

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, PASADENA, CA

October 8, 2017

Meeting called to order at 11:34am

A word of support for Shana, we wish her the best. She resigned due to health concerns. Pauline Klak is assuming the role of president. A new Vice President will be nominated. For now, tasks will be assumed by Pauline.

President, VP report:

This year brings an opportunity to promote folk dancing, the hobby I love over all others, to the greater community.

I would like to look at the art of the successful Beginners Festival more closely.

- explore the idea of beginner events focused on age groups by generation
- shorten length of the festival to 2 to 3 hours max
- emphasize the social aspects of dancing and learning

We will try to learn from the successful efforts that the Foothill Dancers have pointed out to all of us in the June 2017 Folk Dance Scene.

We also look to the dynamic Cerritos Folk Dancers, who have added so much to dancing in So Cal, with two festivals per year and a performance/demonstration group which is active in community events in their area. These are two examples of groups that are trying new things and reaching a wider community of dancers.

A more immediate need is a search for a Vice-President. I have talked with individuals and groups in my area in search for volunteers for the job but with no success. The Vice-President receives festival applications for sponsorship throughout the year. Most of those have already been received and voted on by the board. If we do not have anyone to elect today for that position, then I would suggest that all groups make an announcement and maybe a personal effort to recruit new officers who can bring new energy and points of view to the board.

Most 2018 festivals are already approved:

Pasadena Winter Festival, Jan 14 2018 (with council meeting), by Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op
Lunar New Year Festival, Feb.11, 2018 sponsored by Cerritos Folk Dancers
Laguna Folk Dance Festival, March 3-5, 2018, sponsored by Laguna International Dancers
Westwood Spring Festival April 15 2018 (tentative)
9th Annual Cerritos Festival East meets West June 16 2018, in Cerritos (with council meeting)

Secretary's report- minutes were emailed, copies available to review. The recent virtual meeting concerning the appointment of Mindy Belli as treasurer was detailed in an additional handout. Minutes approved and appended.

Treasurer's report :

The details and balance sheets for the quarter are in a separate attached pdf file emailed to members with the minutes.

There has been very little activity in the accounts except for a transfer of \$5,000 from the savings account general fund to cover the \$2554 loss incurred by the Statewide Festival and this year's scholarships. Scholarships have been paid (in the last 3 years) from the checking

account without transferring from the savings account.

At this time, there are no outstanding checks or deposits. However only one scholarship has been paid: \$405 of a total of \$1000; thus \$595 remains to be paid. No category is over-budget currently.

The General Fund is still much higher than in prior years due to the \$25,000 donation in June of 2016 by James Kaumeyer. However, it is now \$5000 lower and will be further reduced by scholarships.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded and the motion passed.

Discussion of the treasurer's comment on scholarships not paid out resulted in the following:

"Scholarship recipients will have up to three months after the date of the event to submit receipts. The club that recommended the scholarship will notify the Treasurer the awardee name, event name and date for which it was granted, by email or mail."

The policy vote passed.

Membership Report by Bob Altman:

Bob supplied a written report:

- Membership packets were sent by email on 10/1/17 to all clubs and most associate members
- Membership packets have been sent by postal mail to the two associate members who don't have email (Frances Ajoian and Michael Norris)
- I've gotten back a handful of applications and a couple of checks (see below)
- I've helped a couple of folks deal with computer issues related to opening and printing or filling out the forms.

This year the process is quite a bit different from past years:

- Clubs are encouraged to fill out the forms on their computer and email them to me. Of course, they can print the forms and mail them to me as they have in the past.
- In the past, clubs sent forms and payment to Rick (the treasurer). This year, forms and payment are being sent to me. I am depositing the checks and coordinating with Mindy (the treasurer) and Julith (insurance) to ensure they get all of the information they need from the membership packets. Once the dust settles, I'll also let the secretary (for meeting minutes) and the Scene know who gets what.

Discussion:

Bob was concerned that checks for membership/Folk Dance Scene subscriptions are accumulating on his desk. Might they be submitted electronically? This would require access to accounts and permissions from the treasurer and president. The system at present requires periodic trips to the bank, not always at convenient times. Mindy says she can look into it. Bob's second concern is the directory. To respect the privacy of members, it will include only those who wish to have contact information published. Generally, though, names should be made public on the website for clubs seeking teachers, dance info, etc, and it will eliminate paper.

Motion was made & passed to do both a printed directory and digital directory in the coming year 2018.

Insurance Report- Julith Neff reminds everyone to fill out the forms, all lines! She needs to have the regular locations and alternate locations of meeting places to write policies that will protect people and the Federation. She is working with Bob on insurance checks which come in with memberships to speed up deposits.

Historian chairman Wen-Li Chiang reports no news.

Camp Hess Kramer- Beverly & Irwin Barr were not in attendance, but we hear the dance hall at the camp has a new wood floor!

Finance Committee- New Chairperson will be Marshall Cates, with Pauline Klak, Gordon Wall, Mindy Belli, Rick Bingle as committee members. They will meet in March and report at the April board meeting.

Scholarship report: Kathy Molga was not at the meeting, but submitted a detailed report. (see attachment to minutes email).

Kathy will be invited to make a case for increasing scholarships to the finance committee.

- 1) Show that applications for the scholarships are up.
- 2) Show that camp fees are rising
- 3) Set up the timeline for camp payments & reservations early so selections can be made by the committees and refunds granted in a timely manner.

Discussion: It was determined this should be handled by the Finance committee and Marshall clarified :

There will have to be two fiscal meetings (of the Finance Committee). The first will be held before the April meeting to set the Federation budget, with no figure set for scholarships. The second meeting will be set after the application deadline for scholarships. At the second meeting the scholarship committee will make a request for a budget based on the applicant pool. The fiscal committee will then set an amount.

Old Business: Push publicity. Promote Folk Dance.

New Business:

- 1) The January board meeting will request a nominating committee to present board candidates at the April 15, 2018 meeting.

Addendum Oct. 16, 2017:

Pauline Klak sent an email "I am pleased to announce that Diane Baker has stepped forward to fill the vacancy as Vice-President of the Folk Dance Federation South."

Diane is well known as an enthusiastic dancer, a skillful dance teacher including at last year's Beginners Festival, and previously chaired the Laguna Festival. She is an excellent addition to the Federation Board.

Thank you, Diane, and Welcome Aboard!

Pauline Klak, President

- 2) Special project request: \$1500.00 to convert, consolidate, video tapes & CDs to a format that would be available as a resource of archived teaching sessions, workshops, performances

belonging to Federation, South. Marshall Cates has 25 years of tapes that need to be reformatted, preferably in electronic format. He has estimated fees for this service at \$1500, plus \$500 for materials and to put the archive on line. Special projects funds require officers' approval and it was so granted. The executive committee approved the expenditure.

3) The Treasurer requested to seek viewing privileges, not necessarily signing authority to all Federation related accounts to enable the Treasurer to report incomes and expenses accurately to the IRS and the Folk Dance Federation Board. Currently Camp Hess Kramer and The Folk Dance Scene committees have exclusive checking accounts. The Executive committee, Pauline Klak, Gordon Wall, Marshall Cates, Mindy Belli, which has responsibility, must therefore have viewing privileges. Pauline Klak, as president, authorized the action and any attendant actions (such as creating new special accounts and transferring all funds from the old accounts) necessary to ensure the Folk Dance Federation is able to report accurately and thereby preserve our non-profit status.

It was decided a motion was not necessary, but the authorization was endorsed by all present.

4) Lifetime Achievement Award Laguna Festival organizers put out a call for all clubs to submit nominations for the lifetime achievement award at the festival. Past winners have been Beverly & Irwin Barr, Donna Tripp and John Filcich.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Jan.14, 2018, 11am at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 150 N. Madison Ave. in Pasadena CA, prior to the Winter Festival dance.

Meeting adjourned 1:09 pm

In attendance:

Officers

Pauline Klak, president &VP

Leslie Halberg, secretary.

Mindy Belli, treasurer

Bob Altman, membership

Wen-Li Chiang, historian/recorder

Gordon Wall, finance

Sargent at arms, Eduard Klak

Standing Committees

Finance, Marshall Cates

Insurance, Julith Neff

Costume, Betchen Barber

Archive, Marshall Cates

Parliamentarian, Marshall Cates

Past Presidents

Lila Aurich

Rick Bingle

Marshall Cates

Sylvia Stachura

Gordon Wall

Guests

Helen May
Sylvia Stachura
Gordon Wall
Wally Aurich
Sham Han
Ann Armstrong

Delegates

Cerritos Folk Dancers- Sue Chen
Laguna International Folk Dance Club - Mindy Belli
Mountain Dancers - Sylvia Stachura
Narodni International Folk Dancers - Julith Neff, Carol Wall
Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op - Lynn Bingle
West Valley Folkdancers - Wally Aurich

Clubs eligible to vote in January 2018

Cerritos Folk Dancers

Laguna International Folk Dance Club

Mountain Dancers

Narodni International Folk Dancers

Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op

West LA Folkdancers

West Valley Folkdancers

Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers