

Meeting of NASSPDA Board on January 22nd, 2012

MINUTES:

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, January 22nd, 2012, at ~5:34 PM EDT.

In attendance: Lee Fox (Treasurer; joined at 5:40 PM & left at 6:55 PM EDT), Sonja Furiya (Membership Chair), Pat Hogan (GLISA Representative & Communications Director; left at 6:55 PM EDT), Christopher Kelleher (Vice-President), Benjamin Soencksen (Secretary & FGG Delegate), Mario Spenard & Barbara Zoloth (President)

The President posted the following final agenda on January 19th, 2012:

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 Board Policies and Procedures —remaining questions
 - a. Definition of quorum and “super majority”
 - b. Committee to review and “rationalize” policy and procedure documents
2. Committee to create application process and criteria for judges
 - a. Procedures for inviting applications
 - b. Procedures for selecting judges
 - c. Criteria for selecting judges
 - d. System of data collection and maintenance
3. Coordination with other organizations
 - a. Gay Games 2014: FGG/ESSDA/GLISA
 - i. Report on searching for local organizers
 1. Gregory Day, who organized Chicago 2006
 2. Rainbow Wrangles in Cleveland
 - ii. Have Gay Games organizers contacted anyone in Cleveland
 - b. IFSSDA
4. Website
 - a. Management of website? More user friendly?
 - b. Mechanism to add links to photos and videos from specific competitions: location for posting photos by event not yet created
 - c. Separate page for former Board members
 - d. Separate page for competition rules
 - e. Update on creating and posting timeline of NASSPDA history and history of same-sex ballroom
 - f. Donate button
 - g. Approval process for posted events on website not yet functioning correctly
 - h. Page/location for archiving NASSPDA newsletters
 - i. Ability for all members to see list of other members
 - j. Create a music library with more “contemporary” songs
5. Membership initiatives
 - a. Newsletter report
 - b. Membership renewal

6. Upcoming/recent competitions
 - a. Dancing in the River City (DITRC), January 15, 2012, NA Championships
 - b. Philadelphia Liberty Dance Challenge (PLDC), March 31st, 2012, US Championships
 - c. April Follies, April 28, 2012, CA Championship
 - d. Ordering additional NASSPDA medals/ribbons
7. Non-Board committees
 - a. Dance Camp committee
 - b. Queer Youth Outreach committee

C. New Business

1. 2012 Board Elections
2. Report on NASSPDA Annual Meeting, January 16th, 2012, Sacramento
 - a. Request for written history of same-sex ballroom dance, judging rules, grading criteria, how judges are selected, why are men and women judged separately, what is equality dance, how are formation team and show dance judged, etc.
 - b. Give medals to winners of lower grades; participation medals
 - c. Acknowledge where folks are from, age ranges, how long dancing, etc.

D. Schedule next Board meeting(s)

A. Standing Items

to A.1.: Approved All

- A. "April Follies," Oakland, CA, will host the 2013 North American Championships
- B. "Dancing in the River City," Sacramento, CA, will host the 2013 US Championships

to A.2.: Approved

Minutes & Notes 111218

to A.3.:

Account balance at the time of this meeting: \$4,714.42

32 NASSPDA members took advantage of the registration discount at DITRC.

B. Old Business

to B.1.a. & b.: Postponed

to B.2.:

The Adjudicator Application Form will be made available on NASSPDA's website, and judges will be actively approached and invited to apply.

to B.3.a.:

The Secretary and Delegate to the FGG has been appointed by the Board and the FGG's Sport Committee as Sports Coordinator for DanceSport for Gay Games 2014 in Cleveland.

to B.3.a.i.1. & 2.:

An inquiry to the organizers of DanceSport at Chicago 2006 on organizing such an event has gone out, and Rainbow Wranglers, a Country Western group in Cleveland, will be contacted.

One of the organizers of two mainstream competitions held annually in Cleveland is considering getting involved in helping with Cleveland 2014.

to B.3.a.ii.:

No further communication with the organizers of Cleveland 2014 has occurred.

to B.3.b.:

NASSPDA's Delegate to IFSSDA had not reported any further updates prior to this meeting on the progress of establishing IFSSDA as a legal entity.

to B.4.a. through j.: Postponed

During this year's Annual Membership Meeting the request was made for a more user friendly and generally better maintained website, which the Board will look into.

to B.5.b.:

An e-mail letter reminding members to renew will be sent out shortly.

to B.5.a.:

The next eNewsletter will be sent out around February 15th, 2012.

to B.6.a.:

This year's DITRC was the best attended out of all previous years with a third of competitors being NASSPDA members.

to B.6.b.:

The organizers of PLDC confirmed the venue to be the Convention Center in Philadelphia again, and that NASSPDA member will be offered a discount at registration.

to B.6.c.:

"April Follies" has opened registration and all the posted rules conform to NASSPDA rules.

to B.6.d.:

Medals are currently only awarded to the winners of the A-grade/class at the North American Championships. The Board is assessing the feasibility and repercussions of awarding medals to winners of all grades participating (as is done at the Gay Games and Outgames).

to B.7.a.:

No further update available, since any outreach of that committee to arrange a conference call meeting had been so far unsuccessful. New members have joined the committee, and the organizers of a same-sex dance weekend in Palm Springs, CA, showed interest to join forces.

to B.7.b.:

No further update available, but contact with the committee has been renewed.

C. New Business

to C.1.:

The following time line for the election process to the Board is proposed:

- Jan 29 Membership Renewal Push
- Jan 29 Election Announced/Nominations Sought
- Feb 12 2nd Notification of Membership Renewal & Election Nominations Sought
- Feb 26 Nomination Deadline
- Mar 5-18 Election (open & close dates)
- Mar 19-24 Results Determined
- Mar 25 Results Published
- April 1 New Board Members start

to C.2.a., b. & c.: Postponed

Due to time constraints, a full discussion and exploration of the suggestions and requests made at the Annual Membership Meeting has been postponed.

In addition, a request for better rules governing competing in Argentine Tango has been made. NASSPDA's initial focus has been establishing standards for the dance styles offered at the Gay Games and Outgames, which generate the largest participation. The Board though will continue to discuss and explore further possibilities to merge its various different dance scenes.

D. Schedule next Board meeting

The next conference call meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, February 26th, 2012, at 3:30 PM EST.