

# Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board of the Michigan Argentine Tango Club

Date: September 09, 2007 at 4 pm

## **Board Members present:**

1. Aleric Soans
2. Anjali Purkayastha
3. Solveig Heinz
4. Bo Sun
5. Hirak Parikh
6. Ramji Venkataramanan

Since 6 members of the Board were present, quorum was met and the meeting was called to order at 4:15 pm

## **Topics:**

### **1. Approval of minutes of the Board meeting held on June 20, 2007**

Proposed: Aleric

Seconded: Ramji

Vote: Unanimous

Motion passes

### **2. Bylaws for the MATC**

It was proposed that the following topics be covered under the Bylaws for the current MATC

- a. membership structure
- b. procedure for instructor/DJ/EO selection
- c. booking of rooms
- d. election process
- e. conflict-of-interest (teaching privates during club events)
- f. expulsion from the Club
- g. basic code of conduct
- h. expenditure of large sums of money
- i. indemnification
- j. privacy issues (e.g. member's personal information)
- k. insurance

Aleric offered to take the initiative in actually writing these Bylaws. We will look for tips from Bylaws of other student clubs and organizations. Finally, we will run these by the SAL office for guidance and final approval.

The proposed deadline for completion would be two weeks from now subject to there being no unforeseen issues.

Proposed: Bo Sun

Seconded: Anjali Purkayastha

Vote: unanimous

Motion passes

### **3. Purchase of the portable wood floor for the club**

The price quote for a 24' X 39' floor (including edge and corner pieces and carts) is about \$9000. It was proposed that Anjali contact the same vendor for a quote for a slightly larger floor (30' X 39').

Once the board decides on size of the floor to be purchased, approval for this expense will be sought from the club membership since it involves a large sum of money. Information provided to the membership must include final quote, associated costs, financial projection and advantages and possible disadvantages.

Proposed: Ramji Venkataramanan

Seconded: Solveig Heinz

Vote: Unanimous

Motion passes

#### **4. Festival Update for 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary festival**

Ramji (one of the EOs) informed the Board that everything is pretty much organized but we need more volunteers.

#### **5. Financial Update and Approval of Templates**

Solveig presented the following to the Board

a. financial report for time period from **05/02/2007 – 08/13/2007**

b. Projected annual operating budget for the Club

Both were approved unanimously. These reports would be available on the Club website for perusal by members only or upon request by a member.

Solveig also presented the following templates to be used by future Treasurers, EOs etc for reporting of finances to the Board and the membership.

a. Festival financial reporting

b. General financial reporting

Both were approved unanimously. These templates would be accessible only to Board members and EOs.

It was suggested that the templates be converted into Excel spreadsheets for better usability.

Aleric will convert the templates.

Aleric presented the following templates to the Board:

a. contracts with visiting instructors

b. letters of recommendation for visa purposes for visiting instructors

Templates will be available online only to Board members and EOs for now.

Proposed: Solveig Heinz

Seconded: Aleric Soans

Vote: unanimous

Motion passes

#### **6. Website Update**

Hirak provided the Board with the following update on website issues:

a. Registration list: users can add/remove themselves from the email list

b. The list automatically deletes duplications.

c. No festival registrants will be added to the email list.

Accessibility to the list:

The list contains personal information about members, (e.g., email, name, student number). This creates a privacy issue. At present only board members will have access to the list. EOs will have limited access only to the list of festival registrants.

Proposed: Aleric Soans  
Seconded: Solveig Heinz  
Vote: unanimous  
Motion passes

## **7. Membership**

The club currently has only 31 members and 4 affiliates.  
We will meet on Wednesday 9/26/07 to come up with ways to improve membership to the Club.

Proposed: Hirak Parikh  
Seconded: Anjali Purkayastha  
Vote: unanimous  
Motion passes

## **8. Milonga Hosts**

We will ask people to volunteer to host upcoming milongas. Hosts will be responsible for decorations and preparing the room for the milonga. The host will have a budget of around \$50 – \$75 for each milonga. Hosts will be recruited through class announcements and email.  
Anjali will be in charge of the schedule until the end of the semester.

Proposed: Bo Sun  
Seconded: Solveig Heinz  
Vote: unanimous  
Motion passes

## **9. T-shirts**

Anjali will ask Gloria Murillo to convert the image she created for the 6th Anniversary Festival into an image that is suitable for printing on a T-shirt.  
T-shirts will be ordered and will be made available on Friday 9/21

Proposed: Aleric Soans  
Seconded: Hirak Parikh  
Vote: unanimous  
Motion passes

## **10. Call for EO's**

Announcements will be made in class, by email and on the website for EOs for the next festival – Fire and Ice 2008

Proposed: Ramji Venkataramanan  
Seconded: Anjali Purkayastha  
Vote: unanimous  
Motion passes

## **11. Missing and/or unaccounted finances during Sanjay's term as Treasurer**

The Board decided that for the time being, it will not actively pursue the issue of the missing/unaccounted monies from the MATC account during the time period when Sanjay Ravipati was Treasurer of the Club.

Sanjay has acknowledged to the old Board to having received \$700 as a cash advance for T-shirts printed on behalf of the Club. However, since he returned only 15 T-shirts to the Board, he would still

be required to account for the remaining \$550, assuming the selling price of each T-shirt (\$10) matched the cost price.

Sanjay has produced one of the receipts for the T-shirt orders and is looking for the other three. The Board agreed to ask Sanjay to provide accounting for \$550 or deposit that money with the Club Treasurer.

Proposed: Hirak Parikh

Seconded: Aleric Soans

Vote: unanimous

Motion passes

## **12. Mondays at the Grange**

For the past few years, the Club had regular advanced classes at the Pittsfield Grange on Monday evenings. However, they remained canceled during the summer with a proposal to revisit this in the month of September.

The Board felt that it was important for us to be able to retain a great venue for our members and users at any level, to practice their dancing especially since the Grange has a great dance floor. The Board also took into consideration that most other days of the week were either inconvenient (too close to Wednesdays or the weekend) or coincided with other tango events in the area and Monday practicas has always been a part of the Club's regular and festival schedule.

The following motion was passed with regards to events at the Grange. A regularly scheduled low-stress practica will be held at the Grange from 8 – 10:30 pm every Monday. The practica will be free for its members and users. The cost for renting the space every Monday will be paid for by the Club. A DJ schedule will be made and carpooling will be coordinated through the Club website discussion forum.

Proposed: Solveig Heinz

Seconded: Ramji Venkataramanan

Vote: unanimous

Motion passes

## **13. Planning for next series**

The rooms for classes and practicas on Wednesdays have been impossibly warm. The Board approved the purchase of fans for each room.

Bo will buy the fans and bring them to class.

Proposed: Anjali Purkayastha

Seconded: Bo Sun

Vote: unanimous

Motion passes

## **14. Future Planning Calendar**

Tabled until next meeting.

## **15. Elections**

Tabled until next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm