

## Meeting of NASSPDA Board on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

### MINUTES:

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at ~4:03 PM EDT.

In attendance: Lee Fox (Treasurer & Finance Committee Co-Chair), Garret Gerritsen (Membership Co-Chair & Finance Committee Co-Chair), Christopher Kelleher (Vice-President), Benjamin Soencksen (Secretary & FGG Delegate), Kathy Wildman & Barbara Zoloth (President)

Apologies: Pat Hogan (GLISA Representative, Membership Co-Chair & Communications Director)

The President posted the following agenda on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, with important sections to address highlighted in red, and added items on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013, highlighted in blue:

### A. Standing Items

1. Record any polls since last meeting
2. Approve minutes from last meeting
3. Financial Report

### B. Old Business

1. Items temporarily on hold –
  - a. Proposed changes in NASSPDA Board Policies and Procedures —remaining questions
    - i. Definition of quorum and “super majority”
    - ii. Committee to review and “rationalize” policy and procedure documents
    - iii. Election of Board members/officers
  - b. Request for history of same-sex ballroom dance (for website) and explanations of rules and procedures (for eNewsletter)
2. Adjudicator Application Committee’s report
  - a. **New applications, other business**
3. Coordination with other organizations
  - a. Gay Games 2014: FGG/ESSDA/GLISA
    - i. Coordination with Rob Smitherman, Sports Director for Gay Games 9
    - ii. **Report on venue**
    - iii. **MC, scrutineer, judges**
    - iv. **Do judges need to be NASSPDA certified?**
    - v. **NASSPDA’s 2014 scholarships: allocation between Gay Games and North American Championship (if there is one)?**
    - vi. **NASSPDA providing ribbons or certificates?**
    - vii. **Need for “Competition Committee”? NASSPDA’s Board?**
    - viii. **Inquiry of female and FTM male couple for Showdance**
  - b. IFSSDA update:
    - i. **Report on IFSSDA Constitution signed**
    - c. **Report on ESSDA’s General Meeting in Antwerp**
4. Website: **Committee report on specifications for website functionality**
5. Membership initiatives
  - a. **Newsletter report**
  - b. **Affiliate members: Required to renew membership annually?**
6. Upcoming/recent competitions
  - a. Boston Open, September 21, 2013
  - b. Dancing in the River City, Sacramento, CA State Championship, January 19, 2014

- c. Philadelphia Liberty Dance Challenge, PA State Championship, March 29, 2014
  - d. April Follies, Oakland, US National Championship, April 26, 2014
  - e. Gay Games 9, Cleveland, World Championship, August 12-15, 2014
  - f. [Boston Open, North American Championship, Fall 2014](#)
  - g. [North American Outgames, St. Louis, 2016](#)
  - h. [World Outgames, Miami, 2017](#)
  - i. [Gay Games 10, Orlando \(?\), 2018](#)
7. Competition Rules
- a. [“Add reverse-role couples to the list of authorized titles?” - to be revisited in 2014, but needs to be clarified prior to CA State Championship in January 2014](#)
8. Non-Board committees
- a. Dance Camp committee
  - b. Queer Youth Outreach committee
9. Scholarship Committee
- C. New Business**
- 1. [Competition Rules to specify no more than one competition sanctioned for one weekend](#)
- D. Schedule next Board meeting(s)**
- 1. [Time and place for meeting in Boston](#)
  - 2. [Next conference call meeting](#)

**A. Standing Items**

to A.1.: n/a

to A.2.: [Approved](#)

Minutes & Notes 130623

to A.3.:

NASSPDA’s current account balances:

operating account \$7,209.28; savings account earmarked for the scholarships fund \$1,286.18

**B. Old Business**

to B.1.a.i. through iii.: [Postponed](#)

to B.2.a.:

Luc Richer from Montreal, Canada, former Board member, has been invited to judge at the Boston Open on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013, and will seek NASSPDA approval instantly.

to B.3.a.i.:

(see to B.3.viii.)

to B.3.a.ii.:

The Organizing Committee for DancesSport hadn’t gotten answers yet to some specific questions about the contract with the Renaissance Hotel before the GG9 Organizers sign it, though it is already listed as a venue for DanceSport on GG9’s website.

to B.3.a.iii. & iv.:

The “Officials Committee” has accumulated a list of considered officials, which still needs to be discussed in detail, and is working on a preliminary budget for engaging all necessary officials. It is anticipated that about 11 judges are needed, not necessarily counting the additional judges for the Argentine Tango and Country Western divisions.

Whether judges will all have to be NASSPDA approved was decided by the Board in April (see Minutes & Notes 130420 under “to B.3.vi.” second sentence), requiring all adjudicators residing in North American to go through the approval process, if not yet approved, and to have all others thoroughly vetted by the Committee.

to B.3.a.v.: [Postponed](#)

The number of scholarships and the amount per scholarship awarded will be decided after the upcoming Boston Open.

**to B.3.a.vi.:**

If the scrutineer(s) for GG9 can produce using the software and being provided with a template personalized certificates, those will be awarded to all placed finalists.

**to B.3.a.vii.:**

Any inquiries about the interpretation of, exceptions or alterations to NASSPDA's Competition Rules related and prior to GG9 will be handled by the Board (Competition Rules Committee).

**to B.3.a.viii.:**

GG9 was asked by a couple, consisting of one female and one male, who transitioned from female to male, whether it could participate as an opposite gender couple in the Showdance category. Even though a category for this couple isn't offered at GG9, the Board decided, since Showdance isn't divided into men and women, to allow a reverse-role couple, which would mean that the female partner has to lead a minimum of 75% of the entire routine.

**to B.3.b.ii.:**

One of the Membership Co-Chairs attended at the Outgames in Antwerp ESSDA's annual membership meeting (NASSPDA has an Associated Membership with ESSDA). One of the overreaching topics was an expressed concern by members about the rising registration fees for Outgames and Gay Games, which members see as a deterrent to participate.

**to B.3.b.i.:**

On August 7, 2013, the Constitution of IFSSDA was signed by ESSDA's Co-President, Davy Brocatus, by IAGLCWDC's Vice-President, Bruce Townsend, and NASSPDA's Membership Co-Chair, Garret Garittsen, in Antwerp.

**to B.4.:**

Nicole Roberts, a web designer and dancer from the Bay Area, consented to look at NASSPDA's "old" website and assessed the site as quite functional, but in need of a make-over. A "wish list" was updated and shared with the designer asking for direction and an estimate of the overhaul.

**to B.5.a.:**

NASSPDA's latest eNewsletter was opened by about 41%, which is comparable to previous issues, and had a good rate of click-through. Another issue is planned for shortly after the Boston Open with reports on that and the event in Antwerp.

**to B.5.b.:** Postponed

**to B.6.a.:**

The organizers of the Boston Open are doing an excellent job in reaching out to the various local communities and getting them involved.

**to B.6.b. to i.:**

At the time of this meeting, there had been no updates for these competitions.

**to B.7.a.:** Postponed

The Board will discuss and decide this issue at the next meeting.

**to B.8.a. & b.:** Postponed

**to B.9.:** Postponed

**C. New Business**

**to C.1.:** Dismissed

(see NASSPDA's Competition Rules state on page 7, Section A, Rule 3.3.3)

**D. Schedule next Board meeting**

1. An in-person meeting has been scheduled for Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at 8:30 PM EDT at a local Boston restaurant.

2. The next conference call meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013, at 4:00 PM EDT.