

Minutes of the Folk Dance Federation of California (North) Board Meeting
Saturday, September 19, 2015
at First United Methodist Church, Palo Alto, California

In attendance:

Kevin Greek (President)
Cynthia Lambert (Vice President)
Clem Dickey (Secretary)
Loui Tucker (Treasurer)

Board members (in alphabetical order)

Lucy Chang (Institutes)
Joe Croco (Archives)
Laura Douglass (Finance)
Susan Gregory (Communications (acting), Publicity)
Memo Keswick (Past President)
Bill Lidicker (Parliamentarian)

Federation members

Vic Vickland

President Kevin Greek called the meeting to order at 4:09 pm. A quorum was present.

- Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting, held on July 26, 2015, were provided in advance. They included corrections submitted from various Board members before the meeting. The Minutes were not read. Board members received copies to review on August 31, five days prior to the meeting, which provided sufficient time to review them.

A motion was made by Memo and seconded by Joe to approve the minutes. The motion passed on a voice vote.

- Officers' Ball

Loui reported that the hall has been paid for. A dinner menu is set, and a caterer and dinner entertainment arranged. Planned events include a 50/50 drawing, the debut of a new folk dance T-shirt, and a folk dance (and Federation) history contest. Photography has been arranged with Mike Giusto, with Eliot Khuner as a backup. We may have a photo booth. Registration forms are available on the Federation web site; 18 people have registered to date. Lucy reported that we have teachers for six dances (four individual teachers and two couples). The lineup of teachers and dances should be available September 20. Kevin has sent out some ads online, and ads will appear in the printed Dance Week issue next week.

- New T-shirt design

Loui hopes to have T-shirts available for Officer's Ball reading "I am a Folk Dancer. That's My Superpower". We will offer a variety of sizes, but the design will be text-only to keep the printing to one color. A "finer weave, lighter weight synthetic" fabric is a possibility, but the silk screen process may constrain the fabric choice. The "Varsity" T-shirts were a run of 50; they sold out in about one year. We may order 70 of the new design. Kevin suggested printing water bottles as well. The consensus was that a spring event, possibly Statewide, would be a better time to offer water bottles.

- Arranging multi-club tours for teachers or musicians

Memo suggested that the Federation participate in arranging multi-club tours of teachers or musicians. The intent is to coordinate the dates and split the costs - including air fare - among the participating Federation clubs. Lucy said that she would develop a proposal after the Officers' Ball and the Heritage Festival. It is important to include all clubs who wish to participate. There is no budget item yet. Bill and Laura noted that the coordination is similar to Dancers on Call; Lucy noted that facilitation and recruitment are two separate functions, and that recruitment is the more difficult. Lucy and Bill noted that the Institutes Committee may need more people and more continuity to provide this function.

- President's Report (Kevin)

Ken Kaye is willing to continue handling our insurance work, but has expressed a wish not to attend Board meetings. Kevin will discuss this with Ken.

- Treasurer's Report (Loui) - written report included

Loui suggested placing another plug for Amazon Smile in *Let's Dance!* A Paypal report was included in the written package. We charge a fixed amount to pay through PayPal, while PayPal charges us a flat fee plus a percentage of the transaction amount. So we lose some money on large payments. The treasury remains in good shape. The History/Trivia contest prize at the Officer's Ball will be a \$100 scholarship.

- Vice President's Report (Cynthia)

The Sacramento Council has a new web site, folkdancesac.org. Loui suggested mentioning the web site in *Lets Dance!*

Cynthia brought flyers for the Camellia Festival. The upcoming festival (2016) will be run the same as last year's. (In the past, the Festival had been held rent-free at Sacramento State University and was free to university students. 2012 was the last rent-free year due to a paucity of student participation.) Camellia Festival is a week later than usual due to space availability.

Sacramento is still considering a New Dancers Festival.

- Past President's Report (Memo)

Memo is trying to bring (to Chico) two Salsa Rueda teachers, Ryan and Sydney from San Francisco. He is not sure there is enough community support. Loui suggested providing food at the event.

Video challenges: Susan and Claude Akana are working on Gras Kalo Kolo (for Memo). Adony Benaires is doing Shoror. The folkdance.com web site has a complete table of video challenges.

- Institutes (Lucy) – written report included
- Scholarship (Gary Anderson/absent) – no report
- Editor (Gary Anderson/absent) – no report
- Promotions (Marija Hillis/absent) – no report
- Statewide 2016 (Bill, for Marija Hillis and Berkeley Folk Dancers)

The committee met September 1, and settled on a teaching schedule and teachers' fees. The planned schedule allocation is:

- Friday night: introduction
- Saturday: 1 1/2 hours per teacher morning and afternoon, with 15 minute breaks
- Sunday: 1 1/4 hours per teacher in the morning, and special events in the afternoon

The teachers are Eric Bendix and Maurits Van Geel. Maurits will teach Dutch, Roma, Armenian, and Caucasian dances. Outside the meeting, Bill had suggested the idea of a "culture corner" to the teachers. The time slot for the culture corner, if any, is not determined.

The Past President's reception, to be run by Memo, may be held at the Lidicker's house. The Installation Brunch is planned for Sunday as usual, but it has not been organized yet.

The band *Chubritza* is booked for Friday and Saturday evenings. Live music is limited to one band, as there is little sound insulation between rooms. The committee needs to work with *Chubritza* to arrange a sound system.

The budget anticipates a revenue-neutral event. It is currently \$10,116, in line with 2008, 2010, 2012, and 2014. We hope for a \$100 package fee; Redding (2014) was \$120. Teachers fees are \$600, plus travel, lodging, and meals. The band fee is \$200 plus transportation; they will arrange their own lodging.

Hotels are frustrating. La Quinta quoted a price of \$157 per day, but is hard to contact. Berkeley Marina is too expensive.

Loui noted that previous Statewide conventions have offered a t-shirt or a tote bag.

Bill solicited suggestions for the Sunday afternoon program. Past statewide conventions have had a concert, but the facilities are not amenable. Redding had contra calling. Joe suggested checking the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival list. Loui suggested *Esterlantz* (Hungarian).

Eric Bendix will be in the Bay Area at the end of September, and will meet with BFD teachers on Wednesday, September 30. But most of the Statewide Committee members are unavailable that day.

- Research Committee (Cricket) – no report
- Parliamentarian & By-Laws Report (Bill)

The by-laws specify a Publicity Committee; the agenda refers instead to Publications Committee. Susan, as chair of Publicity and acting chair of Communications, noted that she sees her role as advertising. Kevin will put role of those two Committees on the agenda for next meeting.

- Communications and Publicity Committees (Susan) – no report
- Finance Committee (Laura) – no report
- Nominating Committee (Craig Blackstone/absent) – no report
- Insurance (Ken Kaye/absent) – written report included
- Finance Committee (Laura Douglass) – no report
- Archives Committee (Joe Croco)

Both Joe and Laura will retire in October, and expect to have more time available then. Joe and Laura purchased some items from the Federation and donated them to a Ti Ti Tabor fundraiser. Joe and Laura will donate a matching amount to the Federation. Loui has issues [of *Lets Dance!*] waiting to be digitized.

- Secretary (Clem) - no report
- Membership (Alicia LaFetra/absent) – written report included

A motion was made by Joe and seconded by Laura to approve the report. The motion passed on a voice vote.

- Next BOD meeting

Loui advised that we can have email meeting, or one in conjunction with a December party, or in conjunction with Heritage Festival or Festival of the Oaks, as well as the April general membership meeting. It is easier on our more northerly members, Cynthia and Memo, if we schedule a meeting in conjunction with an East Bay, e.g. Berkeley, event. The Lidicker's house is a free East Bay venue. Kevin will poll the Board by email.

- Adjournment

Memo made a motion to adjourn, which Joe seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.