

# MINUTES OF FOLK DANCE FEDERATION BOARD MEETING and GENERAL ASSEMBLY

April 22, 2012

New Dancers Festival/Blossom Festival in San Francisco

## Board members:

Lucy Chang, President  
Denise Heenan, Vice President  
Loui Tucker, Secretary  
Sabine Zappe, Treasurer  
Gary Anderson, *Let's Dance!*  
Adony Beniares, Archives  
Becky Beniares, Archives  
Laura Douglass, Finance  
Ken Kaye, Insurance  
Bill Lidicker, Parliamentarian  
Ken McGreevy, Nominations  
Marion Rose, Membership  
Luiselle Yakas, Institutes

## Members and Visitors:

Craig Blackstone  
Joe Croco  
Richard Graham  
Nancy Kaye  
Louise Lidicker  
Muriel Mahrer  
Mel Mann  
Hollis Radin

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Minutes. The minutes of the March 10, 2012 meeting in Sacramento were read by Loui Tucker. The minutes were approved as read.

Election of Officers. Ken McGreevy read the list of candidates and called for nominations from the floor. There being no additional nominations made, the elections were held and each candidate was elected to her respective office: (1) Lucy Chang, President; (2) Hollis Radin, Vice President; (3) Loui Tucker, Secretary; (4) Sabine Zappe, Treasurer.

There were some brief comments by President Lucy Chang regarding the success of the New Dancer Festivals. There were five New Dancer Festivals and they all brought new dancers to various clubs, hence they were successful. The Officers Ball was also a success and brought positive attention to the Federation. *Let's Dance!* magazine continues to earn bragging rights for the Federation. The Board approved another round of New Dancer Festivals (Sunnyvale, Berkeley, North Bay, and Livermore are currently on calendar) as well as another Officers Ball in November.

Luiselle Yakas welcomed the Federation members to that day's New Dancers Festival and the Blossom Festival that will immediately follow.

Mel Mann commented on the "rejuvenation of the Federation" and how nice it has been to see the renewed interest and excitement. Lucy Chang encouraged all to continue to visit other dance clubs, attend dance events, and generally support dance activities.

Membership Report. Marion Rose presented the Membership Report (see attached). Laura Douglass made a motion to approve the new members as presented. Becky Beniares seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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Treasurer's Report. Sabine presented the Treasurer's Report, which was accurate through April 19. Income is high because Statewide Festival fees are coming in, but that will be spent on the event. She also explained a \$4000 transfer that was made in October and that \$2000 was replaced during January and another \$2000 will be replaced this week.

She also reported that she reviewed the archived records of the Federation Treasurer and compiled a list of funds that were donated over the past 15 years specifically earmarked to be spent on scholarships. She also compiled a list of all scholarships given during that same time period. Based on that accounting, the Federation does not currently have any funds allocated or designated specifically for scholarships.

Statewide Committee. Sabine reported on behalf of the Statewide Committee that 60 people have signed up to date. The Committee is currently working on the final details such as who will provide transportation, who will provide home stays, who will provide what food, etc. The Committee is confident that there are enough people to handle all the assignments and that Statewide will be a success.

Insurance. Ken Kaye reported on the progress of getting Federation clubs insured for the coming year. Letters were sent requesting clubs provide the number of members. The distribution is slightly different from last year because some clubs lost members but other gained members. After reporting the total to the insurance carriers, the insurance premiums actually went down. There are funds currently in the insurance account (because the refund was higher than expected last year when the old policy was cancelled) and those funds, plus the fees the groups will be charged will be enough to cover the insurance premiums for the coming year.

Ken does not see a need for more committee members. He is still getting compliments and thank you's for the reduced paperwork.

Budget for 2012-2013. Laura Douglass presented the budget for 2012-2013. The budget was prepared using the income, expense and justification provided by Board members. The budget was similar to last year's but it included a few new items and income for each committee. Discussion of the budget was held and included the following specifics:

- A \$700 allocation is acceptable to the Archives Committee. If necessary, monetary donations can be solicited to help cover the costs of maintaining the Federation Archives.
- A \$500 allocation for the Communication Committee will be enough, instead of the \$660.
- Lucy commented that she wants to expand the use of the Institutes Committee, so the allocation for the Institutes Committee is "very soft."
- Anticipated donations were increased from \$100 to \$500.
- Officers Ball approved for \$2000.
- Six New Dancers Festivals for \$1500. The Board may request funds from the Promotion Committee if needed.

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A motion to approve the budget as amended was made by Ken Kaye, and seconded by Becky Beniares. The motion passed.

Scholarship Committee. Connie Hull was not present. The SOP for this committee was discussed at the prior Federation Board meeting at the Camellia Festival and the changes as requested were made. Ken Kaye made a motion to approve the SOP for the Scholarship Committee; Marion Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Promotion Committee. Dan Unger was not present. Lucy wants to delay discussing this SOP. The SOP needs to include language that the Federation Board must be made aware of what the Promotion Committee is doing. The Promotion Committee is to manage the Promotion Fund while taking into account the overall focus and policies of the Federation Board. Bill Lidicker pointed out that all the committees are a product of the Board and they should be beholden to the Board.

Institutes Committee and Nominating Committee. The SOP for each of these two committees also needs to be addressed. Lucy believes the Nominating Committee should be in existence year-round and its members working on developing Federation leadership instead of focusing only on the immediate need for officers for the spring elections. The Institute Committee's current SOP is lengthy and has a lot of discrepancies, vagueness and inconsistencies.

Officers Ball. Lucy has reserved the same hall, Livermore Veterans Memorial, used for last year's Officers Ball for November 3. We are again calling it the Officers Ball, but it really involves and highlights the entire Federation Board. Last year the dancers provided rave reviews so the Ball was deemed a success. Each Board member generously contributed his/her expertise and worked together collaboratively. For this year's Ball to be just as successful, the Board members are asked to once again be involved on some level, from teaching and programming, to decorations, advertising and dinner/snacks.

Denise and Hollis volunteered to get the groundwork done. They asked the people who contributed last year if they would to do the same thing again this year. Lucy only wanted three things last year: teaching of old dances, a dinner on-site, and an all-requests dance party. There was a discussion about how this year's event will be different, if at all.

Adony Beniares suggested that the Board decide on a theme and provide The Big Picture, and then the various committees (Decorations, Workshop, Food, etc.) can take care of the details.

Hollis Radin suggested focusing on the idea that this is a "Ball." We have club parties, council parties, festivals, and workshops. What makes a Ball a Ball? Is it fancier? Are the decorations more spectacular? Is the food better? Could fund-raising (such as a silent auction) be included?

Lucy commented that she wants it to be easy to put on and as seamless as possible. The foundation was laid last year, so we do not need to recreate the wheel. Lucy reminded all that the approved budget is \$2000 and the goal is to at least break even.

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Bill and Louise Lidicker explained the historical use of the word “Ball” and the change from Treasurer’s Ball to Officers’ Ball, back to Treasurer’s Ball, and the President’s Ball. The name has been tweaked many times over the years since the 1960s.

There was a discussion of the initial proposal of a “Medleys and Mixers and More” theme with a Mediterranean-themed dinner. It was pointed out that “mixers” may discourage single women from attending. Other names that were tossed around were: “Celebrate the Classics.” “Hooked on Classics.” “A Few of Our Favorite Things.” After further discussion, “Hooked on Classics” (thanks to Sabine) was chosen as the theme.

The next stage will be to send out announcements to the Federation yahoo group and to get something into *Let’s Dance!* magazine to ask people to save the date.

Funding for a new event: Gary Anderson presented his request for funding for an event on September 23 called “Fun in Marin” to be sponsored by the Advanced Balkan Club. He wants to be able to say it is also sponsored by the Federation. This event will concentrate on Balkan dances and Gary would ultimately like to do a similar event every year. This year it would just be an afternoon workshop, but he hopes to expand to full day next year.

A motion made was made by Marion Rose to have the Federation co-sponsor the event. Ken McGreevy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next Federation Board meeting will be at Stockton Folk Dance Camp, on the Wednesday of the first week.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 PM.