

Minutes
Juneau International Folkdancers
June 24, 2008

Attendance: Suzie Gaffney, Alysia McLean, Emily Klimek, Doug Sanvik, Tim Adair and Bruce Botelho (recording).

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda. Suzie called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. The agenda was approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes. Minutes of the February 10, 2008 board meeting were approved.

Financial Report. Suzie will check with Judy about the status of our regular and gaming accounts. Judy is working with the accountant, Andrew Meiners, to prepare our 990 tax return. Because our fiscal year ends March 31, we must file before the end of July. Judy has been gathering information from Tim regarding DanceFest and the monthly ballroom program.

Status on properties. Suzie will check with Judy on the status of property, particularly the laptop computer. Doug volunteered to check with DanceFest's webmaster to determine whether he could help maintain our site. Otherwise, Bruce will approach Colleen Norman again. Tim will supply information on the Fall schedule. Alysia will update the DanceFest information and Bruce will check with Odette on the contra and Barndance schedules. All information should be sent to Bruce.

Review of recent activities.

a. Sunday Night Folkdance. Bruce reports that turnout has been good this Summer. We had 11 participants on Sunday night. We will continue the program without break this summer.

b. Richard Powers workshop. Members expressed satisfaction with the Powers workshop—the material, the pace of instruction. Because there is little follow-up on using the material, it is difficult to remember.

c. Middle School Ballroom. The programs at Floyd Dryden and DZ Middle Schools were very successful. In each case, there were at least 47 participants. We noted Shane's popularity with the students and his unique teaching style (which he has summarized in a forthcoming book).

d. High School Folk Dance. Michaela Moore permitted us to teach performing folkdance in her high school music theater course. The students did two performances, one at the Alaska Folk Festival, the other for parents and friends on May 12th. We have been given permission to teach a 7th period course next fall: folk dance performance. We don't know yet how many students have or will register for the course.

e. Monthly Ballroom. There is a good core group, drawing between 30 and 50 participants each month. The format begins with a half-hour of music, followed by an hour of instruction by a local dance teacher, and concludes with another 1 ½ hours of music. Tim preprograms the evening dance set, drawing on 10 different dance styles. People have appreciated the play list. Carol and Jeff have contributed to the ambience with table decorations and table cloth. Participants have combined the dance with other celebrations.

f. Barn Dance. We had little news on the barn dances, though we understand that attendance has been falling off somewhat. July 3 is the next event.

Alaska State Council on the Arts grant application. We discussed various teacher options for a fall workshop and concluded that we would work towards a workshop to be held between mid-October and mid-November. Our expectation is that, in addition to our normal adult audience, the instructor(s) would work with our high school class. Our first choice was Deanne Hendricks and Kovacs, teaching Hungarian because we thought the Hungarian couple dancing might draw ballroom dance participation. In addition, we could take advantage of Deanne's extensive choral background to teach song. Our second choice was Ahmet Luleci.

Award of 2008-09 Youth Activities Grant. JIF has been awarded a continuation grant for our middle school ballroom program. The board unanimously approved hiring Pat Belec to teach the classes this year. The grant is designed to have two ten-week programs (one at each of the two middle schools) two days a week. We discussed the possibility of consolidating the instruction so that all of it would occur in the Fall and we could arrange for a large venue celebration at the conclusion of the class. Ultimately we agreed that Pat's own schedule would dictate the outcome.

Stockton Scholarships. We have offered three scholarships to Juneau Douglas High School students who were part of the folkdance class this Spring. One, Justin Bernaldo, graduated this year, but expects to be attending UAS and is interested in being a teaching assistant for the fall class. We approved Bruce renting a minivan to transport participants between Sacramento airport and Stockton.

Miscellaneous. Alysia noted that one of the reviewers for the Juneau Arts and Humanities Council was uncomfortable with DanceFest's use of the JIF 501(c)(3) status for its grant application. We agreed that DanceFest is a program of JIF and its application should be submitted in JIF's name. In discussing the receipts and expenditures of DanceFest, it became clear that we need to have a better understanding of our IRS reporting requirements. We agreed that we should schedule time with our accountant to discuss these obligations.

Time and Place of Next Meeting. Suzie will convene our next meeting in the coming weeks in order to take advantage of both Judy's and our accountant's schedules. Our preference is for the meeting to take place either at noon or at 5 p.m. likely at Suzie's home. We adjourned at 6:45 p.m.