

Minutes of the Folk Dance Federation of California (North)  
Board Meeting  
Sunday, September 18, 2022, via Zoom Teleconference

In attendance:

Ulrike Narins (President)  
Laura Richardson (Vice President)  
Sabine Zappe (Treasurer)  
Clem Dickey (Secretary)

Board members

Adony Beniares (Nominations)  
Craig Blackstone (Parliamentarian)  
Laura Douglass (Finance)  
Kevin Greek (Archives)  
Lon Radin (Institutes)  
Marcia Rosenblatt (Membership)  
Marija Hillis (Publicity)  
Loui Tucker (Editor)  
Ellie Wiener (Scholarships)

Members

Marina Troost

President Ulrike Narins called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm. A quorum was present.

- Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting, held on July 9, 2022, were provided in advance. Laura R moved to approve the minutes. Ellie seconded. The motion passed 13-0.

- Thank you for Statewide 2022

Ulrike and the Board thanked Marina Troost for her work organizing Statewide 2022.

- Appointment of Nominating Committee chair

Ulrike has appointed Adony Beniares to chair the Nominating Committee.

- Appointment of Parliamentarian

Ulrike has appointed Craig Blackstone as Parliamentarian.

- Officers Ball (Laura D and Laura R)

Laura R distributed a list of tasks, which served to organize the discussion of outstanding items.

Sabine has established a Google Sheet for registrants. She reports that we have, to date, only one registrant who is neither a teacher nor a board member. A flyer is on the website but we need more publicity, and physical flyers for clubs. Ellie volunteered to publicize to the IFD Google group, and Adony will announce to the Peninsula Council and Palomanians email newsletter. Lon will ask the invited teachers to advertise.

Adony volunteered to canvas the list of attendees for dance requests, and to emcee. He will get the teachers' music from Lon. Laura R and Laura D agreed to help Adony run music during the institute; Clem and Laura D volunteered to help during the party.

Sabine volunteered to handle the registration table through dinner, but noted that we need someone to run the 50/50 drawing. Ulrike will cover registration after dinner.

Marina volunteered to bring instant coffee, tea, sugar, lemonade, and snacks. She will need a budget. Lemonade costs about \$25, and snacks also have a cost. Laura D will research our historical costs. Costco and Smart and Final were recommended for individually-wrapped snacks; Adony noted that Safeway carries 20-pack boxes of chips. Marina will ask Richard Graham and Hollis Radin about borrowing lemonade and water dispensers. Laura R will bring two 40-cup coffee makers (one for coffee, one for hot water), tea bags, sugar, and a power strip.

Marina will be in charge of refilling drink dispensers. If Lothar Narins and Peggy Zagorites attend she will enlist their help.

Marian Snyder and Marija Hillis will make all the food for dinner. They will also bring tablecloths (rectangular, for color), plates, silverware, napkins, glass mason jars for beverages, and serving utensils. We will also need round tablecloths. Marina will ask Richard Graham about for them. Adony offered square tablecloths (which can be clipped).

Marija will find unscented hand sanitizer.

Laura D will direct placement of the dinner tables.

Bill Cope's sing-along booklets are getting bigger, and hence more expensive to copy. Sabine plans to use last year's booklets.

Insurance has been sent to the hall, and the balance due has been paid.

As described on the flyer, COVID-19 vaccination will be required and the mask policy will match local policy. (Currently masks are optional.)

- **Statewide 2024**

Ellie was to ask Peninsula Council, but the Council has not met since the last Federation Meeting. Marina has planning documents from 2022 including a budget, contracts, schedules, and planning documents. Marina also volunteered to advise at planning meetings. Adony agreed to discuss it with the Peninsula Council in November.

- **Libraries as Federation Members (Marcia Rosenblatt)**

Two libraries which have subscribed to *Let's Dance!* for years have not paid this year: Earl Richardson (Baltimore, MD) and Seattle Public Library. The consensus was to have Marcia send out second notices, and to drop those libraries which do not pay. Four others have not paid in some years: San Jose State (2014), Humboldt State (2014), Karger International (2015), and CC Maxwell (2018). But we have not been sending them renewal requests. We will ask those libraries to renew, and drop them if they do not.

- **Mosaic Festival August 26 or 27 Participation (Kevin working with Priya Das)**

Kevin thanked Michel Hardbarger and Loui Tucker for their teaching on Saturday, August 27. We had about 15 new dancers over a three-hour period. Attendance was less than expected, possibly due to COVID-19 and possibly due to the room location. Some performing groups invited people to dance onstage after their performances; that seemed to draw more people. Friday featured workshops on the stage, but we had no teachers available on Friday. Kevin has printed business cards with the Federation URL available for distribution. Mosaic will keep us apprised of upcoming events.

- **Vice President (Laura R)**

Laura thanked Adony for accepting the Nominating Committee position.

- **Treasurer (Sabine) – written reports for July and August included**

Insurance cash flow is increasing due to more active clubs.

- Membership (Marcia) – written report included

Marcia noted that people who chronically pay in arrears sometimes complain that they “just paid,” and that this complaint has no merit. Craig moved to accept the report, seconded by Sabine. The motion passed 12-0.

- Institutes (Lon)

Lon will assemble a repository of dance descriptions and music for the Officers Ball. We will not offer hardcopy descriptions.

- Scholarship (Ellie)

The only scholarships awarded so far were eight for Stockton, including six for Heidi Vorst’s students. The reports which ranged from “super cute” to “just wonderful,” will run in the October *Let’s Dance!* We have about \$500 left for scholarships to later events such as Officers Ball and Kolo Festival. Ellie thanked Sabine for her help. Ellie clarified that anyone may apply for a scholarship, to any event.

- Parliamentarian (Craig)

Craig suggested modifying the by-laws to include a procedure for running and certifying electronic elections. Craig agreed to write up a proposed change for the next meeting, in coordination with Adony.

- Publicity (Marija)

There have been no applications for publicity funds.

Loui suggested that the Sacramento Council (SIFDAC) might need help. Ellie opined that they might need leadership more than money. Ellie asked about helping with Camellia Festival; Loui noted that in recent years few Bay Area dancers have attended Camellia Festival. Loui reiterated that Sacramento should know that if they do need money, the Federation can help.

Ulrike reported that Changs is considering asking the Federation for help restarting Chang’s Family program. The previous generation in the Family program has grown up. Loui noted that the website has a grant application form.

- Website (Kevin)

Kevin reported that the website receives 200 to 300 hits per day, and has an updated collection of videos. The number of events on the calendar is increasing.

The site is receiving some brute-force server attacks, which Kevin is blocking.

Craig noted that some links are broken. Kevin replied that the site is scanned daily for broken links, and that most broken links are in past events.

Kevin is also helping Kopachka with their website.

- Insurance (Michael Giusto, not present)

Ulrike noted that insurance is getting more expensive. The per-club member numbers, formerly reported month-to-month, are now reported annually.

- Nominations (Adony, written report submitted)

- Next meeting

The next meeting will be held 3:00 pm Sunday, November 20, 2022 on Zoom, at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87205423165?pwd=Ym5MVDJKUXV1Q2ItUXJhRXlFYWJqUT09> (Meeting ID: 872 0542 3165, Passcode: 755652).

- Adjournment

On a motion by Laura D, seconded by Clem, the meeting adjourned at 4:48 pm.