

## Minutes of the Federation Meeting July 27, 2011 at Stockton Folk Dance Camp

### In attendance:

Lucy Chang (President)	Louise Lidicker (Board member)
Denise Heenan (Vice President)	Bill Lidicker (Board member)
Loui Tucker (Secretary)	Cricket Rayburn (Board member)
Gary Anderson (Board member)	Judy Robinson (Board member)
Adony Beniares (Board member)	Ellie Wiener (Board member)
Becky Beniares (Board member)	Richard Graham
Susan Gregory (Board member)	

The meeting was called to order at 2:50 PM. A quorum was present. There was a suspension of the Rules, followed by the approval of the Minutes of the April 30, 2011 meeting and approval of the Minutes of the June 4, 2011 meeting.

The primary reason for this meeting is to make important decisions regarding the Officers Ball.

1. Date. We have a date, November 12, 2011.
2. Location. We have a dance hall in Livermore, the Veterans Memorial Hall. The Livermore Veterans Hall is tentatively rented from noon to 11:00 PM at a cost of \$1,034, plus another possible \$120 to have a guard (per Hall rules) for a total of \$1,154. Lucy Chang, Cricket Rayburn, Gary Anderson and Loui Tucker will be doing a scouting expedition on August 12. They will take photos, get a feel for the hall, the parking, the surrounding environment, ease of access, etc. A deposit on the hall will be made at that time.

3. Institute. The theme for the afternoon workshop/institute is "classic" dances. One suggestion was to have a dance from each decade and present the dances chronologically. Another option would be to select a four or five countries or ethnic groups and teach dances representing those groups. Teaching would not be a complete "from scratch" teaching but more of a review since most dancers attending will have done these dances at one time in the past and only need a refresher to get them back in their feet again.

The plan for the entire event is to teach, dance for a while, teach again, dance again, repeat until time for dinner, eat, then party, party, party until 11:00 PM.

4. Possible names for the event. Several names were tossed around, including "A Revival Meeting! Amen! Hallelujah!" and "Nostalgia Festival" and "Everything Old is New Again." The name that was settled on was "Dancing Down Memory Lane."

5. Save the Date Flier. Susan Gregory will do a "Save the Date" flier as soon as possible. Loui Tucker will help her on the details, what to include and Susan will do the design so that something is ready to give to Gary Anderson by his deadline for *Let's Dance!* Loui Tucker will also post information on the Federation website. Eventually we would want to advertise what is being taught to help people decide if/when to attend. Susan will also work on something similar to the slide show used for the New Dancers Festival to display the names of the dances being taught during the institute.

6. Selecting Dances And Teachers. Judy Robinson is Institutes Chair and should be responsible for the Institute. Board members were encouraged to give Judy the names of dances as well as potential teachers. There probably is not enough time to ask for input using *Let's Dance!* and soliciting suggestions of dances to teach from readers. Perhaps by emailing dance group leaders we could get their input.

7. On-Site Dinner. It was agreed that last year's President's Ball dinner was too expensive, so a caterer could not be considered. Can we provide something that can be made or purchased inexpensively such as lasagna, along with a green salad and dessert? We would need to charge people for the on-site dinner, but we could offer it as part of the full-day package. We

might need to investigate restaurants in the area around the Veterans Hall to be aware of our competition before setting the price. Ellie Wiener, who has experience buying food for Hole-in-the-Wall at Stockton, will come up with menu ideas, investigate costs, and report on what she learns.

8. Paying Teachers. Would we pay teachers and, if so, how much? Would they be willing to teach for free? Can we make paying teachers contingent on breaking even financially?

9. Pricing. We should have a full-day price as well as per-event pricing, and give a small discount for paying in advance using the website. We should include a statement on all advertisement that if you have financial issues or can only attend part of the day, contact So-and-So.

10. Evening Dance Program. There was a discussion about having a pre-printed program vs. requests at the evening party. There were also questions about whether the party would be restricted to classic older dances or whether newer dances would be part of the mix. It was agreed that there would be no re-teaching during in the evening, but the institute dances would be played again. There was also an idea presented that the evening party should start with easy-to-moderate classic dances.

11. Creating a Timeline. We need to establish a timeline for getting things done, what happens when, when to choose dances, when to choose teachers. We need to have this event 90% locked down by the Fiesta de Sonoma on October 2 so that the final decisions can be made at that time.

12. Sound Equipment, etc. Do we need Andy Kacsmar to bring his sound equipment? It was decided we would take some sound equipment to the hall on the August 12 "scouting trip" and assess the need for Andy's equipment which might be over-kill if we're not using live musicians, multiple microphones, etc. We should also ask if the hall provides any sound equipment.

13. Programming Ideas. Following some discussion, Loui agreed to MC the afternoon teaching session, and Adony agreed to MC the dinner music program. Denise and Lucy will be co-MCs for the evening celebration.

14. Decorations, Set up, Clean up. Becky Beniares and Ann Kleiman will be in charge of decoration. Decorations could include old records and an old Califone record player, old party programs, old *Let's Dance!* magazines, and some of Bea Mitchell's historical posters. We will need to find out how early we can get into the hall prior to the beginning of the event so decorating can be done. We must be out by 11:00 PM, so the evening dance program needs to end by about 10:30 PM at the latest. Some 'take-down' can be happening during the last half-hour of dancing.

15. Music and Dance Notations. Do we want to have a CD for sale along with dance notations? If these are 'classic' dances, won't everyone have the music and the dance notations? We can make CDs of a cleaned-up copy of the music and copy dance notations in advance and have them available for a donation. We can also post the dance notations and music on the Federation web site and interested dancers can download them. CDs cost very little and the printing is virtually free.

16. Pre-Registration and On-Site Registration. Sabine Zappe, as Federation Treasurer, will be in charge of pre-registration and registration the day of the event.

17. Promotional Item. Should we consider having some sort of Federation goodie to hand out, such as a water bottle with the Federation logo or something relating to this event?

18. Hospitality Info. Do we want to provide a list of hotels and restaurants for out-of-towners, as well as a list of other things to do in the area such as wineries, so that dancers can consider staying overnight? These details can be posted on the website, included in an article in *Let's Dance!* or sent to yahoo group subscribers.

19. Insurance. Ken Kaye, as Insurance Chair, will take care of getting a Certificate of Insurance for the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.