

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

Sunday, August 16, 2026, 3 pm, via Zoom

In attendance:

Board members:

Laura Richardson (President)
Clem Dickey (Vice President)
Craig Blackstone (Parliamentarian)
Sabine Zappe (Treasurer)
Betsy Moore (Secretary)
Loui Tucker (Editor)
Marcia Rosenblatt (Membership)
Laura Douglass (Financial)
Lisa Michael (Scholarship)
Ulrike Narins (Past President)
Rick Henderson (Institute)

Others:

Bente Larsen (future Scholarship chair)

Laura R called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

Approve Minutes from last meeting

 [FDFC Minutes 20260621.pdf](#)

On a motion by Loui, seconded by Laura D, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Out-of-cycle email decisions

Laura R reported the following decisions that were made since the last meeting:

- Web performance issues – upgrade with small expenditure (\$48) needed to address. Kevin Greek provided a report on the issue and how it was resolved.
 [web updates- Kevin Greek.pdf](#)
- Scholarship – one Stockton recipient from BYU was unable to attend due to a concussion. The committee agreed to transfer her scholarship to another BYU student, who was required to submit an application. The scholarship spreadsheet has been updated. **Lisa will upload the new person's application.**

Reports from Board Officers and Chairs

- President (Laura Richardson)
 - Bente Larsen has agreed to be the scholarship chair for next year.
 - Laura sent an email to Will Cope to let him know we won't be having a singalong at the Officer's Ball. We'll just have recorded background music.
- Vice President (Clem Dickey) - nothing to report
- Secretary (Betsy Moore) - nothing to report
- Treasurer (Sabine Zappe)

June and July reports are in the folder. Nothing to highlight.

 Treasurer's Report - June 30, 2026.xlsx  Treasurer's Report - July 31, 2026.xlsx

Laura R asked about profit after extra payments **(did not catch the numbers)**.
- Past President (Ulrike Narins) - nothing to report
- Membership (Marcia Rosenblatt)

The membership report is in the folder.

 FDF Membership Report August 16, 2026.xlsx

Marcia noted that the report contains a few small errors but the numbers are right. We have five new members (one was a switch from family to individual). **Marcia will put a corrected report in the folder.**
- Editor (Loui Tucker)

The September issue is at the printer and will be mailed this week. It's 28 pages (the last two were 32 pages each). She had two more pages but set them aside for next month (must be a multiple of 4). It includes the flyer for the Officer's Ball, which is also on the website.
- Finance (Laura Douglass) - nothing to report
- Institute (Rick Henderson) -
 - Got the selection of dances from the teachers and will respond with approval and request for their music.
 - Stockton surveys are being processed. Discussion of how to get more responses. A link will be sent in the email notifying attendees of video availability.
- Scholarship (Lisa Michael)

Lisa's report is in the folder.  Scholarship Report.pdf

Of the 29 scholarship recipients who have attended dance camps, 4 have submitted the required short essay thus far - Landon, Luciana, Clarissa and Shoshanna. The request email went out on August 3, and the deadline is September 1. Lisa will send the essays to Loui in batches

One Stockton recipient could not attend, but that scholarship was given to another student to enable them to attend.
- Parliamentarian / By-Laws Ad-Hoc (Craig Blackstone) -
 - Nothing to report as parliamentarian
 - Craig drafted verbiage for the next *Let's Dance* magazine to recruit volunteer folk dance teachers for youth/family (e.g., YMCA) camps. It was noted that it might be difficult to get into some camps because of child-safety requirements. Laura R will submit the article.
- Promotions (Marija Hillis) - not present but told Laura she had nothing to report

- Research (Lothar Narins) - not present
- Archives (Kevin Greek) - not present
- Insurance (Michael Giusto) - not present
 - Sabine reported that we have paid the insurance premium but haven't billed the clubs for their share yet. Shares are prorated based on the number of club members. The total cost for insurance is \$2600.
- Publications/Communications (Susan Gregory) - not present
- Nominations (Adony Beniares) - not present

New Business

- Loui reported the calendar is about 99% ready. She'll put it in a drive folder for board members to review. She'll print 100 copies in time for the Officer's Ball.

Old Business

- Review/re-approve Kevin Greek web contract
 - On a motion by Sabine, seconded by Rick, passed unanimously, the board voted to re-approve Kevin's contract. Several people praised Kevin's hard work and responsiveness.
- Laura R reported on board election plans for Adony
 - Electronic elections in October
 - Published list of nominees in July/August issue of Let's Dance
 - Request nominations from the floor via e-mail (August)
 - Email ballot (October)
 - Confirm results (November)
 - New board installed January 2027
- Officer's Ball 3 October 2026 – Discussion items
 - Schedule discussion. Ulrike noted that the flyer says institute 1:30-5:30, dinner 5:30-7:00. Last year there was some confusion about when the party ended and when we had to be out of the hall. The party ended without playing the last dances at 10 pm and it took about 15 to 20 minutes to vacate the hall (with help from the hall attendants).
 - Dinner: Marian Snyder will provide dinner. Lisa Michael, Laura R, Betsy, and Maricela have volunteered to help
 - The online registration page is now live.
 - Laura R will send a message to the listserv reminding people to register.
 - Laura R will send a request to board members to bring finger food snacks.
 - Laura D will bring a box or two of dolls to sell.
 - Loui and Craig will emcee the party.
 - Adony will take care of the sound and the decorations.
- 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
 - 16 August - THIS meeting

- 4 October
- 13 December

Laura R noted that December is difficult for people but we should have the election results by then and can install the new officers. Craig noted we should invite the new officers who are not currently on the board (Wendy Brown - secretary).

On a motion by Craig, seconded by Laura D, approved unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.