

Meeting of NASSPDA Board on February 14, 2016

MINUTES:

Conference call meeting started on Sunday, February 14th, 2015, at 4:06 PM EST.

In attendance:, Lee Fox (Treasurer, Finance Committee Co-Chair), Garret Gerritsen (Election Committee Chair, Membership Co-Chair, Finance Committee Co-Chair & Promotion Committee Chair), Pat Hogan (Vice-President, GLISA Representative, Membership Co-Chair), Benjamin Soencksen (President, FGG Delegate, and Scholarship Chair), Kathy Wildman (Secretary & Website Committee Chair), Michael Winward, and Barbara Zoloth (Governance Policy Committee Chair).

Absent: Eddie Alba (Competition Committee Co-chair) and Andrew Pueschel (Competition Committee Co-chair),

The President posted the agenda January 31, 2016, with important sections to address highlighted in **red**. That agenda is replicated below in black and red; discussion is in **pink**.

A. Standing Items

1. Polls since last meeting to be recorded
None.
2. Approve minutes from last meeting
December 2015 Minutes & Notes were approved by 8 votes.

B. Committee Reports

1. Financial

The Treasurer reported that we have \$ 3,716.57 in the Operating Fund and \$ 2,527.48 in the Scholarship Fund. We also still have some money in the PayPal account which will be in the Operating Fund next month.

The Treasurer will file the required IRS e-postcard (we are under the income threshold for filing an actual return).

2. Membership
 - a. **Membership update**

A Membership Co-Chair reported that total membership is 36, in the following breakdown: 30 individual members, no student members, 2 organizations, 3 teams, no affiliates, and 1 honorary membership.

A Membership Co-Chair will notify members of the need to renew.

2. Membership
 - b. Revised proposal of change to tiered membership levels (revisited when reached 200 members)
 - c. Newsletter
No report.
3. Scholarship Committee
 - a. **Discuss any received applications**

No applications have been received so far.

b. **Policy on repeat applicant?**

We agreed that a member should be able to apply for a scholarship when a previous scholarship was received under his or her name as a part of a group or Team.

4. Same-Sex Dancesport Promotion Committee

No report.

- a. NASSPDA member's registration discount at sanctioned competitions
i. Policy to be included in procedures for competition liaison

5. Board Election Committee

- a. **New proposed election timeline (election in May)**

The Board received the email from the Election Committee Chair and there were no objections to the timeline.

The next deadline is April 8 --- for applications and to begin vetting.

The following Board Members are up for reelection: Lee Fox, Michael Winword, Eddie Alba, and Pat Hogan.

- b. **Updated election manual on Yahoo Group**

The manual will be updated now that the Board has approved the timeline.

6. Website Committee

- a. **Status report? Completion date?**

The Committee Chair reported that the test site had been down for 24 hours, but was available once again. She will start to prepare an overall "To Do" list for the completion of the website, collecting input from the different chairs.

- b. **Q & A with John (website consultant)**

Due to the unfortunate timing of this downtime of the new website's test site, the Board decided not to have the website consultant join this Board meeting, since a review and formulating questions by the Board wasn't possible.

7. Competition Committee

- a. **Adjudicator application(s)?**

Tonia Kosovich was unanimously approved as an adjudicator by 7 votes.

- b. **Sanctioning application(s)? (See under C.3.)**

NASSPDA received an application for sanctioning the "Provincetown Dance Trophy" by the organizer of the annually held Boston Open, which will be held on Oct. 1, 2016. This event will use a format in which people are individually judged against their proficiency level and will use local celebrities next to NASSPDA approved judges. The Board expressed a reluctance to flat out sanction this event, but is considering adding a new category of NASSPDA supported events.

- c. **Title authorization application(s)?**

- d. **Suggested revisions of or additions to Competition Rules?**

8. Governance Policy Committee
 - a. **Approve final draft**

The Board unanimously approved the 10th draft of the Governance Policies as presented by the Committee Chair. This document will be posted on NASSPDA's website and the Board's Yahoo group site.

C. Old Business

1. Request for history of same-sex ballroom dance (for website) and explanations of rules and procedures (for eNewsletter)

The President requested comments on the timeline he sent out. He explained that he had concentrated mainly on events and included only the first of a given event and not subsequent repeats.

After one change, the history will be posted on the website and reported in the newsletter.

2. Coordination with other organizations
 - a. FGG/ESSDA & GLISA

As noted in communications received, FGG is considering ceasing to allow events at the Gay Games be labelled 'World Championships' in that sport, partly to avoid any fees attached to this practice, such as ESSDA requesting a licensing fee from the organizers of Dancesport for their sanctioning."

The President will write to ESSDA to express NASSPDA's concern about the possible outcomes of their license fee request for a championship title.

- b. IFSSDA

3. Upcoming/recent competitions

- a. Floorplay in the Desert, Palm Springs, CA, January 15-17, 2016 (Lee)
More information is in the Newsletter.

- b. April Follies, Oakland, CA, April 23, 2016 (Eddie)

Contact person should be Citabria Ozzuna and not Barbara Zoloth. The liaison will be informed.

- c. NA Outgames, St. Louis, MO, NA Championships, May 27 – June 4, 2016 (Barbara)

- i. **Applied rules for Tango: "Tango de Pista (Salon Tango) and Stage Tango rules apply."?**

The liaison will communicate with them about this apparent departure from NASSPDA rules, as stated on their website.

- ii. **Medals for the NA Championships: Stickers?**

It would alleviate waste and burdensome work if stickers were not used, but Board Members are ambivalent about this.

This subject was tabled for additional discussion in the future.

- d. Glitz & Glitter Ball, Columbus, OH, US Championship, July 23, 2016 (Eddie)

- e. Delaware Valley Equality Ball, Woodbury, NJ, August 2016? (Benjamin)
- f. Montreal Rainbow Dance Challenge, September 3, 2016 (Lee)
- g. Boston Open, Provincetown, October 1, 2016 (Michael)
 - i. Sanctioning Application
See above
- h. World Outgames, Miami, FL, 2017 World Championship, Week of Memorial Day 2017 (incl. annual IAGLCWDC Convention plus combined competition?) – (Lee)
- i. Gay Games 10, Paris, France, 2018 World Championships, Summer 2018

D. New Business

1. Pro-Am championship titles?
2. Approval requirements of adjudicators from non-NA regions?
3. NASSPDA's Annual Membership Meeting: date & time?

This will take place in St. Louis and the Board President has been in contact with the organizers (who are being very generous) about a place.

4. Expand NASSPDA's mission (see BASSDA's competition rules for April Follies)? Change name (suggested NAGEDA - North American Gender Equality Dance Association)?

Subject postponed.

E. Schedule next Meeting(s)

March 20, 2016 at 5pm EST, 4pm CST, 2 PST.