

Minutes of the NASSPDA Board meeting, SUNDAY, April 23, 2023, 11:00 AM PDT, 1:00 PM CDT, 2:00 PM EDT

Present:

1. Benjamin Soencksen (President, FGG Delegate, Scholarship Committee Chair)
2. Debbie Esparza (Vice President)
3. Erik Jaeger (Secretary)
4. Rufi Oswaldo (Board Member)- joined at 3:05pm EDT
5. Lee Fox (Treasurer, Finance Committee & Membership Chair; Competition Committee Co-Chair)
6. Kalin Mitov (Promotion Committee Chair)
7. Eddie Alba (Competition Committee Co-Chair)
8. Susie Hoskins (Board Member)
9. Emma DiFrancesco (Board Member)
10. Jo Popadynetz (Board Member)

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 02:10pm EST

Meeting ended 03:43pm EST

1. Standing Items

1.1. Polls since last meeting to be recorded (see B.7.a.i.)

- No Polls since last meeting
- Patti Panebianco's application as a judge approved by Board via email between meetings.

1.2. Approve minutes & notes from last meeting

- Board unanimously approved last meeting's minutes and notes

2. Committee Reports

2.1. Financial:

- General fund: \$5,016.50
- Scholarship fund: \$0. Account was closed to avoid bank fees due to low balances. Money was transferred to the general fund account.
- Stripe: \$884.94
- Expenses since last meeting: \$1,000 event sponsorship to April Follies and \$1,500 event sponsorship to Floorplay.
- Income since last meeting: membership dues

2.2. Membership:

2.2.1. Membership update

- 43 total members (+2 since last meeting), 24 individual, 5 first partner, 5 second partner, 1 Teams, 2 Organizations, 6 Honorary Members, 0 Student

2.2.2. Registration discount reimbursements

- No reimbursements due to sponsorship

2.2.3. reinstated Paypal (in addition to Stripe, as an alternative payment platform)?

- In process

2.3. Scholarship Committee:

2.3.1. On hold for 2023

2.3.2. Policy changes for scholarship eligibility, procedure, numbers and levels (Debbie & Jo)

- No decisions taken

2.4. Promotion Committee:

2.4.1. eNewsletter

- April Newsletter to 400 people: 207 opened, 3% clicked through to floor play and finding a partner.

2.4.2. Activity Grant (on hold for 2023)

- No updates

2.4.3. Ambassadorship(s) applications

- No requests

2.4.4. Report on use and effect of Google Adwords grant (hired new consultant?)

- No decisions taken

2.4.5. Policy regarding listing/promotion of non-NASSPDA events (temporarily based on membership)

- Postponed to next meeting

2.5. Website Committee:

2.5.1. Website/Archive updates (minutes, biographies, privacy policy statement page published?)

- No decisions taken

2.5.2. Report on fixing/revamping/redesigning website (

- No decisions taken

2.6. Board Election Committee 2023:

- 2.6.1. Term ends in 2023: Benjamin, Emma, Erik, Jo, Rufi, Susie (Rufi not running again)
- 2.6.2. **Approved timeline:**
 - April 22, 2023 – deadline for nominations
 - April 23, 2023 – discussion on new candidates?
 - May 1, 2023 – posting of ballots
 - May 7, 2023 – resending ballots
 - May 14, 2023 – end of election / announce election results
- 2.7. Competition Committee:
 - 2.7.1. Adjudicator application(s)?
 - 2.7.1.1. **Record approval of Patti Panebianco as NASSPDA judge (recommended by Competition Committee and approved by 6 votes from the Board)**
 - Recorded under section 1.1.
 - 2.7.2. Sanctioning application(s)?
 - No Applications
 - 2.7.3. Title authorization application(s)?
 - No Applications
 - 2.7.4. Suggested revisions of or additions to Competition Rules?
 - 2.7.4.1. **Change membership requirements for garnering NASSPDA titles?**
 - No decisions taken
- 3. Old Business
 - 3.1. Coordination with other organizations
 - 3.1.1. FGG/ESSDA
 - 3.1.1.1. **Updates on Dancesport at GG11 hosted in Guadalajara (dates confirmed, see below)**
 - Zoom meeting will take place 4/24 with the organizing committee.
 - Board was informed that the venue and timing have been displayed correctly since the page for Dancesport has been created at the beginning of March 2023, but that the English language page is wrongly titled 'Dance Sports,' that the link to IFSSDA's Competition Rules located on NASSPDA's website isn't working and that information is displayed that relates to 'Cheerleading,' not 'Dancesport,' such as the listing of 'Divisions.'
 - 3.1.2 IFSSDA
 - 3.1.2.1 **Progress report on IFSSDA's website**
 - No update
 - 3.2. Upcoming/recent competitions
 - 3.2.1. Boston Open Dancesport & USA Championships, Dedham, MA, April 1, 2023 – **report**
 - **report posted to the newsletter**
 - 3.2.2. April Follies, Grand Ball (no competition), Oakland, CA, April 29, 2023
 - No update
 - 3.2.3. Floorplay LA, NA Championships, Los Angeles, July 22, 2023
 - 3.2.3.1. **NASSPDA Membership Meeting (day prior or after?)**
 - No update
 - 3.2.4. World Dancesport Pride Cup, Orlando, FL, June 2023 ?
 - Dancesport will not be part of the pride cup this year.
 - 3.2.5. Gay Games XI, Guadalajara, Mexico, November 5 through 8, 2023
 - See 3.1.1
 - 3.3. Use of Google Suites to edit and comment on language/documents in development
 - 3.4. **Report on 2023 Event Sponsorship**
 - 3.4.1. **Program half-page ads (created?)**
 - 3.4.2. **Banner at event (present?)**
 - 3.4.3. **Member discount of no less than \$10 (confirmation and report)**
 - 3.4.4. **Sponsorship announced on event's website (done?)**
 - No decisions taken
- 4. New Business
 - 4.1. **NASSPDA's response to stochastic terrorism and legislation against trans people**
 - No decisions taken
 - 4.2. **Discussion about NASSPDA's future**
 - 4.2.1. **Discontinuation of 'April Follies' leaves vacuum, having hosted the largest NASSPDA sanctioned event**
 - 4.2.2. **Change of gender rules of NDCA and USA Dance makes mainstream events attractive**
 - 4.2.3. **Daphna Locker, organizing the MAC in NYC for New York Chapter of USA Dance, considering adding graded events to the competition (possibly with assistance from NASSPDA)**
 - 4.2.4. **Possible associations and cooperations with either mainstream organization**
 - 4.2.4.1. **Values, procedures, rules setting apart NASSPDA from mainstream:**
 - **No distinction between amateur and professional dancer**
 - **(except for identified Student/Teacher couple)**
 - **Allowing switching lead within a dance (equality dancing)**

- Separating categories into classes/grades (grading/classification system)
- Dividing categories into gender specific configurations of couples
- (men, women, reverse- and open-role)
- Authorization of and lack of conduct as well as costume rules for officials

4.2.4.2. How to prevent losing important history and particular rules that define NASSPDA

- Board unanimously approved setting up a meeting with USA Dance to start working on a path to cooperation.
5. **Schedule next Meeting**
- June 4, 2023 2:00p Eastern/ 11:00a Pacific