

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES
Festival de Sonoma
September 10, 2006

President Vick Vickland called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m. David Thompson of Napa Valley/Petaluma Folk dancers welcomed the Assembly. A quorum was present. Attendance: President E.C. "Vick" Vickland, Secretary Jan Stephens, Treasurer Louise Lidicker, Parliamentarian and Bylaws Committee chairperson Bill Lidicker, Napa Valley Dancers Representative David Thompson, Insurance Chair Elsa Bacher, Editor of Let's Dance Magazine Gary Anderson, Member of Sacramento Council Toba Goddard, Membership Committee Chair Sidney Messer, Past President Laila Messner, Past Treasurer Page Masson.

"The Assembly meeting was preceded by a brief meeting of the Executive Board at which two important matters were considered. 1) The nomination of Jan Stephens for the unfilled position of Secretary was passed on to the Assembly for consideration. 2) A motion from the Bylaws Committee to move the proposed new bylaws to the Assembly for consideration was passed unanimously."

The amendments to minutes at the Camelia festival, 3-5-06, were accepted without objection. Acceptance of minutes from 4/23/06 Blossom Festival postponed until next time, final revised version needed.

2nd item of business: nomination of Jan Stephens as Secretary accepted, vote unanimous.

ELECTED OFFICER REPORTS

President: President's report submitted by "Vick" Vickland. President expressed concern about lack of various people in various positions. Suggestion: Help wanted ad in Let's Dance! Motion made and passed.

Secretary: Past secretary absent. New appointment, Jan Stephens.

Treasurer: Treasurer's report submitted by Louise Lidicker. She raised the possibility of cashing in part of a maturing CD to pay for operating expenses. Membership income not equal to outlay for Let's Dance! magazine. Realize that the month after the Statewide Festival will always show a loss because of incoming festival expenses in July. This initiated some discussion about possibly changing our fiscal year to begin on July 1 (or even Jan.1), but it was decided to not pursue this possibility at this time. Louise Lidicker appreciated for excellent job. Treasurer's report accepted. Report attached.

Parliamentarian: Bylaws Comm.: Chairman Bill Lidicker moved that the draft of the proposed new bylaws that were distributed to the Executive Board members by e-mail on July 4 along with the committee's annual report be approved in principle, and if passed to become effective January 1, 2007. The "in principle" provision was simply to allow for minor editorial changes. Bill outlined some of the major features of the new bylaws and answered questions. Most importantly, the new bylaws would 1) make the Executive Board the primary governing body of the federation with its size being reduced from 32 to 22 members, and re-named the Board of Directors (to make it more compatible with Calif. corporation law); 2) all dues paying members would become voting members of the Assembly along with representatives of the group

members; 3) this enlarged Assembly would meet at least once per year to elect officers, and carry out a number of other functions as well; 4) all committees would develop standard operating procedures, as would the officers, and these procedural documents were accordingly removed from the bylaws so that they can be readily modified by the Board as needed; 5) the new bylaws were designed to facilitate the federation's anticipated application for tax deductible status (501(c)(3)); 6) the bylaws also address the need to get more folks involved in the federation operations and hopefully provide a framework for more effective and efficient governance. In the ensuing discussion Laila expressed support for the new bylaws particularly for this last reason (no. 6). The motion to accept the bylaws was approved unanimously.

APPOINTED OFFICER REPORTS

Editor, *Let's Dance!*: Editor's report by Gary Anderson read. 110 copies of *Let's Dance!* distributed at Stockton Folk dance Camp. Results reflected in new membership. Report accepted.

Historian: absent

Membership: Membership Committee report submitted by chair Sidney Messer. 69 clubs and 25 libraries get our magazines. Total membership is 403. New associate members since April 23, 2006:

Michael Giusto, Seiko Huntington, Craig Kurumada, Burt Levy, Carol Maybrier, Davida Munkres, Rahim Nourbakhsh.

New Groups/Clubs approved:

Redding Folk Dancers, Redding

Social Dances of the World, Rocklin

Membership committee report accepted.

Publications: See Editor, *Let's Dance*

Publicity Comm.: No report

Promotion Comm.: Chair Bill Lidicker reported that while the committee continues to receive occasional inquiries, no applications for funds have yet been received.

Sergeant-At-Arms: Sidney Messer, see Membership

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Costume Research: no report

Dance Research: no report

Finance: absent, but report submitted by Bill Fleenor, read by President, "Vick" Vickland. See attachment.

Insurance: Insurance report submitted by Elsa Bacher.

"At present 1888 member dancers insured in 59 clubs. Taken in \$9941.05 and paid out \$9319.55. Good News: The rate for 2007 will be same as this year: \$4.85/dancer, or for 9 or fewer in a club \$45.00. Am soliciting for insurance co-chair via L.D., word of mouth, and your suggestions."

Note will be in October issue of *Let's Dance!* A couple of accident reports, and one claim were filed. Suggestion made to publish incidents in *Let's Dance!* as forewarning to clubs. President suggested club members attend an educational meeting to know what insurance needs. Geographical problems involved. Suggestions received for consideration. Insurance report accepted.

Statewide 2006, Modesto: No report

Teachers: no report

ROTATING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Institute Comm.: Chair Bill Lidicker reported that 1) the Committee is recruiting for a 4th member and hopes to have someone soon to nominate for Pres. Vick's approval; 2) the institute at the Statewide Festival was a great success with at least 243 dancers attending the Saturday session and 184 on Sunday; 3) a popularity poll for dances taught at Stockton was successfully conducted with 61 returns (52 valid) being received; this information is used in planning for the two institutes that mainly feature teaching of Stockton dances; 4) a teaching program is still being arranged for the Fresno Festival in October; plans for the Heritage Festival in January are complete; 5) disappointment was expressed that the Fresno Festival is scheduled in conflict with both the N/S Teachers' seminar (Aptos) and with a dance festival in the Sierra sponsored by the Sacramento Council; 6) no plans for committee involvement have yet been made for two institutes in the spring (Festival of the Oaks, Camillia Fest.). In the following discussion, it was suggested that in the future video recordings of the Statewide Festival institutes should be made.

Institute report accepted.

North/South: Elsa Bacher will locate representative for N/S. Will put ad in Let's Dance! with eligibility listed, and explanation of committee person responsibilities.

Scholarship: 3 scholarship distributed this year. Hadi suggested to be committee person.

OLD BUSINESS: Laila Messer addressed Imposition to ask out-going president to put on a party due to expenses. Past presidents were interviewed. Most resent party costs, and scheduling was a problem. Motion made if tradition is to continue Federation should cover the cost. Suggestion made out-going board have a party. Motion made for Federation to cover the cost of party. Motion tabled for another meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Proposition to ask Northern California groups to sponsor Statewide. 2008. Letter will be sent to ask Snappy Dancers of Sonoma and Petaluma to consider sponsoring statewide 2008. Marion Earl will be contacted as a resource person. Low attendance of festivals discussed. Time for fewer festivals? Question will be published in Let's Dance! What can we do to increase attendance? Vick will refer question to Spark Plug committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coming Events: Sweetheart Festival 2/11/07

Rose Festival 5/12/07

No Treasurer's Ball planned

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Stephens, Secretary