

Notes from Conference Meeting of June 1, 2008

In attendance: Richard, Barbara, Benjamin, Citabria, Sonja, Pat
Regrets: Winter

Agenda:
Membership
Board Organization
Creation of Non-Profit
Finances
Medal/Trophy for NASSPDA title.

Minutes of April 27, 2008 Meeting;

Poll results including Web minutes:

5 Yes votes
2 Missing

Poll Result on Sanctioning:

6 Yes votes
1 Missing

Minutes of May 10 Meeting posted on May 11; still awaiting approval. Benjamin to set up Poll for same.

Benjamin reported on **5 Boro Dance Competition**.

It's happening,

It's a one-day event.

Will be offering NASSPDA Championship title. Benjamin has not discussed this with 5-Boro yet.

Questions regarding NASSPDA title: Do we give a trophy? Is the trophy a permanent one or do we pass on the trophy to the next year's winner? Discussion followed. To create a medal means getting a design/logo. There was some concern about getting this together in time for 5-Boro although it was pointed out that for someone in the graphic design business it could be done quickly, this would not be an issue. Benjamin will ask his brother, a graphic designer in Germany and Citabria will ask Nicole Roberts, a friend and designer. It was pointed out that there is a history of logos and designs within the Gay Games, OutGames and Eurogames.

NASSPDA Membership

We have already agreed that membership fees will be:

\$30 for individuals, one vote per person

\$100 for organization, one vote per organization

Free to Affiliate members, no vote

NASSPDA Member Benefits (already mentioned in previous minutes)

1. Listings on website (see April 27 meeting minutes)

2. Eligible to vote in elections
3. Has input on web bulletin
4. Can join a board committee
5. Can run for the NASSPDA board
6. Have access to NASSPDA Championship Title –at least one of dance couple must be a NASSPDA member
7. Listing (?)

Members Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities

Membership sub-committee consisting of Sonja, Winter, Richard and Barbara will write up a comprehensive document of members rights, privileges and responsibilities that have been agreed upon to date, found in previous minutes, and to include the following which came out of this discussion:

Member Responsibilities

Participation in organization

Pay dues on time

Vote in polls

Represent, support and promote NASSPDA

Use appropriate behavior (to be discussed by subcommittee)

Abide by NASSPDA rules & policies

Membership form and data (?)

Document about membership Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities to be accessible on website.

Suggested MySQL, a database to record members' details; needs an experienced person to create and someone to maintain

Finances

Tax exemption status will be researched (?)

Discussion on how members will pay. Suggested ways of paying: checks/cheques, Pay Pal or Google Check Out(?) -- the latter in lieu of PayPal and/or checking/chequing account.

Pat reminded everyone that it should be stated that fees are in US dollars for those outside of the US.

Barbara to look into free checking/chequing account and get back to us.

Richard will look into PayPal and Google Check Out.

Board Governance Committee

Winter sent out a report from this sub-committee with a list of recommendations.

Sonja pointed out a couple of things not yet resolved:

- 1) How long is a term?
- 2) How often should there be elections?

A lengthy discussion ensued on above with following comments:

Sonja supports having overlapping terms on the board to provide continuity and to avoid the possibility of entire board changing after an election.

Benjamin doesn't believe there needs to be restrictions at all and there shouldn't be any limitations on the number of terms one can serve.

Barbara pointed out that California Laws governing registered non-profit societies recommend:

3 year terms for Board Members

Staggered Elections

After some discussion we all agreed that staggered elections are a good idea and suggestions were:

Each year elect either 1/3 or 1/2 new Board members but, for the time being:

Each year elect an unknown percentage of new board Members.

That Board to have unlimited consecutive terms; this will be revisited at a later date.

Resignations: Discussion held on the feasibility of including in the by-laws something regarding membership at large being able to terminate a board member or limit the term, since we approved no consecutive term limitation.

M/S/C/ That we implement a 2 year Board Term,

VOTE: Approved Unanimously

MOTION:

Annual Elections for Board will have staggered Terms

No more than ½ of Board Members' Terms to expire in same year

Intention of Motion: Under normal circumstances there will be an odd number of Board members, not less than 5, no more than 11.

M/S/C

VOTE: Unanimous

As well, it was agreed that Board Sub-Committee will work on wording on the staggered elections

MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED: That Board, not Membership, will choose officers of the Board.

Approved Unanimously.

M/S/C That Officer of Board to be elected by simple majority vote.

Approved Unanimously.

Subjects Directed to Board Sub-Committee:

1) Reasons for removing someone from the Board

2) Do we have a permanent Standing Committee for Board elections?

Transgender Discussion

A meeting held in the (Bay Area?) transgendered community on acceptance/rules in Same-Sex dance competitions for transgendered people will be reported back at next board meeting. It was noted that European Same-Sex competition rules don't address trans issues.

Next NASSPDA Championship Title:

Would be in 2010 to St. Louis. They regret they can't do it at this time.

Next Conference Call:

SUNDAY JUNE 15, 3 PM Pacific Daylight Time.