

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MINUTES
November 18, 2005

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Directors Present: Sydney Seay, Sue Waryas, Richard Kemnitz, Terri Babers, Patricia Nelson (by proxy), Steve Nelson, Don Turner, Anya Goropashnaya and Karen Maier.

General Members Present: Mary Lindahl, Rae Dinsmore, Scott Bates, Jennifer Harmon, Terry Daniel, Jeanne Daniel, Suzn Hanson, Kurt Dinsmore, Lorraine Peterson and Richard Maier (by proxy)

Minutes:

Minutes from the October 20, 2005 meeting were approved and entered into the record.

Open Forum and Round Table:

Terri opened discussion on an open forum requesting member comments:

Highlights of Last Year:

- Organization and teamwork
- Computer for financials
- Administrative Assistant
- Golden Days Dance
- Mirrors
- Bandstand
- Streamlined registration (thanks Sydney, Anya and Sue)
- New dancers, new faces
- New Website (with the help of Vern of Web Weavers and Don)
- Continuity in lessons
- Links for web site
- Seamless lesson schedule, indicates teamwork
- Consistent quality publicity (full page spread in News Miner – excellent!)
- Schedule of dances to include Saturday
- Lessons prior to dances
- Budget process in the works and evolving in a positive direction
- Alaska DOL audit process looks to be okay
- Dance angles – great program
- E-news – newsletter excellent and most helpful (thanks Don)
- Policy manual, Don requests we all review and expound if necessary
- D.J. system and future computerization of music
- Food at board meetings
- Meetings managed well
- Instructors no longer serving on board
- Forgiving of each other
- Salsa vs. smooth dances problem solved
- Syllabus in instructor contract

Hindsight/What is Working, What Needs Improving:

- More lessons for advanced dancers
- Work shops
- Retention of members
- Accelerated refresher classes
- More volunteers
- Syllabus published in advance
- Vision session for club to formulate strategic plan
- Insure members attendance by renaming Board Meeting to Club Meeting (membership friendly)
- Involve all members – possible changes to bylaws
- Publication of agenda and minutes in advance on web
- Communications needs volunteers i.e. newsletter!
- More formal dances
- More volunteers for NLCD

Committee Reports and Proposals:

Membership/Anya

- Presently we have 119 members, all reporting has been completed to Isabelle and nothing is due till January.
- Terry Daniels inquired of his status as a lifetime member, it was noted and clarified that all past Presidents are lifetime members.
- Anya continues to send email notices regarding renewals and she is addressing all incoming emails.

Communication/Vacant

- Terri reported on public service ads and that we had placed display ads for \$260.00 to run before lesson sessions in North Star Weekly and 4-Square
- Don has worked on marquee
- Terri worked with the News Miner since August regarding the recent article featuring the club. Originally was to have spotlighted all Fairbanks dance but they choose to feature our club.
- Don has KUAC and billboard instructions in policy manual
- Continued collaboration with Contra Dances and have included them on our new Web site.

Program/Don

- Classes running extremely well, quotas in SE I and Salsa of 30 have been met.
- Tentative schedule for January:

Monday	Wednesday
6:00 - SEII	6:00 – vacant (possibly Jerry)
7:00 – SE I	7:00 – Intermediate Salsa
8:00 – Intermediate Rumba	8:00 – Basic Salsa
- Terri reported that the Swing Dance Club desires to collaborate with Liv and Van in a West Coast Swing workshop on December 11th. Also we need to locate the tape from last year’s workshop.
- Motion was made by Terry and seconded by Don to pursue collaboration and scheduling of the workshop.

Facilities/Sue

- o Same recurring problems, especially with black marks on the floor. Otherwise things seem to be running smoothly.

Social Activities/Angie

- o Terri proposed a “Prom” by Lathrop in early February.

NLCD/Richard

- o Richard stated that they need more volunteers for winter cleaning and decorating and that he completed putting up the lights. The building committee has been revitalized.
- o The Moore street gate is to be closed over the Thanksgiving weekend.
- o NLCD needs volunteers to review books and Sue graciously offered to do that.
- o Don made inquiry regarding their financial balances and Richard stated he believed the bank balances were approximately \$16,000.00.

Treasurer/Sydney

- o We have had good turn out for the last two sessions.
- o Computer has been a great asset and she and Sue continue to work toward completed financials by the end of the year.
- o Presently the club has a balance of approximately \$30,000.00 between savings, checking and our CD’s. We are running about the same in the bank as we were last year at this time.

Content: (New and Ongoing Old Business)

Administrative Assistant

- o Discussion was held regarding raising fees at dances to \$5.00/\$8.00 as well as an increase in lesson fees from the present \$42.00/\$48.00 to help cover the cost of the administrative assistant. Also perhaps an increase to club membership from the current \$20.00 to \$25.00.
- o Terry Daniels requested an overview of the position and Terri reiterated items the board has discussed and a job description is still a work in progress. Initially this position will be approximately 8 hours per week to “baby-sit” lessons.
- o Terri requested a policy change of \$1.00 per member and Don moved we raise fees \$1.00 for members and student and \$2.00 increase for all others, Sue seconded. Discussion was held on motion with Terry Daniels voicing concerns about the increase in fees. Kurt Dinsmore stated that \$5.00 seems fair for dances and per session fees seemed reasonable. There was further discussion on various scenarios of pricing. Terri amended her motion to include authority for the board to raise fees as deemed necessary, Sue seconded. Motion carried.

Nomination of Officers

- o Terri stated club will nominate members and board will have them serve in various areas and then opened the floor for nominations. She also stated due to personal commitments she would be unable to accept a nomination.
- o Terry Daniels inquired as to who was presently serving, and their current status. The list of officers follows with an * representing all elected offices, the remainder have been appointed by the board to complete existing vacancies:

Sydney	Year remaining
Anya	Year remaining*
Karen	Year remaining
Sue	Expired*

Richard	Appointed for 1 year
Don	Year remaining
Steve	Year remaining
Patricia	Year remaining
Terri	Expired*
Margo	Year remaining

o Nominations followed

Richard nominated **Rae Dinsmore** and Don seconded.

Don nominated **Mary Lindahl** and Richard seconded.

Terri nominated **Jen Harmon** and Sue seconded.

Don nominated **Sue Waryas** and Jen seconded.

Don moved nominations be closed and Jen seconded. Motion carried.

Policy Manual Revisions

- o Rae Dinsmore moved we table further discussion on the manual and Sue seconded. Motion carried.

By-Laws Revisions

- o Don outlined the proposed change to Article IV, to include a new Section 7 as follows:

Eligibility to Serve on Board of Directions. Any person receiving financial compensation from the Corporation shall be ineligible to serve on the Board of Directors of the Corporation.

- o Motion was made by Don and seconded by Terry Daniels to accept the proposed amendment. Motion carried.
- o Don further proposed a change be made to Article III, Section 6, regarding annual meetings, since the current process has proven to be unduly cumbersome. He proposed the following changes:

1) Change title Annual Meetings to Annual Meetings of Members for clarification (to avoid confusion with the Annual Meeting of the Board, which takes place a month later).

2) Last sentence:

a) Insert “candidates for” between “nomination of” and “the Board of Directors” so that it is clear that this section refers to nomination of candidates for the Board of Directors, not the final makeup of the board, which is determined at a later meeting where ballots are counted.

b) Delete “and the ratification of the acts of the Board of Directors undertaken since the last meeting of members.”

Reasoning is that as presently written, this section adds a very lengthy, cumbersome, and completely unnecessary approval process. Last year, this section was interpreted to require that we spend a considerable amount of time reviewing and approving the annual membership meeting minutes from the previous year, a meeting that nobody could recall any specifics from a year after the fact.

The Board has already been elected and authorized by our By-laws to make decisions and act on behalf of the membership. As written now, the By-Laws require a process analogous to having the US public ratify everything our elected

Congress did for the past year. Also, from a practical standpoint, we usually only have a small handful of folks from the general membership attend the annual meeting, so the whole cumbersome process is moot anyway (just an aside, not the main reason for the proposed change).

- Motion was made by Mary Lindahl and seconded by Terry. Discussion was held and Terry Daniels disagreed with amendment, his argument is members have a chance to approve minutes. Don suggested we publish on Web and all members have the right to object. Don then proposed a Section c) as follows:
 - c) Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Members are to be approved at the next monthly Board meeting. All members are eligible to approve these minutes and are encouraged to attend the meeting following the Annual Membership Meeting.
- Motion was amended by Terri that all members at large approve minutes and be encouraged to attend next Board meeting to approve minutes from Annual Meeting. Sue seconded. Motion carried, accepting all changes to Article III, Section 6.
- Terry Daniels requested to reopen item b) and c) he has concerns regarding ratification because this is the only opportunity for him as a member at large to have a say in the direction of the club and if this change takes place that opportunity would disappear. He further strongly encourages Board to review; he feels we are “hamstringing” members at large. Richard suggested we solicit members for revisions to the By-laws, he objects to Board making revision with no member input.
- Terri suggested this be an item for the agenda at the next Board meeting and the need for By-law committee and Administrative Committee review.

Conclusion:

Motion was made by Sue and seconded by Don to adjourn. Motion carried. The next Board meeting will be December 15th at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.