

USA Dance #1011
Minutes - Monthly Board Meeting
May 18, 2008

- 1. Meeting called to order at 5:40PM at the Marie Callendar Restaurant**
- 2. Quorum: 3 Board members**
 - a. Present:**
 - i. Rush Behnke, President
 - ii. Donn Knokey, Vice President
 - iii. Esther Freeman, Treasurer
 - iv. Nancy Yie, Secretary
 - v. Tanya DeHart
 - vi. Susan Dallas
 - vii. Lois Adams
 - viii. Jeri Capuzo (past President)
 - b. Absent:**
 - i. Sonia Revitt, Membership Chair
 - ii. Darlene Chapman
 - iii. Marilee Grimm
 - iv. Bill Jordan
 - v. George Helfrick
 - vi. Charlene Stewart
 - c. Total Board Members: 13**
- 3. Minutes:** Minutes were corrected to reflect Chamber of Commerce Membership is \$265. Dance Committee members (not Esther) made the recommendation to cancel the 3rd Sunday dance in May and to keep the last Sat dance in August.
- 4. Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. Jan 1, 2008: \$6224.53 (both accounts)
 - b. May 17, 2008: \$2,220.31 (checks that have not cleared the bank are not reported) Esther can mail a copy of the Treasurer's report to Board members if they wish; Donn asked for one. In summary, there has been a continuous decline in revenue over the last 2 years because of the use of live music for several dances, which was what people wanted at the time. This Board will need to decide what it wants to do about the type of dances USA Dance offers.
 - c. Checks are generally signed by the Vice President and Treasurer and Esther asked that Board members identified to sign checks not be changed since changes need to go through National.
 - d. Esther has volunteered to run for Treasurer for National. She asked us to sign a petition if we were in agreement.
- 5. Committee Chair Reports:**
 - a. **Membership** – Esther will report for Sonia - Currently our records show 100 members, although National shows only 95. There are 14 previous members

that have not yet renewed. Rush has made several calls to previous members and 4 of them have renewed their membership.

- b. **Dance** - Donn Knokey discussed the following:
 - i. A day event with a golf “tournament” in the morning followed by a dance in the evening was discussed to be held sometime in August. Possibilities include using the 9-hole golf course in Gold Hill followed by a dance in the late afternoon/evening. The theme of a luau may still be used. Too much food was prepared at last year’s dance and tickets may need to be purchased ahead of time to prevent a second occurrence. The Dance committee will continue to work on plans for this event.
 - ii. The New Year’s Dance was also discussed. Possibilities include hosting the dance in a different place than the Evergreen Ballroom so that alcohol and food can be available. Jeri said that a liquor license can be obtained for a champagne toast at the Evergreen and by keeping it alcohol-free predominantly, young people may attend. Donn also said that renting a place in town can be very expensive. Esther offered that if USA Dance does not host the dance next year, we will lose that spot at the Ballroom. In addition, our dance does not seem to appeal to strong couples but to others. Another option is to have a dance close to the 31st but not on the exact date. This will be addressed at future meetings.
- c. **Newsletter** – Rush reported for Charlene. She has been feeling somewhat overwhelmed and she & Rush decided that perhaps just a summer edition, followed by monthly newsletters in the fall would be more appropriate. The summer edition is close to being ready.
- d. **Website** – Arlen Hatlestad, who has agreed to keep the website updated, is an honorary USA Dance member. Esther stated that he will still need to complete an application, but USA Dance will pay the membership. George agreed to work with him. Apparently National just changed servers but the web site has not changed.
- e. **Public Relations** – Chair position has not yet been filled. Rush agreed to Chair this committee with Donn’s help. The focus will be to reach out to the community at large, as well as the dance community, as to the mission of USA Dance.
- f. **Youth & Scholarship** – Marilee Grimm will Chair this committee. Rush states that he feels the future of USA Dance lies in supporting the Scholarship function of the organization. Perhaps in the future, a percentage of the funds obtained into the organization can be allocated for this purpose.
- g. **The SOU Dance Club** President is trying to generate excitement for dance and would like to put on a dance competition; he has asked for USA Dance help. Susan commented that the SAU students would benefit from some good instruction, as she has been to their dances.
- h. **Dancing with the Rogue Valley Stars** - Esther is the Chair. A tentative date has been set for April 18, 2009 at Kids Unlimited. The date chosen will not conflicting with the National Championships.

- i. **Fundraising** – Tanya DeHart, Rush & Donn had a meeting at the Craterian Theatre for a dance demonstration; auditions may need to be held to limit the entries. Participants do not all need to be USA Dance members but would have to show USA dance sponsors; those who have given workshops could also be included. It could also include other dance forms such as jazz, ballet etc. in addition to ballroom. A tentative date of May 19, 2009 was set until further plans can be made. The rental cost is \$660/day, and does not include lighting, technical support etc. An approximate cost is \$3500.00 for the event. Sponsorship is needed for the event. Rush volunteered 10% of the total cost and will solicit other businesses for their contributions. The upper room at the Theatre could be used for a reception. Tanya may be able to be the Stage Manager, but that will need to be clarified. Tanya will look for other people to be on the committee.
6. **Old Business:**
- a. **Name the Chapter Contest:** The entries were discussed by the Board. Nancy suggestion we amend So Dance to So.Dance; Donn was in agreement. Esther suggested we wait a month for the Board to vote (it may need a membership vote – the bylaws will be checked).
 - b. **Third Sunday Dances:** Donn thought we should keep the fall dates that have been scheduled until we can come to a final decision. Rush stated that some of the instructors felt that the Sunday dances competed with their dances. Nancy stated that we have used these instructors to teach a many of the dances; she also thought that going back to the potlucks and keeping some of the dances, even if not monthly, would be a good possibility. We could still keep the USA Dance presence “alive” without hurting instructor revenue. Donn said that the bottom line is that the organization needs to make some money with these events. Tanya does have a food handler’s license and as long as we do not advertise in the paper etc., we could continue with the potlucks. Donn’s committee will address these possibilities.
 - c. **50/50 Drawings** held at the USA Dances: These moneys are in the Operating Fund currently and USA Dance matches \$0.50/ticket. The fund builds over time and if the person is not present at the dance where their name is drawn, then the organization continues to allow it to build. The money that has built up was all contributed by chapter. The 50/50 drawing will be discontinued and the money will go back into the operating fund.
 - d. **Name the Newsletter Contest** – that was put on hold for now.
 - e. **USA Dance Audit:** Dolores Botsford could audit our books for \$35/hr. for 2 hours. Susan thought that was inexpensive and we should go forward. Esther motioned for the Board to approve the audit, Donn seconded it and the Board approved. Two years of check registers and financial statements will need to be provided.
 - f. **Thank You** from Make A Wish Foundation: The Board received a personalized thank you note from Tara Wilson, Events Coordinator, for USA Dance support for this charity.

7. **New Business:**

- a. **Craterian Dance show** in May, 2009 was discussed above.
 - b. **Membership meetings:** There have been no times for a general membership meeting. A possibility is to have one during the luau/golf tournament in August.
 - c. **Membership drive:** The luau could provide an avenue for recruiting members. Esther felt that local magazines could also be involved. More will be discussed at future meetings.
 - d. **Membership Rebate:** \$120 has been received from National for renewals during of members within 3 months of their expiration dates.
 - e. **How to Better Promote Dance in our community:** Sonia will be asked to investigate how other dance chapters have gone about doing this and report at a future meeting.
 - f. **Amigo Program:** Nancy mentioned that the USA Dance Amigos have helped single women to dance at the dances, and to therefore enjoy themselves more.
 - g. **Regional Volunteer:** Dorene Goin is the Oregon Co-Coordinator for USA Dance; Rush will talk with her.
8. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on June 22nds at 5:30 at the same location.
9. **Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Submitted By: Nancy Yie
Secretary, USA Dance #1011