

Minutes of the Folk Dance Federation of California (North)
Board Meeting
Saturday, December 9, 2017
at First Baptist Church of Palo Alto, Palo Alto, California

In attendance:

Joe Croco (President)
Laura Douglass (Treasurer)
Clem Dickey (Secretary)

Board members

Craig Blackstone (Nominations)
Lucy Chang (Finance)
Kevin Greek (Past President)
Susan Gregory (Communications)
Lon Radin (Institutes)
Cricket Raybern (Research)
Loui Tucker (Editor)
Sabine Zappe (Scholarships)

President Joe Croco called the meeting to order at 3:09 pm. A quorum was present.

- Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of the two previous meetings, held on July 23, 2017 and October 14, 2017, were provided in advance. Cricket made, and Craig seconded, a motion to approve the July 23 minutes. The motion passed unanimously. Cricket made, and Craig seconded, a motion to approve the October 14 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

- Online/publishing survey

Marian Snyder has not yet developed a survey. Laura suggested adding a membership category indicating support for a paper version of *Let's Dance!* at an additional \$5 per year. Clem noted that a \$5 increase, even if chosen by all members, would cover only about half the \$4000 deficit. Susan asked about optional electronic publishing; Loui replied that any decrease in paper copy count would put our bulk mailing ability at risk. Cricket asked how the FDFC South manages. Clem and Loui replied that the South's magazine has no color and a smaller format. Clem also noted that an additional membership line item would require changes to both the web and paper versions of the membership renewal form. Loui replied that the current paper membership forms could be amended with a stamp.

Laura moved to add a \$10 line contribution item to membership renewals in support of paper distribution of *Let's Dance!* The motion died for lack of a second; the consensus was that the action would be premature.

- 2017 Officers Ball

Laura has provided the Board with a preliminary report, but there is no final report yet. Unofficially, the Ball did make money. Loui noted that we need to add T-shirt and tote bag sales to the report. The sale of dolls will be credited to the Archives account. Joe will write a letter to Karen Bartholomew thanking her for the donation of her raffle winnings.

- President (Joe)

Joe called Gary Anderson to ascertain whether he was agreeable to relinquishing his position as chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. Gary was, and Joe has appointed Sabine to chair the committee.

- Treasurer (Laura, written report included)

Expenses exceeded income in 2017 partially due to planned advertising spending from the Kaumeyer Fund. Expenses for *Let's Dance!* have been reduced as Loui is currently foregoing her editorial fee.

- Secretary (Clem)

Clem received an email from Keep and Share notifying him that our account was about to expire. Loui said that the account had been used to manage our event calendar, which we have moved to Google. Clem will forward the email to Loui.

- Past President (Kevin)

Bruce Mitchell has arranged a location for the Past Presidents reception at Statewide 2018. He will reserve a room at the Scottish Rite Temple from 5:00 to 6:00 pm Saturday.

- Archives (Kevin, acting)

The archives has a couple of broken clothes racks; Kevin may try to fix them. Loui reported that Christa Werling will get in touch with Kevin to determine if she has any items to donate which we do not already have in the archive. Loui reported that items donated from the Marcel Vinokur estate include four volumes of *Folk Dances from Near and Far* from 1944-47 which predate the bound volumes. These descriptions were blow-ins to *Let's Dance!*, and not generally preserved in archived copies of *Let's Dance!* A report will appear in the January *Let's Dance!*

- Webmanager (Kevin)

Kevin has added *Let's Dance!* issues up to 2007 to the web site.

- Membership (Alicia LaFetra, absent, written report included)

Clem noted that reports from the July and October meeting need to be approved, in addition to the December report. There is no record of approval in the July minutes, and there was no quorum to approve reports in October. Clem moved to approve the July report. The motion died for lack of a second. Loui, who has all three reports, will email all three to the Board, and about one week later Joe will call for an email vote to approve the reports.

Laura noted that some couples have only one person of the two as a Federation member. Loui suggested that the President's column in *Let's Dance!* would be an appropriate place to suggest that they join as Family members.

- Editor (Loui)

The January issue has been sent to the proofreaders, and will likely go to the mailing house on Friday. Recent issues have been delayed in the mail. Some ZIP codes are bundled to a single receiving Post Office, and should be unbundled and forwarded by that Post Office within three days. But the delay for the November issues unbundled in San Francisco was about two weeks. Loui has talked to a San Jose bulk mail supervisor about the trouble in San Francisco. Cricket noted that, in her experience on Oregon political campaigns, adding "Time-sensitive material" to the mailing label area was recommended for prompt delivery.

Laura asked if there had been any complaints about the removal of the "places to dance" section. Loui said that there had been one request to run the section once per year, but that doing so would not allow timely updates as does the web site.

- Finance (Lucy, written budget proposal included)

The written budget proposal included 2017 and 2016 budget items for comparison. The 2018 budget proposal has a deficit of about \$6300; we need to add a line item to transfer funds from General Funds (savings) to the

balance the budget. The Sacramento Statewide 2018 Committee did not provide input for its line item in the budget. Loui noted that the Statewide Committee plans to use their own funds for up-front costs, as Berkeley did in 2016. But Lucy has received no communication from the Statewide Committee. Joe will contact Bruce Mitchell to verify the Statewide Committee's intentions.

Laura made, and Craig seconded, a motion to approve the budget, adding \$16,000 in income and \$13,000 in expenses for Statewide 2018. The additions were the averages of the Statewide 2014 and 2016 reported Income and Expense items, respectively. The motion passed unanimously.

- Scholarships (Sabine)

Sabine emailed the current members of the Scholarship Committee to determine whether they wanted to continue on the Committee. She received affirmative responses from Gary Anderson and Lucy Chang, and no response from Connie Hull and Bill Lidicker.

Loui noted that Sacramento raises scholarship funds through a Scholarship Ball, including an online auction to establish the dance program. We might consider that too, perhaps in conjunction with Moveable Feet.

- Research (Cricket)

Cricket reported that she has received good support from Committee members this year in regard to the preparation of dance notes. Cricket asked the Board members for leads to add one or more members to the Research Committee, particularly for compiling dance notes from Stockton Folk Dance Camp and other camps.

- Insurance (Ken Kaye, absent, written report included)

Loui reported that Ken looked into a rider for events which serve alcohol. A rider is available, the cost determined by time, type of alcohol, etc. One group obtained the rider at a cost of \$180.

- Publications/Communications (Susan)

Loui is looking for more ideas for Susan's "how I got into folk dance" series. Loui said that she is not sure if Bruce Mitchell plans to use Susan for Statewide 2018 publications.

- Nominations (Craig)

All current officers have agreed to serve another term.

- Heritage Festival

Lon brought flyers for Heritage Festival. They are looking for volunteers to help on Saturday. We may also need housing for the Willits dancers (Jordan Uggla, Megan Wolf, a parent, and five or six children). Friday night will be "club night," with clubs invited to present their dances. Some clubs have been contacted, but other clubs which might logically present dances (Saratoga, Changs) have not.

- New Business

Laura has not had time to work on the book publishing project and is willing to cede leadership. Kevin is also short of time. The publisher has not contacted us recently. Kevin will check with the publisher on their expectations.

Loui noted that we had considered having the Institute Committee organize a tour for a teacher. Loui arranged one for Roberto Bagnoli, and Ellie Weiner arranged one for Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu. Loui suggested that we brainstorm for teachers at the next meeting. March or April might be a good time for a tour.

- Next BOD meeting

The next meeting will be Saturday, January 20 in conjunction with the Heritage Festival; the location is to be determined. Laura knows of a cafe in a Victorian house which may be suitable; she will check on it.

- Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 pm.