

Meeting of NASSPDA Board on January 18th, 2015

MINUTES:

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, January 18th, 2015, at ~1:03 PM EST.

In attendance: Eddie Alba (Election Committee Chair), Lee Fox (Treasurer, Finance Committee Co-Chair & Judges Committee Chair), Garret Gerritsen (Membership Co-Chair, Finance Committee Co-Chair & Promotion Committee Chair; until 2:00 PM EST), Pat Hogan (Vice-President, GLISA Representative, Membership Co-Chair & Communications Director; joined ~1:14 PM EST), Benjamin Soencksen (Secretary & FGG Delegate), Kathy Wildman (Website Committee Chair), Michael Winward & Barbara Zoloth (President)

The President posted the following agenda on January 12th, 2015, with important sections to address highlighted in red:

A. Standing Items

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

B. Committee Reports

1. **Financial Report**
2. **Membership Report**
 - a. Newsletter report
 - b. Membership renewal report
 - c. Student membership report
3. **Adjudicator Application Report**
4. **Scholarship Report**
 - a. **Number of scholarships for NA Championship at April Follies 2015?**
5. **Same-Sex Dancesport Promotion Report**
6. **Board Election Report**

C. Old Business

1. Items temporarily on hold.
 - a. Proposed changes in NASSPDA Board Policies and Procedures —remaining questions
 - i. Definition of quorum and “super majority”
 - ii. Committee to review and “rationalize” policy and procedure documents
 - iii. Election of Board members/officers
 - b. Request for history of same-sex ballroom dance (for website) and explanations of rules and procedures (for eNewsletter)
2. Coordination with other organizations
 - a. FGG/ESSDA/GLISA
 - i. **Armin Lohrmann’s (FGG) inquiry about GG10 being Dancesport’s World Championship**
 - b. IFSSDA
 - i. **Update on contacting ESSDA’s Female Co-President**
3. Website
 - a. **Status report**
 - i. Report on plug-in “Membership Mouse”
 - ii. Feasibility of issuing membership cards within this process

4. Upcoming/recent competitions
 - a. April Follies, Oakland, CA, North American Championship, April 25, 2015
 - b. Glitz & Glitter Ball, June 19-21, 2015, Columbus, OH
 - i. **Status report on application for sanction and award of Mid-Atlantic Championship title**
 - c. Montreal Rainbow Dance Challenge, weekend before Labor Day, 2015?
 - d. Boston Open, Provincetown, MA, US Championship, September 18+19, 2015
 - e. NA Outgames, St. Louis, NA Championships, Memorial Day Weekend 2016
 - f. World Outgames, Miami, 2017 World Championship, Week of Memorial Day, 2017 (incl. annual IAGLCWDC Convention plus competition?)
 - g. Gay Games 10, Paris, 2018
5. Competition Rules
 - a. **Adopted Argentine Tango rules to be integrated in NASSPDA Competition Rules**
 - b. **Integrate eligibility rules for receiving medals at NA Championship**
6. Non-Board committees
 - a. Dance Camp committee
 - i. **Possible revival with Palm Springs event in 2016**
 - b. Queer Youth Outreach committee

D. New Business

1. **Priorities for 2014?**
2. **Approval of reordering NA Championships medals**
3. **USA Dance's new definition of a couple in 2015 (NDCA reaction?)**

E. Schedule next Board meeting(s)

1. **Next Board meeting**

A. Standing Items

to A.1.: n/a

to A.2.: Approved

2nd Draft of Minutes & Notes 141214

B. Committee Reports

to B.1.:

NASSPDA's balance of the operating account is \$3,589.94 and savings account \$860.76.

to B.2.a.:

There were no updates or discussions on this agenda item.

to B.2.b.:

Active membership for 2015 stands at 5, prior to having sent renewal reminders to all previously active members, which is planned for the end of January after a few database issues have been resolved.

to B.2.c.:

There were no updates or discussions on this agenda item.

to B.3.:

No new application from adjudicators had been received since the last meeting.

to B.4.a.: Approved

After adding 25% of the operating budget, the balance of the scholarship fund is \$1,757.76, and the Board unanimously voted to award 5 scholarships for the 2015 NA Championships hosted by April Follies. The deadline for receiving applications has been set for February 1st, 2015.

to B.5.a.:

A revised application for promotional grants awarded by NASSPDA, supporting an activity that will foster same-sex dancing, will be posted on NASSPDA's website as well as sent to an inquiring party, and a new e-mail address will be added for submissions and inquiries, promotions@nasspda.org.

to B.6.:

The deadline for receiving nomination is set for the end of January 2015, and so far there are 5 known candidates for 5 positions on the Board to be filled.

C. Old Business

to C.1.a.i. through iii. & b.: Postponed

These agenda items were skipped due to lack of time and are temporarily on hold.

to C.2.a.i. & b.i.:

ESSDA, IAGLCWDC and NASSPDA, the founding organizations of IFSSDA, mutually agreed that Dancesport at all World Outgames and Gay Games shall be considered the World Championships, each one falling under the auspices and rules of the closest continental organization, until IFSSDA has been legally registered and formalized its own rules, as stipulated in the FGG's Red Book.

to C.3.a.i.:

NASSPDA's new website is built on WordPress, and for the membership database a plug-in called "Membership Mouse" is being tested. A Committee has been formed that will keep the website updated.

to C.3.a.ii: Postponed

Due to lack of time and lack of answers as to the feasibility of issuing membership cards within the yet to be tested new membership platform this agenda item was indefinitely postponed.

to C.4.a.:

No further updates at the time of this meeting.

to C.4.b.:

Once revised information and registration documents have been received and approved by the Board, the organizers' request for sanctioning will be voted on.

to C.4.c.:

There had been again no further update on the status of the 2015 Montreal Rainbow Dance Challenge at the time of this meeting, despite previous multiple efforts of communication.

to C.4.d.:

Since NASSPDA's liaison to the Boston Open will again be the head-judge, another Board member will take on the task to verify eligibility for the 2015 US Championship title.

to C.4.e.:

It is still unclear who will be organizing Dancesport at the 2016 North America Outgames in St. Louis.

to C.4.f.:

No updates to report at the time of this meeting.

to C.4.g.:

(see above under to C.2.a.i. & b.i.:)

to C.5.a. & b.: Postponed

The Board has received a revision of NASSPDA's Competition Rules for review, which incorporates the adopted rules for Argentine Tango as well as the addition of awarding medals to

the first 3 placed couples in all levels of the NA Championships without any eligibility requirements.

to C.6.a.:

Negotiations for a dance camp plus competition in January 2016 in the Palm Spring/San Diego/Orange County area are in progress.

to C.6.b.:

An update from this Committee at the time of this meeting wasn't available.

D. New Business

to D.1.: Postponed

This agenda item was postponed due to lack of time.

to D.2.: Approved

The Board approved the expenditure of 100 more medals for the NA Championships.

to D.3.:

There has been no reaction by the NDCA to USA Dance's announcement to eliminate the definition of a couple as "male and female" in their rules, effective at the 2015 Nationals.

E. Schedule next Board meeting

The next conference call meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, March 1st, 2015, at 1:00 PM EST.