you are sending out anything via the RMT email or responding please make sure you are including your name so all will know who it is coming from.

Next Meeting

Zoom meeting – TBD

Accountability: Sue Pelley (TC)