

## Meeting of NASSPDA Board on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### **MINUTES:**

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at ~6:35 PM EST. In attendance: Sonja Furiya (membership chair), Winter Held (chair of “board governance” committee), Pat Hogan, Richard Lamberty (co-chair), Citabria Phillips (election committee chair), Benjamin Soencksen (secretary) & Barbara Zoloth (co-chair & treasurer)

The following agenda was posted on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, and with edits again just prior to this meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009:

#### **A. Standing Items**

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

#### **B. Old Business**

1. Creation of unified rules and structure requirements for sanctioned competitions
  - a. Argentine Tango and Country Western sections
  - b. Proposed re-organization of the rules
2. Create mechanism that allows Board to send e-mails to members and possibly also non-members
3. Election Committee updates on remaining timeline:

*Voting closes Dec 15*

*Results announced Dec 19*

4. Update “Rainbow Ballroom” proposal
5. Proposed value statement on financial returns from competitions:  
NASSPDA’s position on the financial return from same-sex partner dance competitions is as follows:
  - NASSPDA supports non-profits and independent organizers alike to acquire a reasonable return from revenues to cover expenses as well as making a modest profit, if possible.
  - NASSPDA encourages and urges competition organizers to run financially sustainable competitions while still ensuring that no dancer will be turned away due to financial difficulties.
  - NASSPDA firmly believes that the joy of dancing and supporting our individual and collective same-sex dance communities should be a priority for competition organizers while, at the same time, it supports the goal that same-sex competitions be profitable.
6. Update on GLISA and FGG. Designate contact person(s) for GLISA.

#### **C. New Business**

1. Scholarship fund for new memberships
2. Soliciting/receiving donations
3. NASSPDA involvement in Gay Games 2014 in Cleveland
4. For future agenda:

- a. Consequences for violating NASSPDA rules
- 5. Membership renewal:
  - a. Letter to members about expiring membership and dues payment needed
  - b. Process on website for renewal
    - o Select all Active members (only those that are required to pay dues) and mark them “lapsed”
    - o Send renewal notice to all lapsed members
    - o Members renew on website which changes their status from lapsed to active
- 6. Identifying a Board member to be liaison with competition organizers to make sure all the applicable policies and requirements are understood, adhered to and reflected in all material (including website) produced for the promotion of that competition
- 7. Identifying a person responsible for updating and maintaining website content
- 8. Moving election to Jan/Feb to avoid potential members having to pay dues to vote, and then immediately have to re-up for the new year
- 9. Philadelphia Liberty Dance Challenge (2010 NASSPDA Championships):
  - a. Website doesn’t mention graded events
  - b. Website doesn’t mention Formation Team event
- 10. Facebook page for NASSPDA
- 11. Collecting, storing, and making available competition results:
  - a. Results for which events
  - b. What level of detail
  - c. Request from organizer an exclusive listing (meaning the comp website has a link to [nasspda.org](http://nasspda.org) for the results)
- 12. Clean up policy files in Board’s Yahoo group:
  - a. By-law’s file still exists in the Draft Policies folder, and needs to be moved to the “Approved Policies” folder
  - b. “Sanctioning Policy” (Work in Progress) needs to be updated with the new rules for Formation Team competitions
  - c. Update on “Board Governance Policies” (see Draft Policies folder) needed, and there are items that are in the “Sanctioning Policy” (Work in Progress), which are not in the “Draft of Board Governance Policies” and vice versa

**D. Schedule next Board meeting**

**A. Standing Items**

to A.1.: All Approved

I. Ballot wording for Board election

II. Establishing fanpage on Facebook

III. Ordering of trophies for NASSPDA Formation Team Championship

to A.2.: Approved

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to A.3.: Current checking account balance: \$925.07

**B. Old Business**

to B.1.: Postponed

Reorganized NASSPDA's Competition Rules presented just prior to this meeting.

**to B.2.:**

Expected to be completed by the beginning of next year.

**to B.3.:**

40 members of NASSPDA have so far voted, and a run-off election is not expected. Since all 7 members of the Board were present and agreed, a discussion on the process of turning over duties to and catching up the newly elected Board members to the agenda was added (see below).

**to B.4.:**

"Rainbow Ballroom" is restructuring and rethinking its mission, and therefore decided to retract its generous offer to NASSPDA. Therefore, this item will be removed from any future agenda.

**to B.5.:** Postponed

Since this value statement will now be part of NASSPDA's Competition Rules (see above), this agenda item is now reflected in item B.1., and will be discussed and decided upon along with the upcoming discussion of the current draft of those rules.

**to B.6.:**

FGG has still not responded to NASSPDA's application for Associate Membership. In view of NASSPDA's desired involvement with the Gay Games 2014 in Cleveland, it seems important to keep pursuing membership with the FGG.

ESSDA, which is already a member with the FGG, and NASSPDA have started a dialogue regarding the rules for "Dancing" set forth by the FGG in their "Red Book" (rule book for all sports represented at the Gay Games), for which ESSDA proposed to form a committee composed out of members from both organizations to rework and expand those rules, based on the expressed request of the FGG.

GLISA has accepted NASSPDA's application for membership as an International Federation (same as ESSDA) in an e-mail letter dated November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**C. New Business**

**to C.1., 2., 3., 4., 7., 8., 11., & 12.:** Postponed

**to C.5.a. & b.:** Approved

The Board approved unanimously (7 "yes" votes) that Affiliate Membership with NASSPDA shall expire at the end of each calendar year, as do Individual, Organizational and Formation Team Membership.

The process for identifying members being up for renewing their membership has been completed (their status will change to "to be paid").

A renewal letter will be send out to all members by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**to C.6., 9.a. & b.:**

The Board considers to appoint in 2010 a permanent liason/committee from the NASSPDA with the organizers of NASSPDA sanctioned events to ensure compliance with its rules and policies.

**to C.10.:** Approved (see above)

A fanpage for NASSPDA in "Facebook," which will feature a link to NASSPDA's website will be created.

**Added New Business (see B.3.)**

The remaining Board thanked the two Board members leaving at the end of their term for their invaluable contribution to the work of the Board and NASSPDA at large!

Both departing members volunteered to update the documentation of their contribution as well as to be available in an advisory function to the Board, if and when needed.

**D. Schedule next Board meeting**

The next meeting could not at this point be scheduled, since the new Board for 2010 has yet to be confirmed (as of December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009, see election timeline). But two dates have been suggested, of which one to consider for a meeting to be scheduled as a conference call: Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010, and Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 6:30 PM EST.

To bring the newly elected members up to speed, the Co-Chairs volunteered to immediately contact those members personally after the election results are known.

This meeting adjourned at approx. 7:55 PM EST.