

Meeting of NASSPDA Board on February 7th, 2010

MINUTES:

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, February 7th, 2010, at ~6:32 PM EST.
In attendance: Lee Fox, Sonja Furiya (Membership Chair; until 7:35 PM EST), Pat Hogan (GLISA Representative), Kieren Jameson (Treasurer), Benjamin Soencksen (Secretary) & Barbara Zoloth (President)
Apologies: Richard Lamberty (Vice-President)

The following agenda was posted on February 3rd, 2010, and with one addition again just prior to this meeting on February 7th, 2010:

A. Standing Items

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

B. Old Business

1. Update work on rules and structure requirements for sanctioned competitions and authorized titles
2. Update coordination with ESSDA/FGG
3. Update on creating mechanism that allows Board to send e-mails to members and possibly also non-members
4. Update on NASSPDA Facebook page – Assigning this task
5. Update on Membership renewal
6. Communication with competition organizers:
 - a. Update on communications with Philly competition.
 1. Philadelphia competition rules (which events are graded, judging men and women separately, how pro-am couples are treated, etc.). Also no link to NASSPDA website on theirs.
 - b. Consequences for violating NASSPDA Competition rules

C. New Business

1. Printing more postcards
2. Scholarship fund for new memberships
3. Soliciting / receiving Donations
4. NASSPDA involvement in Gay Games 2014 in Cleveland
5. Designate representative to GLISA
6. Collecting, storing, and making available competition results
 - a. Results for which events/categories
 - b. What level of detail
 - c. Exclusive listing (meaning the comp website has a link to nasspda.org for the results)?
7. Update on Annual Meeting in Philadelphia.
 - a. Confirm venue and time
 - b. Ask organizers of PLDC to announce it at the event and on their website
 - c. Formulate agenda

- d. Bring list of current members to verify voting eligibility
8. Meeting in Oakland, April 25, 2010
9. Establishing criteria for adding links to NASSPDA's website

D. Schedule next Board meeting

A. Standing Items

to A.1.: None to Record

to A.2.: 1st Draft of Minutes & Notes 100110: Approved

to A.3.: NASSPDA's current checking account balance is \$1369.37. Access to account (signature) has been reassigned to the Secretary and the new Treasurer. Non-profit corporate 2009 tax return has been filed.

B. Old Business

to B.1.:

The "Competition Rules Committee" reported that the most recent draft, dated "091213," was reviewed, and the resulting conclusions will be reflected in an updated draft.

to B.2.:

The President of ESSDA has been in communication with the Secretary of NASSPDA on the suggested "Red Book Committee." But ESSDA has yet to name its 3 members for the proposed joined committee to work on those rules.

to B.3. & 5.:

At this point, it is now possible to export e-mail addresses of all and/or only select members for an e-mail campaign from a different source. This process will be used by the Membership Chair to inform members of their lapsed membership for 2010.

to B.4.:

The Treasurer had volunteered to assist keeping NASSPDA's website updated, and volunteered to do the same for NASSPDA's fan page on facebook.com.

to B.6.a.:

A phone conversation by the Secretary with the organizers of the Philadelphia Liberty Dance Challenge (PLDC) on January 12th, 2010, resulted into that the number of dances listed for "C" and the dances listed for "D"-Latin (based on Gay Games, Sydney) will remain in place; that only "A" graded couples will be awarded Championship titles (not applicable to 10-Dance, Showdance and Formation Team events); that a more detailed schedule of events will be posted on PLDC's website (adding in the grading rounds, Showdance and Formation Team events, etc.); that "Single Dance", "Country Western Dance" and "Showdance" events are not required to be graded; that separate "International 10-Dance" and "American 9-Dance" events are not required, since these titles can also be ascertained from the results of the related graded events; that where it reads on the entry form "more than 1 level and style can be chosen," it refers to different levels for different styles, not two levels within 1 style; that PLDC promises to answer all inquiries and be flexible; that the additional entry fee for the "Championship" level will remain in place; that PLDC is not offering separate Pro-Am categories; and that there will be a link to NASSPDA's website.

Related, a renewed discussion was triggered about whether the grade should be decisive for the title, and if, how combined grading of male and female couples may distort the result. After considering all "pros and cons," a compromise proposed to award the titles

to the highest ranking couples, which are graded no lower than the “B,” and that to make separate grading mandatory. The Secretary will post polls accordingly.

to B.6.b.:

The “Competition Rules Committee” (see B.1.) will present its recommendations along with the presentation of the rules to the Board.

C. New Business

to C.1.: Approved

NASSPDA is running out of its promotional postcards. The Board approved, with the needed majority, the expense to print additional postcards, with one side showing the female and the other side the male version.

to C.2.: Postponed

to C.3.:

The Board agreed to add a “button” soliciting donations on NASSPDA’s website.

to C.4.:

In order to get involved and have any leverage with the Gay Games 2014 in Cleveland, membership to the FGG is key, but submission of an application was not yet successful. Working on NASSPDA’s set of rules as well as the future work of the “Red Book Committee” are also steps into laying a foundation for NASSPDA’s involvement.

to C.5.:

Pat Hogan volunteered to be the representative from NASSPDA to GLISA, was accepted by the Board, and will be assisted by Benjamin Soencksen.

to C.6.a., b. & c.:

The “Competition Rules Committee” agreed to address the issue of data collecting requirements along with the further work to be done on NASSPDA’s Competition Rules.

to C.7.a. & b.:

The Secretary will confirm the venue and time frame with PLDC, at which point the NASSPDA’s Annual Membership Meeting will be posted on its website, and PLDC will be asked to kindly do the same.

to C.7.c. & d.:

Aside from the Vice-President, all Board members will be present at the PLDC. The President and GLISA Representative have volunteered to work on an agenda for the NASSPDA’s Annual Membership Meeting, and the Membership Chair will provide an up-to-date members’ list.

to C.8.:

The organizers of “April Follies 2010” have suggested having in addition to the meeting in Philadelphia an open meeting on the Sunday following their competition. The Board generally welcomed this suggestion, and it was agreed, that to further NASSPDA’s goal for transparency and communication with its members, NASSPDA will try in the future to schedule “communal meetings” at all NASSPDA sanctioned competitions, as long as there is NASSPDA representation.

to C.9.: Postponed

Though it was agreed that all sites related to same-sex partner dancing are of interest.

D. Schedule next Board meeting

The next conference call meeting is scheduled for March 14th, 2010, at 6:30 PM EST. The meeting adjourned at approx. 8:05 PM EST.