

Minutes of the Folk Dance Federation of California (North)
Board Meeting
Sunday, June 9, 2024, via Zoom Teleconference

In attendance:

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

Board members

Adony Beniares (Nominations)
Laura Douglass (Finance)
Kevin Greek (Archives, Website)
Marija Hillis (Promotions)
Catherine Mao (Statewide)
Betsy Moore (Scholarships)
Lon Radin (Institutes)
Marcia Rosenblatt (Membership)
Marian Snyder (Past President)
Rebecca Tsai (Statewide)
Loui Tucker (Editor)

President Ulrike Narins called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. A quorum was present.

- Minutes of previous meetings

Several people did not receive the draft March meeting minutes due to new enforcement against email spoofing, Clem will resend the draft minutes.

- Possible change to Officers Ball date

Laura R had asked about moving the Officers Ball from Saturday, October 19 as that date is busy. The monthly Global Party is that day. Also Marian and Lon have conflicts. The hall has no other available dates in October. Other available dates for this year (researched by Sabine) are:

- Saturday, September 7 (six days after Labor Day)
- Sunday, September 8 (likely conflict with Solan Stroll)
- Saturday, November 9 (2nd Saturday, conflict with Peninsula Local party and Cafe Shalom)
- Sunday, November 17 (12 days before Kolo Festival; Sabine unavailable to serve as registrar).

Laura R offered to serve as registrar. Anecdotal evidence suggested that a Sunday would work as well as a Saturday.

We will try to get November 17. Sabine will ask the hall to change the date. Sabine will also check with Bill Cope; he may not be able to switch. (In any case, Bill Cope has asked for an increase from \$50 to \$75; there was no objection.)

Advertising needs to be checked to ensure that all references to Saturday are changed to Sunday.

In the future we should consider a Sunday in October.

- Officers Ball

We will use "Hands" or "Holding Hands" as the theme.

Volunteers are:

Registrar: Laura D

Decorations: Kevin

Ethnic Dolls: Laura D (please bring water bottles too)

Dinner: Marian and Marija

Tech: Adony, Lon

Refreshments: Open. Ask Lon and Hollis for urns. Laura R can bring coffee supplies and hot cups. Marian will bring Mason jars.

Publicity: Loui will create registration form and flier from a template. (Sabine noted that we should wait for date confirmation)

- Review of the Bus Shelter advertising (Loui)

The campaign has ended and we will not renew. It was not worth the money.

- Statewide (Rebecca and Catherine)

Thanks to Rebecca and Catherine for a tremendous effort. Survey results confirm success.

We did lose some money. There is or will be an updated financial spreadsheet on Google Drive.

Cesar Garfiaz was very good. Caller Kurt Gollhardt did not have enough time to prepare folk dancers for the hoedown. One couple did ask for their money back from the Sunday hoedown. They did not know that a square dance "hoedown" is equivalent to a folk dance "party"; they expected a teaching session. We should not try to combine a square dance hoedown with folk dancers in the future; the experience levels are too different. It was difficult for even Cesar and Yannis to satisfy dancers at different levels of experience.

Rebecca thanked the Board for their help. She was also impressed by the help provided by her students. Rebecca believes that the selection of teachers is the most important factor.

There are some unsold t-shirts: eight medium and one small. Loui suggested placing an ad for them in *Let's Dance!* The price should be discounted.

The performing groups were especially good. Catherine knows the Mexican group leader (Raul) well, and he is a very capable teacher. Adony asked Catherine to connect him with Raul so that he could bring him to the attention of the Stockton Board.

Catherine offered to consult with food planning in the future; she is a Registered Dietitian.

- Treasurer (Sabine) – written report submitted for April and May

Chase now charges a fee for any of our accounts which has a balance under \$2000. The insurance account is usually below that. Sabine will ask Craig if there is a legal reason to maintain a separate account for insurance. If not, she will close that account.

- Past President (Marian)

Craig has suggested that the four elected officers receive some sort of perk, perhaps free admission to Statewide. (The President currently receives free lodging at Statewide.) The current elected officers were not interested in an additional perk.

- Membership (Marcia) – written report included

On a motion by Loui, seconded by Clem, the membership report was accepted 14-0.

- Editor (Loui)

Let's Dance! Is running about 28 pages per issue, the same as before COVID. It is getting a good number of

ads. Loui is thinking of sending courtesy copies to the NFO Mentoring Group.

- Scholarships (Betsy) written report submitted

Eleven Stockton scholarships have been granted; the remaining budget is \$350. All Stockton awardees are either Heidi Vorst's students or BYU students. One starting a group at the University of Oregon. Stockton applications closed June 6, 45 days before camp. Marija knows teenager who is interested in Stockton; she asked whether Stockton had a lower age limit. Adony replied that a person under 16 would need a chaperone, and very young applicants are considered on a case-by-base basis.

- Website (Kevin, written report submitted)

Our website is on a list of "30 Best California Dance Blogs and Websites in 2024"

https://arts.feedspot.com/california_dance_blogs. Kevin is working on a search function for indexed issues of Let's Dance! In support of Loui's indexing work.

- Nominations (Adony)

Adony expects to present a slate at the next meeting.

- Other items

Jerry Gregory passed away on Thursday, May 30. Loui will help Ulrike draft a note of condolence to Susan from the Federation.

Elsa Bacher passed away on Sunday, May 19.

- Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 3:00 pm Sunday, August 11, 2024 on Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82142239442?pwd=c3dEbHNDOfRQK1dGUmxYZEdQbmJTUT09> (Meeting ID: 821 4223 9442, Passcode: 147746).

- Adjournment

On a motion by Clem, seconded by Marcia, the meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.