

# **Minutes Folk Dance Federation of CA, South, Quarterly Council Meeting**

**April 24, 2022**

## **Attending:**

### **OFFICERS**

President: Diane Baker

Vice-President: Leslie Halberg

Secretary (Acting): Jody Stern

Treasurer: Mindy Belli

Historian: Wen-Li Chiang

Sergeant-at-Arms: Terry Gucwa

Parliamentarian: Marshall Cates

### **STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Fall Camp Co-Chairs: Jan and Marc Rayman

Finance: Marshall Cates

Folk Dance Scene: Jay Michtom

Insurance: Julith Neff

Scholarship:

### **PAST PRESIDENTS**

Marshall Cates

### **GUESTS**

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS**

Steve Himel

### **CLUB DELEGATES**

Bay Osos Folk Dancers: Billy Burke

Cabrillo: Jody Stern

Canejo Valley:

Cerritos Folk Dancers: Sue Chen

International Folk Dancers (Laguna Woods): Terry Gucwa

Laguna International Dancers: Greg Solloway

Narodni: Julith Neff

Pasadena Co-op: Leslie Halberg

Ventura: Carol Smith

Veselo Selo: Diane Baker

Vintage Israel: Jim Rothman

West Side Folk Dancers: Sandy Helperin

West Valley: Monica Zordich

## 1. Approval of minutes from Jan. 23 mtg.

Corrections to minutes: Mindy Belli, corrected that not just for Covid but for any issue. Delete "Covid"

-Also, total amount should be \$11,000, not \$1,100

- Carol Smith moved, and Jan Rayman seconded
- -Marc & Jan Rayman doesn't believe that it's necessary to include names of people approving/seconding for archival purposes, but rather just summarize decisions.
- Marshall Cates said different groups do things differently.
- -Diane will include that as an agenda point for the next minute
- Marc Rayman believes the Fall Camp report should be included with the reports, rather than a separate file/report. Diane will check that for the next meeting
- MINUTES APPROVED

## 2. Officer's Report

A. President Statewide 2023 will be in Redman Wigwam Hall in San Pedro May 19-21, 2023; Bata will teach and 2<sup>nd</sup> teacher TBD; Planning committee will begin in August.

-wooden floor; Parking 2 blocks away. Insurance necessary.

-Web master list of past presidents has been updated. All reports will be included in next minutes

- Membership Directory for 2023 will be completed in July

B. President read VP report

Fall Camp Ojai event- October 1, 2022. Board approved.

-Saturday, May 14 – Cerritos Anniversary Festival – masks, vaccinations, social distancing preferred, but not required.

-New date for Cerritos Lunar New Year Festival, Feb. 25, 2023.

C. Marc Rayman- Fall Camp Report

- Fall Camp 2022 – November 11-13; Marc Rayman and Jan Rayman co-chairs
  - They now have signed contracts with master teachers Roberto Bagnoli and Steve Kotansky. They also now have a signed contract with Brandeis.

#### D. Scholarships

- No scholarship applications yet; will extend application period
- Shana wants rule changed; she wants applicants to be able to apply the next year
- Diane suggests a compromise is possible; applicants can't apply the next year, but in 2 years. Shana can bring proposal for vote at next council meeting.

E. Scene - Jay Michtom wants to change the way that mailings are sent. Postage cost is lower if copies are folded & placed in envelope. He hopes that ads, now increasing after covid closed events & trips, will come in to help with costs.

Jay also reported that Lila Aurich passed away 4/22/22 at the age of 94. He would like to include some info about her for the June issue (too late for May issue) Jay is requesting personal anecdotes or pictures/memories to include.

F. Julith Neff – Insurance reports-- She's obtained certificates for all the clubs that have requested one.

G. Marshall Cates – Fiscal Committee will meet before next council meeting. Current issues are scholarships, Pandemic.

H. Sergeant of Arms – Yes there is a quorum present

I. Mindy treasurer report – not much activity, Mt. Dancers donated balance of their account. We want to acknowledge that they didn't distribute their money among the members, but rather returned what they had to the Federation in gratitude for help they received from the Federation. There was a slight loss (\$130) on the March 20 Armenian Workshop & Party due to smaller than planned attendance. Two scholarships were paid during quarter. Total assets are currently \$76,000. Checking - \$15,000 and savings \$61,000. Reminder to sign up with Amazon Smile with the Federation South as your preferred charity.

### 3. Old Business

## A. Submission for waivers.

- Mindy was a paralegal. Compilation of advice from legal experts.
- Marc believes that if Federation is concerned, Federation should get a lawyer
- Carol Smith wants to know why insurance isn't sufficient
- Mindy said that there may be a case where someone wants to sue and insurance may not be enough – a waiver would cover that. This would provide extra security.
- Diane said the waiver would also make participants aware that there may be some risk in participating. In CA, there's no law that would prevent someone from suing. The waiver would cover simple negligence.
- Mindy suggested reviewing the insurance coverage carefully and not to assume what it covers, e.g. Covid claims.
- Jim Rothman said that a waiver could help. He said Vintage Israeli uses one.
- Mindy said that responding to a claim in and of itself is expensive and could bankrupt us just to show up in court.
- Judith Neff said it would intimidate people to not sue, so it might discourage people from suing.
- Mindy said the paper waivers could be scanned and kept on a flash drive, so it would be low cost. Mindy thinks waiver should be reviewed by an attorney and she thinks a waiver is better than no waiver. She thinks it should be used for festivals, not individual clubs.
- There was a discussion about whether individual clubs affiliated with the Federation should require members to also sign a waiver. Marshall said the federation doesn't have the authority to require individual clubs to have a waiver.
- Diane wasn't sure if there should be a general waiver that would include diseases, such as Covid.

**MOTION:** Federation should require participants to sign a liability waiver, including infectious diseases, to participate in federation sponsored events. 10 in favor of the motion. 3 against, 1 abstained. **The motion passed.**

- Marshall thinks we should plagiarize existing waivers to avoid the cost of an attorney.
- Marc feels that Mindy should draft something as the chance of needing a waiver at all is extremely low, and she has experience with this.
- Final decision: Mindy will draft and have others review before adapting.

-Send the electronic waiver out to registrants so they can review it before the event. How they will be submitted is still under discussion; electronic or at the door.

#### 4. New Business

- A. Elections. Diane will continue as president. The current VP is moving, and new VP is needed. Other officers will continue. No secretary. A search committee is necessary for additional officers.
- B. Ojai event will take place. A committee is needed. Carol Smith agreed to chair committee with help from others, e.g. Diane and Julith Neff. Mindy very reluctantly agreed to be the Registrant again. Terry agreed to do the music again.
- C. -Statewide name suggestion was “the Gateway”. Another suggestion was “Harbor View”. “Harbor View” was preferred.

-Two visuals were offered by an artist. “Pavillion in the Mist” and “Returning Home” (but with some cropping”.



It would be used on flyers, banners, and posters. Sandy Helperin said that the artist should give permission if the image is cropped or changed. 8 members preferred “Pavillion in the Mist” and 10 preferred “Returning Home.” All agreed to defer to Artist who is designing the flyer, Elyse Ellinger.

- D. Next meeting will be virtual via zoom **August 28, 2022**. Diane will be out of town in July.
- E. Jay Michtom – Master Teacher Fund --wants to know how Ahmet will be paid since money in the fund was placed in Covid Relief account. The Master

Teacher Fund pays \$200 of the teacher's fee for each event. Ahmet will teach for 2 Federation clubs and 2 other SoCal clubs in May 2022.

- Motion: to return \$1,000 from the Virus Relief Fund back to the Visiting Master Teacher fund. Marshall moved, and Julith seconded. Motion passed.

F. Diane agreed to make sure that minutes from last meeting that are recorded are complete and include all reports.

## Reports April 24, 2022

### President

Statewide 2023 will take place in San Pedro May 19 – 21 at the Redman's Hall. Address: *543 Shepherd St., San Pedro 90731*

Location is a scenic neighborhood on bluff above beach, 2 blocks from Point Fermin Park. Bata Marcetic has agreed to teach. 2<sup>nd</sup> teacher has been invited.

Festival planning committee will begin meeting—zoom and at times in person in August.

Finding and securing venue for festival took an enormous amount of time in March. Thus the Federation Directory is not compiled. I will do that after my vacation.

The board met by email and voted to sponsor an autumn event in Ojai on Saturday Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Carol reserved the Art Center.

The Armenian/International event featuring Tom Bozigian & Sheree King took place March 20, after omicron postponement. Attendance was reduced by co-incidence of Marathon. Pure joy radiated throughout hall—both during teaching and the international party. Request board filled. We could have danced 'til dawn. I would like an encore event in January 2023. Special thanks to Mindy for handling registration and Terry for producing music.

### VPres

Next festival sponsored by Federation is the Cerritos Anniversary Fest, Saturday May 14, 2022

Statewide Pastoral Fandango, Petaluma      May 20-22, 2022

Fall event in Ojai      Saturday October 1, 2022

Fall Camp      Nov 11 – 13, 2022

Change of date for Cerritos Lunar New Year Festival . New date is 2-25-23

### Membership Report

3 clubs renewed membership: Rainbow, Kypseli, Scandia – the performing group.

The clubs that did not renew are Mountain (ceased), Ethnic Express Las Vegas, Skandia South Dance Club, Santa Maria Folk Dancers, Westwood (merged)

### Webmaster

List of past presidents has been updated, and they are mentioned as being Honorary Associate Members on website.

### Fall Camp

Fall Camp 2022 is scheduled for Nov. 11-13. We now have signed contracts with master teachers Roberto Bagnoli and Steve Kotansky. We also now have a signed contract with Brandeis-Bardin- Marc Rayman and Jan Rayman, Fall Camp co-chairs

### Scholarship Report

Shana reports that there have been no applicants for scholarship in 2022. She wants rule change to allow for consecutive scholarships

### Scene

Not y received. See body of minutes