

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
ASSEMBLY NON-MEETING MINUTES
Oakland, CA
February 15, 2005

President Laila Messer was absent. Vick Vickland called the meeting to order at 12:28 p.m. Mel Mann welcomed the Board to the Festival of the Oaks. A quorum was not present. Attendance: Acting President E.C. "Vick" Vickland, Acting Secretary Barry Moore, Let's Dance! editor Gary Anderson, Naomi Lidicker, Thad Trela, Esther & Mel Mann, Joel Bruxvoort, Edith Cuthbert, Catherine "Cat" Freemire and Ann Brown.

ELECTED OFFICER REPORTS

President Laila was absent.

Secretary Vick Vickland summarized the minutes of the January 23, 2005, Executive Board meeting and the "What's Happening" article due in the March issue of Let's Dance! The officers proposed by the Nominating Committee for the 2005-06 year were reported: President, E. C. "Vick" Vickland; Vice-president, Marion Earl; Treasurer, Louise Lidicker. Nobody has offered to accept the Secretary position. A member questioned whether the job could be handled with a different secretary for the meetings in their area. It was pointed out that taking notes is just the tip of the iceberg. The minutes have to be typed, distributed by e-mail or snail, submitted at the next meeting, and have to be summarized for the "What's Happening" article.

Joel Bruxvoort said that the report of his resigning as Publications chair, created a wrong impression. He will continue as chair for the remaining quarter, and plans to stay involved with the committee. However, there is more than 2 persons can handle, and more committee members are needed. It was suggested that he write a short article, listing the jobs that may be needed, and urging additional members to join them in their projects. They are in the process of making dance descriptions available on the net. They need a good typist to retype descriptions, someone with good computer and e-mail skills. There is also a problem with storage of the materials.

Vick reported that he will be chairing a "Brainstorming Committee" to sort through ideas about the Federation, and make recommendations to the Board. This would be an e-mail committee, with few if any face-to-face meetings. He reported the success of a similar committee (albeit face-to-face) with the Sacramento Council, which came up with some excellent ideas that were carried out.

APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS

Let's Dance editor Gary Anderson reported that he has been making copies of current Let's Dance! available free, and that 16-20 new members have joined. They were not asked if the free copy was instrumental in their decision.

ROTATING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Statewide 2005: They were hoping to reestablish folk dancing in the Palm Springs area. The Saturday afternoon's program will be focused on beginners, with France Moreau teaching a beginners' workshop. They have not been successful in reaching out to local schoolteachers. Transportation to the event from Northern California was discussed.

Vick offered to coordinate a car-pool program for those who want to drive. Ann Brown offered to look into group flights, and find out if direct flights are available. We could dance in the aisles on the trip. Some will rent cars from L.A and take the 2-hour drive to Palm Springs.

Statewide 2006: The committee is hoping to find a venue in San Jose, close to downtown. Planning is apparently going well.

Folk Dancing in Schools. Laila has been working on this issue. New members and teachers, Catherine "Cat" Freemire (coachcat@jps.net) and Ann Brown (aewbrown@comcast.net) reported on their activities with families and children. Cat is teaching to schoolchildren in Walnut Creek. Ann has been offering "family dance" in Sonoma. She reported the double benefits, getting children involved, and solving a babysitting issue. She hopes to offer it in different geographical locations. She wonders how the Federation can support her program. Insurance and publicity ideas were offered, including listing her programs on our website. Barry mentioned that Bonnie Battaglia of the Sierra Foothills area has had success with home-schooled children. The parents are enthusiastic about it. Ann & Cat were urged to write an article for Let's Dance! regarding their programs. Vick mentioned that he is planning a project contacting ethnic groups whose children put on dance performances, and plan a youth festival in the Sacramento area.

NEW BUSINESS

Naomi Lidicker reported that she has an answering machine and a fax machine that belong to the Federation, and is wondering what to do with them. Several suggestions were made, including donating to a thrift store, or selling them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laila has appointed Vick Vickland to chair a "Brainstorming Committee," to bring forth new ideas to the Board. This will be primarily an "e-mail committee," with few if any face-to-face meetings. Interested members will be invited to contact him.

COMING EVENTS:

March 5, 2005	"One Magical Moment," Elk Grove
March 5 & 6, 2005	Camellia International Dance Festival, Sacramento
April 2, 2005	Balkan Plus Folk Dance Party, San Rafael

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,