

Minutes of the Folk Dance Federation of California (North) Board Meeting

Sunday, June 21, 2026, via Zoom

In attendance:

Board members:

Laura Richardson (President)
Craig Blackstone (Parliamentarian)
Sabine Zappe (Treasurer)
Betsy Moore (Secretary)
Loui Tucker (Editor)
Marcia Rosenblatt (Membership)
Laura Douglass (Financial)
Adony Beniares (Nominations)
Lisa Michael (Scholarship)
Ulrike Narins (Past President)
Marija Hillis (Promotions) joined 3:05
Kevin Greek (Archives) joined 3:18

Others:

Janet Newman

Laura R called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Approve Minutes from last meeting

 FDFC Minutes 20260412.pdf  Minutes Addendum 20260519.pdf

On a motion by Ulrike, seconded by Craig, both sets of minutes were approved. Laura D abstained since she was not present at the April meeting.

Reports from Board Officers and Chairs

- Post-Action Statewide report from Memo Keswick
 - Memo and Sabine provided written reports. Sabine stated that the income and expense report has the more accurate financial details.
 2026 Statewide Report to FDF BOD.pdf
 Statewide Income & Expenses - Amended.pdf
 - The festival made a surplus of about \$8,500 and there was a discussion of what to do with the profit. There was a suggestion to give some of the surplus to the Chico

World Dancers and Loui noted that there is precedent for paying hosts back. There was a suggestion to pay more money to the band since they were only paid \$1000 and the band members paid for their own expenses. Laura D noted that Memo spent several hundred dollars to have special banners printed and suggested reimbursing him for that. The folklorico performing group was given \$100 and there was a suggestion to pay them more. It was noted that performing groups are often not paid but since we have extra it would be nice to give them more.

- o On a motion by Loui, seconded by Laura D, and passed unanimously, the board voted to give \$1500 back to Chico World Dancers and \$1000 to Da Mozhem.
 - o On a motion by Loui, seconded by Laura D, and passed unanimously, the board voted to give \$200 to Memo to pay to the folklorico group.
 - o **Sabine will update the income and expense report to reflect these changes.**
- Laura R thanked everyone who helped make it a great Statewide Festival.
- President (Laura Richardson)
 - Laura R made a request to dispense with the 'vote to approve new members' formality. Would still like the board to review the membership report provided by Marcia at each board meeting. Loui confirmed that there is nothing in the bylaws about this and the group agreed to dispense with voting on new members.
- Vice President (Clem Dickey) - not present
- Secretary (Betsy Moore) - nothing to report
- Treasurer (Sabine Zappe)
 - April & May reports are in the folder. There was no discussion.
 -  Treasurer's Report - April 30, 2026.xlsx  Treasurer's Report - May 31, 2026.xlsx
- Past President (Ulrike Narins) - nothing to report
- Membership (Marcia Rosenblatt)
 - The membership report is in the folder. There is one new member: Rose Bostick. Marcia hopes the new Chico members will renew.
 -  FDF Membership Report June 21, 2026.xlsx
- Editor (Loui Tucker)
 - Laura R and Marcia said that the last issue was fabulous. Loui said it's the largest issue she's done. September will be big too.
- Finance (Laura Douglass) - nothing to report
- Institute (Rick Henderson) - not present
- Scholarship (Lisa Michael)
 - o Lisa's report is in the folder.  Scholarships2026_BoardReport6_19_26.pdf . Laura R requested that it be amended to indicate the total amount spent on scholarships. The amount awarded this year to date is \$12,650.
 - o There was a discussion of whether we should amend guidelines to say scholarships are only for dancers. It was noted that the scholarship form is actually pretty explicit that scholarships are for dancers. The board agreed that the scholarship committee guidelines should be clarified. Since Lisa had dropped off of the meeting, **Laura R asked Betsy to work with Lisa on updates.**

- Parliamentarian / By-Laws Ad-Hoc (Craig Blackstone) - nothing to report
- Promotions (Marija Hillis) -
 - o Marija had nothing to report but Craig brought up an idea about how to bring in more young people. Craig taught folk dancing at BACDS family camp and suggested we try to get into situations where there are already folks together and introduce dancing. We could use promotion funds to fund a teacher(s) who would go to camps and other events.
 - o Marija stated that in the past, she has offered to teach dancing as artist in residence at Berkeley Tuolumne camp but they couldn't find an indoor space. They do have an outdoor dance party (not folk dance). **She will check with them again.**
 - o **Laura R and Craig will write a blurb for Lets Dance to reach out to groups and potential teachers.**
 - o Laura D noted that teaching kids is different from teaching adults. She and other potential volunteers would need some training/support.
- Research (Lothar Narins) - not present
- Archives (Kevin Greek) -
 - o Kevin reported that he's been making improvements to the website, including the ability to search the Let's Dance archive, and he and Loui have an article going into *Let's Dance* about that. Items recently donated to the archives will probably end up going to Stockton Camp.
- Insurance (Michael Giusto) - not present
- Publications/Communications (Susan Gregory)
 - o Susan was not present but Loui shared the draft 2027 calendar, which is in the folder, and she welcomes comments and corrections. They plan to print 100 calendars and sell them for \$10 each. [PDF 2027 Calendar Draft April 2026 v6.pdf](#)
- Nominations (Adony Beniares)
 - o Loui published the call for nominations in *Let's Dance* and they will be tracked until Sept 15. The election will be held via email. **Adony will get the updated roster from Marcia before sending out ballots.**

New Business

- Officer's Ball 3 October 2026 – These items were discussed.
 - o Theme for Officer's Ball: Dance Around the World (flags as decorations)
 - o Schedule for Officer's Ball
 - Institute 1pm – 4:30pm
 - Dinner 5pm – 6:30pm. Only recorded background music, no live entertainment. Marian Snyder will provide dinner
 - Party 7pm – 10pm
 - o Registration (Sabine – cost to register same as 2025)
 - o Teachers (Rick) - Rick is waiting for teachers to tell him what dances they will teach
 - o The draft flyer is in the meeting folder. It will be finalized once Rick hears back from the teachers. [PDF 2OFFICERS BALL FULL PAGE FLYER, DRAFT 5.pdf](#)

Old Business

- Review/re-approve Kevin Greek web contract
On a motion by Loui, seconded by Betsy, passed unanimously, the board voted to re-approve Kevin's contract.

Board Meetings 2026 on the dates listed below, via zoom, at 3pm.

- 7 February (General Assembly meeting at the Festival of the Oaks) - DONE
- 12 April
- 21 June – THIS meeting
- 16 August => NOTE: New date!!!!
- 4 October
- 13 December

On a motion by Ulrike, seconded by Marcia, approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 4:11 pm.