



Ballroom Dance Club of Fairbanks, Inc.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES November 17, 2006

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Directors Present: Margo Matthews, Steve Nelson, Patty Nelson, Sue Waryas, Scott Luper, Mary Lindahl, Rae Dinsmore, Anya Goropashnaya and Karen Maier

Administrative Coordinator: Sydney Seay

Absent: Richard Kemnitz

General Members Present: Terri Babers, Danielle Thompson, Chris Matthews (by proxy) Scott Bates, Rick Maier, Kurt Dinsmore (by proxy), Lorraine Peterson (by proxy), Inja Yim; Kurt Byers, Carol Warbelow, Lorrie Rea, Donna Dinsmore, Jack Schmid, and Don Turner

Agenda Review

Margo welcomed everyone to the meeting and supplied each member with a copy of the agenda. Margo then had the Board members introduce themselves to the membership.

President's Report

Margo distributed a summary of highlights and goals for the Club. She has outlined what she felt were the top five highlights of the year for the Club:

1. In addition to our regular classes a total of three workshops with visiting instructors were held and very well received. In the course of this we developed an excellent system for making these events run smoothly, by developing a Sponsorship Form that is completed for each event outlining the responsibilities of each sponsor.
2. The Club held two formal/semi-formal balls successfully as well as weekend dances which have been very popular and well attended.
3. We have developed a Policy and Procedures Manual that spells out how to conduct Club operations and documents Board policy decisions.
4. Our Board membership has been very stable with only one positions turning over during the year. Board members learned to work well together and a cohesive team developed.
5. We have contracted with Sydney Seay to complete class registration, staffing and record-keeping which is one of the most time consuming and on-going tasks in operating the Club. This has worked well and insures the work is done. It was an experimental move that may be a precursor to hiring a part-time Executive Director to oversee Club operations in the future.

Margo then proceeded to give the membership a glimpse of future goals and events including:

- Bringing Walter Dill from Seattle in early January for a dance workshop.

- The Lathrop Ballroom Dance Team will be hosting two weekend dances next year.
- The Program Committee is really rolling and we hope to reactivate a whole committee to do publicity and promotion of the Club.
- Development of a strategic plan for the Club to set direction and identify long and short term goals for the Club. The Club is in a strong financial position and well poised to do whatever we desire.
- Marshalling enough volunteers to conduct all the Club's activities continues to limit what we can accomplish. The Club contracted with Sydney Seay for much of the work for conducting classes which has helped a great deal. The Club continues to consider hiring an Executive Director that would be responsible for overseeing all aspects of Club operations and would ease the load on volunteers and allow the Club to expand and do more.

Treasurer's Report

Mary handed out the Financial Update, Balance Sheet and Income Statement dated November 16, 2006. Mary outlined what our goals have been regarding structuring the money in savings and our strategy of laddering our CD's to maximize our return on the savings but still leaving us the option to have funds available to us if necessary. Presently we have total assets of \$44,395.00. Mary is anticipating a year end profit of \$3,185.00.

Don Turner and Terri Babers spoke about the Board's decision of free access to the ball and requested the Board to revisit their decision for future events.

Nominations for Board of Directors

Margo said the Board members whose terms are expiring and hers, Anya Goropashnaya, Steve Nelson, Patty Nelson, Karen Maier and Richard Kemnitz (whose NLCD position is a one-year appointment). Margo said that she and Richard Kemnitz will be stepping down. Anya has agreed to continue doing the membership job but desires not to be a Board member. Steve and Patty Nelson and Karen Maier have agreed to continue to serve for another two-year term.

Don Turner encouraged all members to participate on the Board, informing members that Directors are allowed to take one free 6-week lesson each session. Margo expanded on the time commitment stating there is one meeting per month with a meal provided.

Terri Babers had a question regarding the election or appointment of a Board member to the Northern Lights Council of Dancers. Margo responded that the Board has the option of appointing someone to this position to serve for one year.

Nominations were opened:

- **Lori Rea** was nominated by Sue Waryas and seconded by Rae Dinsmore. Lori has accepted with a stipulation for a smaller commitment to start and working up to a larger commitment in the future.
- **Holly Stack** was nominated by Terri Babers and seconded by Sue Waryas. Terri still needs to confirm Holly's acceptance as she is out of town.
- **Scott Bates** was nominated by Sue Waryas and seconded by Rae Dinsmore.
- **Jack Schmid** was nominated by Sue Waryas and seconded by Rae Dinsmore.

- **Steve and Patty Nelson** were nominated by Margo Matthews and seconded by Rae Dinsmore.
- **Karen Maier** was nominated by Sue Waryas and seconded by Rae Dinsmore.

Don Turner moved nominations be closed, Sue Waryas seconded.

Members' Comments, Ideas and Input

Sue Waryas wanted to give kudos to Don Turner for all his hard work on the CD's, Web page, practices and emails.

Mary Lindahl said to mark your calendars for January 8, 9 and 10 for the Walter Dill seminar, and stated that we secured the hall for those dates by another group giving up their evening. Although in return we agreed to hang Christmas lights and Mary enlisted some volunteers and will get the job done after the meeting.

Danielle Thompson spoke about the need for more angels for practices, especially men. She also requested that some form of partner rotation be incorporated into our classes, especially when Board members are participating in the classes. Jack Schmid added this was the only place he has been that rotation is not done; Don Turner and Sydney Seay spoke about the rotation stating it should be voluntary. Margo also spoke on the issue stating the Board was aware of concerns. Terri Babers also spoke about our contractor relationship with instructors regarding the partner rotation issue.

Kurt Byers asked about our new brochure, Terri Babers is still waiting for photos and Kurt volunteered to complete it.

Danielle Thompson suggested doing a dance demo at International Friendship Day next year.

Don Turner wanted to thank the Publicity Committee for the Pioneer Park marquee postings as well as the KUAC announcements; he stated how much he appreciated them. Sue Waryas stated that the Fairbanks Chamber will now announce events. Kurt Beyers inquired about membership with the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau, and stated it offered opportunities for our Club. He urged the Board to consider renewing our previous membership.

Margo Matthews stated we did subscribe to a membership with the West Coast Swing Alaska Club in Anchorage and Kurt Byers mentioned the possibility of them bringing a National Swing Convention to Anchorage in about two years.

Don Turner wanted to thank all the Board members for their efforts and hard work over the year.

Terri Babers requested we collaborate with the new Advanced Ballroom Dance Club at UAF.

Steve Nelson publicly thanked Margo for her steadfast leadership over the year and presented her with a gift certificate to Gambardella's.

Terri Babers recognized Margo and the Board for the efficient separation of our Annual Membership Meeting from the monthly business meeting of the Board.

Mary Lindahl moved for adjournment, Sue Waryas seconded.

Adjourn 8:45 p.m.