

Meeting of NASSPDA Board on June 19th, 2011

MINUTES:

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, June 19th, 2011, at ~1:03 PM EDT.

In attendance: Lee Fox (Treasurer), Pat Hogan (GLISA Representative & Communications Director), Christopher Kelleher (Vice-President), Benjamin Soencksen (Secretary & FGG Delegate), Mario Spenard & Barbara Zoloth (President)
Apologies (on hiatus): Sonja Furiya (Membership Chair)

The President initially posted the following agenda on June 11th, 2011, and reposted a slightly revised version on June 19th, 2011, just prior to this meeting:

A. Standing Items

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

B. Old Business

1. Proposed changes in NASSPDA Competition Rules and Board Policies—remaining questions
 - a. Purpose of “Supplemental Rules”
 - b. Definition of quorum and “super majority”
 - c. Committee to review and “rationalize” policy and procedure documents
 - d. Committee to define qualifications for judge
2. Coordination with other organizations
 - a. Gay Games 2014: FGG/ESSDA/GLISA
 - i. Oct 23-25 Toronto FGG meeting—has the agenda been posted? Do we know enough to decide whether a NASSPDA Board member should attend?
 - b. IFSSDA
3. Website
 - a. Mechanism to add links to photos and videos from specific competitions: location for posting photos by event not yet created
 - b. Update on separate page for listing past Board members
 - c. Update on creating and posting timeline of NASSPDA history and history of same-sex ballroom
 - d. How to remove events that have already happened
4. Membership initiatives
 - a. Newsletter report
5. Plans for NASSPDA Annual Meeting, Vancouver, July 30, 2011, 11:00AM – 12:30 PM at the Wall Center
 - a. How to advertise this meeting to Games participants?
 - b. Suggested agenda items
6. Upcoming/recent competitions (including placement of NASSPDA ads)
 - a. Report on La Fiesta de Montreal, May 28, 2011
 - b. North America Outgames July 28-29, 2011
 - c. Dancing in the River City, January 15, 2012, NASSPDA Championship
 - d. Philadelphia Liberty Challenge, March ??, 2012: USA Championship?
 - e. April Follies, April 28, 2012: USA Championship?

7. Conversations re NDCA's restrictions on judges and scrutineers
8. Non-Board committees
 - a. Dance Camp committee
 - b. Queer Youth Outreach committee

C. New Business

1. Welcome new Board member
2. NY Pride representation of NASSPDA and tax deductibility of expenses paid
3. Board to consider creating Chair of Social Dance
4. Enforcing membership requirements for garnering NA and national titles—
Vancouver

D. Schedule next Board meeting(s)

A. Standing Items

to A.1.: Approved

Mario Spenard to join NASSPDA's Board member as its seventh member.

to A.2.: Approved

1st Draft of Minutes & Notes 110507.

to A.3.:

The Treasurer reported NASSPDA's account balance at the time of this meeting as \$4,450.58.

B. Old Business

to B.1.a., b., c. & d.:

Both, the "Policies & Procedure Committee" and the "Judges Committee," are scheduled to start their work some time in the summer.

to B.2.a.:

Membership to the FGG is due on July 1st, 2011, and will be renewed by the Treasurer. International GLISA had a Board election via phone one day prior to this meeting, for which the Board decided not to cast any vote, not being knowledgeable about the inner political workings.

to B.2.a.1.:

The FGG has not yet published an agenda for its annual membership meeting in October. Therefore, it is still not clear whether there is any relevance for NASSPDA to attend, and an answer to ESSDA, who would like to be represented, if NASSPDA attends, cannot yet be given.

to B.2.b.:

Another attempt was made to reach out to the Australian same-sex dance community to be part of IFSSDA. ESSDA will discuss at its annual meeting, whether to work first on a basic operating structure with NASSPDA and other representatives before trying to incorporate. However, steps have been undertaken to ascertain whether it is feasible and/or advisable for IFSSDA to be incorporated in the UK, as ESSDA is.

to B.3.b.:

A separate page on NASSPDA's website, which will list and feature past Board members, will be implemented within the coming week.

The following procedure of communication with the Webmaster, who is also NASSPDA's delegate to IFSSDA, has been established: A report will be furnished to the

Board based on items on the agenda prior of each meeting. The Board will in turn forward notifications on specific issues with the Webmaster's name in the subject line.

to B.3.a. & d.: Postponed

to B.3.c.: Postponed

to B.4.a.:

The Board congratulated the Vice-President and the Communications Director on the second published E-Newsletter. 30 new e-mail addresses had been added to the mailing list; 35% opened the received E-Newsletter; 2 people opted-out on receiving e-mail from NASSPDA; and the featured video links received the most "click-throughs." The next E-News will be published in mid-August.

to B.5.:

A room at Sheraton's Wall Center in Vancouver on July 30th, 2011, for NASSPDA's annual membership meeting might not be assigned until shortly before. This hotel prohibits bringing in food and beverages from the outside for any events, which might prove to be a challenge for serving anything at the meeting.

to B.5.a.:

All participants of DanceSport at the North America Outgames will be pre-informed along with other information of NASSPDA's annual membership meeting, which will also be posted on the Outgames' website and announced during the event and through the distribution of flyers.

to B.5.b.:

It was suggested to have a similar agenda as at the Community Meeting following "April Follies." Aside from soliciting further suggestions from members attending, members will be asked, whether anyone knows of a same-sex dance scene in the Cleveland/Akron area, the location of the Gay Games in 2014.

to B.6.a.:

"La Fiesta de Montreal," a NASSPDA sanctioned competition, was held on May 28th, 2011, and had almost twice as many participants as last year as well as an increase in audience. The organizers plan to hold a same-sex dance competition in Montreal three times a year with "Le Happening" being the next up-coming event in October.

to B.6.b.:

Dancesport at the North America Outgames in Vancouver will be on one day only, July 29th, 2011, including all Country Western dance categories, due to a lack of entries. 30 to 40 couples have so far registered, but about 300 registrants for the entire Outgames have yet to determine their selection of sport. Teams of athletes, such as from one region and of different disciplines, if registering together, can still take advantage of a reduction of \$25 per person.

to B.6.c.:

"Dancing In the River City" is delighted to host next year's NASSPDA Championships.

to B.6.d.:

"Philadelphia Liberty Dance Challenge" has not responded yet regarding hosting next year's US Championships.

to B.6.e.:

Next year's "April Follies" will be again the California State Championships.

to B.6.f. (added to the agenda at this point)

The “Manatee Madness Ballroom Dance Festival,” near Crystal River, Florida, on September 17th & 18th, 2011, doesn’t specify the gender configuration of a couple. Unless same-sex dance couples are judged separately, NASSPDA will not yet ask the organizers to seek sanctioning.

to B.7.:

The NDTA, which is a member of the NDCA, requested adding to NDCA’s agenda of its next meeting the discussion and resolution of formulating an official language for making an exception for NDCA registered officials, who wish to officiate at NDCA non-sanctioned events that are outside of the NDCA’s purview.

to B.8.a. & b.:

Neither committee, the Dance Camp Committee and the Queer Youth Outreach Committee, have reported any progress.

C. New Business

to C.1.:

Mario Spenard’s appointment to the Board, who is replacing the position of Luc Richer on NASSPDA’s Board of Directors and is also from Montreal, Canada, continuous to guarantee the geographical diversity of the Board.

to C.2.: Approved

NASSPDA had been asked to support a contingency of same-sex dancers in New York marching in the Gay Pride Parade of New York City. All donations and expenditure could therefore be labeled “tax-deductible,” based on NASSPDA’s 501(c)(3) status.

to C.3.:

The Board seeks to create a Social Dance Committee and/or the position of a Chair of Social Dance. The idea is to develop measures that will advocate, promote and foster same-sex social dancing through connecting closer to the community at large, increasing communication and doing continuous research.

to C.4.:

All registrants for NASSPDA’s Championships 2011 in Vancouver will be informed of NASSPDA’s membership and residency requirements for garnering this title. The Membership Chair will provide the organizers with an up-to-date membership list, and proof of residency will be controlled through the registration process for the Outgames. A table staffed by NASSPDA at this event will allow membership registration on location, accepting US and Canadian Dollars at a 1-to-1 exchange rate.

D. Schedule next Board meeting

The next conference call meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 17th, 2011, at 1:00 PM EDT.

This meeting adjourned at approx. 2:25 PM EDT.