

Minutes of the Folk Dance Federation of California (North)
Board Meeting
Sunday, December 15, 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)
Betsy Moore (Scholarship)
Lon Radin (Institutes)
Marcia Rosenblatt (Membership)
Marian Snyder (Past President)
Loui Tucker (Editor)

President Ulrike Narins called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm. A quorum was present.

- Minutes of previous meetings

Minutes of the October 20 General Assembly were provided in advance. On a motion by Loui, seconded by Laura R, the minutes were approved 11-0.

Minutes of the November 17 meeting were provided in advance. On a motion by Laura R, seconded by Loui, the minutes were approved 11-0.

- Officers Ball

Laura R reported that 70 people attended, of which about two attended the evening party only. Net income was \$1018.06; we are awaiting the return of the cleaning deposit. Dinner was undercounted because we did not have the teachers or Bill Cope on the registration list. In email to teachers we should have noted that registration and dinner were free. Online registration went smoothly; the only snags were the accidental default to a \$10 donation, and missing dietary restrictions on the reports.

For next year, Sabine noted that a November date would be too close to Kolo. Ulrike received one complaint about the Sunday setting. Sabine will ask the hall for October 4, which October 25 as a second choice.

- Storage Space (Kevin)

Loui reported that Kevin is still looking for space. A place in Sunnyvale has a three-month introductory offer, then similar price to current storage but 40% more space (55 sq ft larger, on the 1st floor). Wendi Ellis donating shelving; we should send her a thank you note.

Loui moved to accept Kevins analysis, and give him free rein to move. The motion was seconded by Marija and passed 11-0.

- Request to exceed limit of promotional funds (Marija)

An applicant, Janetta Redzic, would like to start a Bosnian performing group in San Leandro/Hayward. The costs are three months hall rental (\$75/hour, 3 hours per week, 4 weeks a month) and insurance. Three months rent is \$2700. She plans an opening party in April at the Serbian church in Moraga. The expected start date for hall use is Sunday August 23, 2025.

Long term finding is not clear. Jeanette is aware of the possibility of establishing a 501(c)(3) but it is not simple.

As background in the promotions fund, Loui reported that Kenyon Rayner died about 2003-2004 and left the Federation \$50,000 with no restrictions. The Board chose to allocate the money to a promotion fund, limited to 3 \$2000 allocations per year. Loui has no problem increasing the limit.

Clem moved to increase the yearly limit by \$2000, Sabine note that the account balance, which had been \$46,000 10 years ago, was now about \$8800. Clem withdrew his motion. [Subsequent to the meeting Sabine discovered that \$25,000 of the Promotion Fund money had been used to fund a CD, so we still have that in addition to the \$8800.] Marija move to allow a one-time increase to \$3000 for startup Čardak Ensemble to be distributed when needed. Betsy second. The motion passed 12-0. Marija will work with Janetta to do a *Let's Dance!* write-up.

- Treasurer (Sabine) – written reports submitted for October and November
- Membership (Marcia) – written report included

On a motion by Laura R, seconded by Clem, the membership report was accepted 12-0. Marcia asked if we should renew the offer of a free pass to a Federation Dance to new Federation members. Consensus was to continue the promotion in 2025.

- Editor (Loui)

The January issue of *Let's Dance!* went to the printer on Friday, was shipped on Monday, arrived at the mailing house Tuesday, and was mailed Wednesday. It is 32 pages, largely due to ads.

- Loui received an email via Ulrike asking for video of a Malaysian dance taught – perhaps in the 1990s - at Asian Camp. Loui contacted Fang-Chih, who was able to find the video. We have great ability to help with such requests.
- Archives (Kevin)

The proposed archive space is about twice the current size. Kevin will physically look at space this week. He believes that our current storage, Grape Storage, needs about 10 days notice when we leave. He is looking to move everything by the end of this month.

- Finance (Laura D)

Laura presented a 2025 budget, which included about a \$4000 deficit to be taken from Savings. On a motion by Lon, seconded by Marian, the budget was approved 12-0.

- Institutes (Lon)

Lon will post videos and music for Officers Ball participants to his Google Drive.

- Scholarship (Betsy)

Sabine reported that we received \$6700 from Sonoma's Bernice Schram scholarship fund. No action was taken to direct the money.

- Insurance (Michael Giusto, absent)

Sabine reported that we still have a couple of clubs who have not paid their last premium.

- Nominations (Adony)

With 27% voting, elections have concluded and the slate is elected. No non-electronic votes were received.

Only four people filled out the multiple pages for family members this year, a significant drop from last year. Lon does not think that he and Hollis received a family ballot. Comments received included “too cumbersome,” “don’t like one person per form,” and “too many attempts to make it work.”

- Good of the order

Ulrike asked that we “save the date” for the next Blossom Festival: April 26 2025.

- Next meeting: At Festival of the Oaks, Live Oak Park, Berkeley. February 8, 12 noon-1 pm. This meeting is also the General Assembly. It will not be streamed. We need to advertise on the BBMDE and FDF Google Groups.
- Adjournment

On a motion by Loui, seconded by Lon, and passed 11-1, the meeting adjourned at 3:28 pm.