



MINUTES OF THE FOLKDANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The council meeting of the Folkdance Federation of California, South was held on June 28, 2026 virtually via Zoom. It began at 9:33 a.m. and was presided over by President Solloway.

ATTENDEES

Officers: President, Greg Solloway; Vice President, Chin Yu; Treasurer, Mindy Belli; Secretary, Margaret Lange; Insurance Chair, Julith Neff; Membership Chair, Amy Dale; Historian, Wen-Li Chiang; Sergeant-at-Arms, Terry Gucwa

Standing Committee Chairs: Folk Dance *Scene*: Michael Wright; Outreach Committee, Greg Solloway

Ad Hoc Committee Chairs: Fall Camp, Jan and Marc Rayman; Statewide 2027: Chin Yu

Club Delegates: Bay Osos Dancers, Margaret Lange; Cerritos Folk Dancers, Sue Chen; Crestline International Folk Dancers: Megan Miller; International Folk Dancers of Laguna Woods, Terry Gucwa; Laguna International Dancers, Greg Solloway; Narodni International Folkdancers, Julith Neff; San Diego Folk Dance Center: Mary Marshall; Vintage Israeli, Jim Rothman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Solloway asked if there were any changes to the previous meeting's minutes. One error was noted. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2026 meeting as corrected.

MOTION: A motion to approve as corrected the minutes of the previous council meeting on March 15, 2026 was made by Mindy Belli and seconded by Amy Dale. The motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICERS' REPORTS

President Greg Solloway

President Solloway welcomed Megan Miller from the Crestline International Folk Dancers. He noted that Diane Baker has secured a laptop for the group. Megan expressed gratitude for the donation and said she was glad to no longer be using cassette tapes for music. Greg offered to share dance music. Megan noted that the Crestline International Folk Dancers meet on the third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m.

President Solloway announced that Laguna International Dancers are hosting a party on July 8th, with music by Sans Frontières, and an ice cream social. (See attached flyer.)

Vice President Chin Yu

Cerritos Lunar New Year Party. Vice President Yu said that she received an application from Wen-Li Chiang of the Cerritos Folk Dancers to support Cerritos Anniversary Festival May 15, 2027. It was noted that this date directly conflicts with the dates of the Statewide 2027 festival. Wen-Li said he will explore an alternate date.

Treasurer Mindy Belli

Treasurer Belli presented and reviewed the Year-End report. (See attached.)

She noted that the fourth quarter record is merged into the year-end report. While reading the narrative, she corrected "Irving" to "Irvine."



The finances and need for subsidizing *Scene* were discussed. Treasurer Belli noted that the last subsidy was provided in September 2025. She suggested that another subsidy could be needed in approximately three months.

MOTION: A motion to subsidize the *Scene* in the amount of \$2,500, effective in August 2026, was made by Mindy Belli and seconded by Jan Rayman. The motion carried.

Subsidies for the Visiting Master Teacher program were discussed. It was noted that three groups hosted teachers but that only two requested subsidies. It was determined that the San Diego Folk Dance Center did not request a subsidy. Mary Marshall of the San Diego Folk Dance Center said she wasn't aware of the option and that she would discuss with her board whether to submit a request for subsidy. This prompted a discussion about whether the communication to Federation clubs about subsidies and scholarships is effective and whether the offerings are included on the Federation website.

APPOINTED OFFICERS' REPORTS

Insurance Chairperson, Julith Neff

Chairperson Neff stated that she is up to date on all requests for certificates. She noted that the new online National Folk Organization directory may not include all Federation clubs. President Solloway, Julith and Diane Baker volunteered to follow up to verify the accuracy of the listings.

Membership Chairperson, Amy Dale

Chairperson Dale discussed the membership renewal forms. She said will work with Treasurer Belli to make them more user-friendly. She noted that fillable PDFs are in the works. She suggested that the website information and forms need to be updated. Mark Rayman mentioned that the website would benefit from an independent outside and objective review for content and organization. A suggestion was made to form an ad hoc committee to review and make suggestions for improvements.

Sergeant-at-Arms, Terry Gucwa

A quorum was met.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

Finance, Marshall Cates

Chairperson Cates was not present; no report.

Scholarships, Carol Smith

Chairperson Smith was not present; no report.

Scene, Michael Wright, Editor

Michael stated that the layout team is ending its tenure in October and he is looking for a new graphics team. The work would entail creating a final layout based on his preliminary layout, then sending the final to the printer and online publisher. A stipend of \$100.00 will be provided to the layout person/team for each issue. There are 10 issues per year. He guaranteed support through the transition. Michael encouraged the clubs submit articles to the *Scene* and suggested the clubs could designate a member to report their activities to and promote their events in the *Scene*. He will create a form to be distributed to clubs to assist with their contributions. Mark Rayman suggested that clubs could also report on members interests outside of folkdance as general human interest pieces.

Secretary's note: Michael can be contacted at michael@theresultsgroup.com, 707-484-4022.



Visiting Master Teachers, Jay Michtom

Jay Michtom was not present. President Solloway noted that he was not sure if Jay Michtom will continue as VMT chair. He discussed the tour by Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu. The Laguna International Dancers, San Diego Folk Dance Center, and Cerritos Folk Dancers hosted them. (See discussion in Treasurer Report regarding subsidies.)

Outreach Committee

President Solloway reported that the committee did not meet during the past quarter. Their main thrust was getting the Crestline folk dance group going. Funds were spent on upgrading a computer for the group. Additionally, he has applied to participate in a Health Faire but has not heard back yet.

AD HOC COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS

Fall Camp 2026, Co-Chairs Marc and Jan Rayman

Marc read their narrative report. President Solloway thanked Marc and congratulated him on securing early registrations. (The Fall Camp report and a Fall Camp flyer are attached.) (See fallcamp.org for details.)

Statewide 2027, Co-Chairs Chin Yu and Mary Marshall

Vice President Yu and Mary Marshall reported on the status of planning: flyers for Statewide 2027 (see attached) were brought to Chico Statewide 2026; Diane Baker has joined the planning committee; Mindy Belli will be the registrar; Sherri Cochran will be the deejay. Still to be decided are the sound system and technician, the schedule, the budget, and the host hotel. Terry Gucwa noted that the Federation has its own sound equipment that can be used. Mindy and President Solloway suggested that the finance committee work with the Statewide committee to set a budget for the festival. Solloway congratulated the Statewide committee on making lots of progress.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS CARRIED

1. That the minutes of the previous council meeting on March 15, 2026 be approved as corrected.
2. That *Scene* receive a subsidy in the amount of \$2,500.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Solloway mentioned that he met Mery Levonyan, an Armenian dance teacher, while on a recent tour with master teachers Tineka and Maurice Van Gheel. He is checking into having her provide workshops in the U.S. Mery's CV is attached.

FUTURE MEETING DETAILS

The next council meeting of the Folkdance Federation of California, South was set for Sunday, September 27, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., virtually via Zoom.



ADJOURNMENT

The council meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Margaret Lange

Secretary

Folklance Federation of California, South

September 2, 2026

Date Submitted

Date of Approval