



TANGO SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA [TSOM] BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday May 24th, 2018, 7:00 pm

Location: Uptown Lunds & Byerlys Community Room
1450 W Lake St, Minneapolis, MN 55408

Present: Natalie Aiello, Tom Bischoff, Terry Holten, Mark Jefferis, Linda McFadden,
Corinne O'Neil, Janeen Rae

Absent: Scott Chase, Barbara Haselbeck, Sandra Uri, Jennifer Wang

1. Introductions
2. May 24th Agenda approved
3. May 6th Minutes approved
4. May Milonga Review
 - Board discussed the new venue, earlier start time, total attendees, and financial results of the Milonga. Was agreed that an earlier start time should be considered for some of the 2019 milongas.
 - Board members also discussed adding a “Suggestion” box at Milongas to get members feedback on the timing, venue etc.
 - Janeen Rae discussed potential venues for a Picnic Milonga and questioned whether or not any park venues would still be available.
5. June 9th Milonga
 - A. Location: Four Seasons
 - B. MC: Corinne O'Neil
 - C. Food: Tom Bischoff
 - D. Teacher: TBD
 - E. DJ: Paul Lohman
 - Corinne O'Neil communicated that Ron Johnson was unable to teach at the June 9th Milonga. Board discussed a potential replacement teacher, and Corinne agreed to contact to determine availability.
 - Board members discussed teachers and lesson attendance, questioned value of lessons if beginning tango dancers were not in attendance.
 - Tom Bischoff requested help with the food arrangements, and members questioned if Lynda Cannova's pizzas were still available.

ACTION: Corinne O'Neil will contact potential replacement teachers for the June 9th Milonga.

6. Vice Presidential Vacancy

- Corinne discussed potential next steps on the Vice-President vacancy, including promoting an existing Board Member, going through a second nomination cycle, or leaving the position vacant until January 2019. Corinne agreed to contact existing Board Members to determine if anyone was interested in taking over the Vice President role.

ACTION: Corinne O'Neil will contact all TSOM Board Members to determine if interest in the Vice President role.

7. 2019 Milonga Rotation Planning Thoughts

- Board discussed TSOM Milonga attendance and agreed that attendance had been stronger in the past. Members questioned if attendance at other Milongas was up or down. Concerns were expressed that TSOM was not growing, and potential reasons were discussed.
 - Corinne asked if the Board wanted to decrease the number of annual TSOM Milongas. Board members discussed the pros and cons to reducing the number of Milongas.
 - Board discussed the need for members to feel like they “belonged”. Janeen proposed a “Cross Pollinator” TSOM night, identify a group of individuals to host a potluck dinner, attendees would be selected randomly. Members identified who would be willing to assist with the efforts.
 - Mark Jefferis asked why so many leaders quit. He discussed the Milonga gender imbalance issue and potential ways to address, including hosting a barbeque, or developing a men’s group.
 - Mark also suggested a circular waterfall, allowing dancers more time to dance.
 - The Board also discussed new dancers and rejections. Board members noted that experienced dancers need to be dancing with the less experienced dancers, investing in stronger future dancers.
 - Janeen suggested doing something for others, possibly demonstrating tango, not just dancing for self-gratification.
 - Board discussed identifying a Sister City and what that type of relationship could achieve.
 - Tom Bischoff suggested that TSOM donate scholarships.
 - Active texting to increase attendance was also discussed.
- Board agreed to execute a survey of TSOM members to determine what members would like to see at a TSOM Milonga. Corinne agreed to start thinking about potential questions, Terry Holten agreed to research Survey Monkey.

ACTION: Corinne O’Neil and Terry Holten will develop a Member Survey.

8. Treasurer's Report

- Corinne reviewed Jennifer Wang’s financial spreadsheet. Currently TSOM is down by \$1,900, although noted that \$1,300 was used for 2018 venue pre-payments and \$600 was for the new sound system.
- Board also discussed adding a weather cancellation clause to 2019 venue contracts.
- Board continued an on-going discussion on the Vanguard account.
 - Corinne had researched requirements and emailed Marge Gierok-Jerde for assistance. Corinne also planned to reach out to Bill Boyd for potential help.

- Board Members discussed whether a \$12,000 buffer was necessary, or if 2 or 3 years of operating expenses would be sufficient. Agreed that several TSOM members had asked why dues were necessary with that large of a buffer. Where as other members felt touching the buffer would be not acceptable.
- Board did agree that a TSOM Announcement detailing how money was being spent would be beneficial. Although it was noted that Paul Lohman had communicated financials in the year-end report.

9. Membership update

- Jennifer's financial email indicated that as of May 23rd, there are 150 active members.

10. Next Meeting

- The next Board meeting is Thursday June 28th at the Uptown Lunds-Byerly's Community Room, 1450 W. Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Holten, Secretary