

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting for the Texas Clown Association

The quarterly meeting of the Texas Clown Association was called to order at 10:08 a.m. on Saturday, July 21, 2007, at the Houston Hobby Marriott Hotel, 9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston, Texas.

Board Members present were: Lisa Ezell, John Luce, Andy Quittner, Mauri Norris, Barry Yount, June Hinkle, Andy Anderson, Susan Keys, Lisa Porche and Donna Wagner.

Proxies were received from Donna Manna.

The following guests were present: Ed Fitzgerald, Greg Stanford, Frances Poage and Patsy McMillan.

Chandra Luce sent a communication to the board resigning from her position as past president. Andy Quittner moved to accept her resignation, seconded by Mauri Norris. Motion passed.

The minutes of the May 5, 2007, board meeting were reviewed and amendments made. Barry Yount moved to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by June Hinkle. Motion passed.

Discussed posting board minutes on the web rather than published in the Joey Journal. Discussed having at least a summary of business and motions in the Joey Journal. Andy Quittner moved that the minutes be posted on the web and that only a summary of business conducted by the Board of Directors posted in the Joey Journal. Barry Yount seconded, motion passed.

Treasurer, Mauri Norris presented her report:

- Amount checking: \$12,285.76
- Amount CD: \$7,428.95

Discussed budget, expenses, and associate membership. Tabled any action concerning associate memberships until the January board meeting. The treasurer's report is filed for audit.

Convention Reports:

2007 Convention

Presently there are 75 persons registered for the 2007 Annual Convention, which is a little low. The Convention Committee is meeting with hotel to change contract because there is another group using the hotel at the same time – so there is some problems with the room block (188 is block – are reallocating block) – urge people to book starting Tuesday.

Mama Clown may come and may have a face painting competition – Convention wanted to know board's opinion. Have done non-TCA sponsored competition (e.g. door contest, originally parade).... Is OK with the board (but need articles in JJ for all of this.) Also maybe article about hotel rooms, etc.

Novice track: question about Aurora's scheduling for demo and hand's on makeup and costuming, also need article to remind participants to bring costumes, makeup, etc.

Ad campaign needs to step it up.....not getting enough advertising.....need to help support each other.....Talked about using some Sunshine Fund to buy an ad from the Board.....

June Hinkle moved to use \$75.00 of the Sunshine Fund to buy a full page ad for convention; seconded by Barry Yount; motion passed (one opposed, Susan Keys).

Board is hosting the ice cream social on opening night; last time we each brought a topping and no scoops; this time everyone brings a topping AND a scoop. Need to set a budget – probably need coffee and water.....last year bought 9 - 5 qt containers; and used ½ of them....probably should buy only 5 (25 quarts) of Oak Farms (from Wal-Mart).

June Hinkle moved to set a budget not to exceed \$50 for the ice cream social; seconded by Barry Yount. Motion passed.

Will also use budget to buy root beer and coke for floats; also straws

2008 Convention

Greg "Zoots" Stanford of the Clown Arounds, talked to the board about 2008; He and Kathie Jamison are going to co-chair the 2008 convention. They are a small alley...so need some board help. The hotel they have chosen is excited about working with them.

Bid proposal: October 1-5, 2008. At Howard Johnson in Wichita Falls (had it there before, when the Hotel was a Holiday Inn). We will have the entire hotel at large, the Hotel has signed contract, Rooms will be \$64.50 King Mini-Suite is 74.50; family suite is 84.50.

Theme may be Back to the Future. Across the street from the Hotel will be a bluegrass festival at the same time. greg@clownarounds.com Greg is President; Kathie is treasurer.

Registration costs: \$95 will be the first cut off cost; then 105 (Jan 1 to March 31) (using same date breakdown as the 2007 convention.

The board will assist: They need help in competition (Ed), who will need stage hands and runners (and will get some help from Cowtown). Andy Anderson will chair vendors. (Jim Howle may be interested in lecture/vendor). Contact Kay Reed for help with Hospitality. Susan will help them line up alleys for Hospitality room. Raffle/Auction.. all proceeds from either/both go to host alley, and is not a requirement, so they can either do it, or not do it....

Barry Yount moves to accept bid and congratulate them on their commitment. Andy Anderson seconded. Motion passed.

Competition:

Questionnaire responses show there is not desire to eliminate competition; but will consolidate or combine categories in makeup but will be judged per category requirements. Any category with less than five participants will be combined with another category.

Still need to establish number guidelines for what the award will be.

No changes in skits, performance, balloons, or paradeability.

Will put any changes on the website and there needs to be an article for JJ to be published in convention issue that Ed will write.

Anniversary/Birthday Celebration – Barry Yount, chair

The Board looked over the five, anonymous, art contest submissions and discussed what the art would be used for. Poster, patch, button....Shirt, most definitely; Postage stamp?

This will be the logo for the TCA 2008 convention. Do we want to use the logo, w/minor changes to continue on as new logo. After discussion the board voted to accept Vern King's submission as the anniversary logo.

Anniversary Party plans: will have a reveal of the poster at the general membership meeting during the 2007 convention. Presently working on the 08 party...and the back to the future theme of the 2008 convention will work well with party theme...

Café press might not be the best option, but may use it for some stuff; Andy Anderson has the capability of doing mugs, mouse pads, shirts, coasters, business card holder, etc. can do one at a time or bunches. Talked about having merchandise available for sale after the reveal, but a narrow focus – button and mug.

By-laws – Andy Quittner, chair

There was a typographical error in the Joey Journal and the by-law change needs to be run again so that everyone understands what it is:

All Clown Alley officers shall be members in good standing of the Texas Clown Association, Inc. The application shall be signed by an acting chairman of the applicant Clown Alley, and the signed application it will be forwarded to the President of TCA for review and approval and sent to by the TCA Board of Directors.-of TCA for approval. Notice of approval of the Charter will be sent as soon as practicable, but in any event, not more than 120 days after receipt of the application. Within

~~sixty (60) days after receipt of the application, the President shall respond to the applicant Clown Alley with an indication of approval or disapproval.~~

If approved, the applicant Clown Alley shall forward a charter fee to the TCA treasurer. The charter fee for chartering of Alleys shall be set by the Board of Directors.

Membership – John Luce, chair

Got alley reports from all but Cheerful...John gave the following information regarding Alleys that have been somewhat inactive: Space City; barely hanging on and will disband, and by end of October won't be an alley....Montgomery County – which only does the Tomball parade, but has no meetings, most go to Cheerful; Tejas is diligently coming back; Cotton Country – no response in three years

John will run an article in JJ after convention issue about inactive alleys and see if can scare up any interest or changes,

Merchandising – Barry Yount, chair

Barry will undertake an accounting at convention. Everyone is asked to bring all merchandise to convention for sale

- Spark Plug – Mauri Norris, chair

Right now the most is 3; will give recognition, but not the monetary award which requires six.

- *The Joey Journal* – Kay Quittner, editor

Short discussion on last issue and upcoming convention issue.

- Sunshine Fund – Susan Keys, chair

There is currently \$231 in Sunshine treasury minus \$75 for the convention ad and minus \$50 for ice cream (at convention); passed the hat – collected: \$ 44 total 275-75-50 (in hold) [bal is 200 w/ fifty reserved for the cost of hospitality]

Discussed alley activity and possible 2009 convention sites.

- N. East –has new clowns coming from UTA clowning 101 class; also active with new alley

- Central – Clown week ready; after convention going to do a one-day workshop for junior joeys (10 to 16 yr olds w/clown sponsor) see what response they get. Tentative date is around 10/23.
- South – nothing to report.

New Business:

- Payasos Latinos de America – request for Charter. doing well, but keep changing meetings and places, which is a problem; trying to encourage them to keep at one place and time (started in Dallas now meets in Arlington.)

Has four officers on sheet as officers, and Susan as a fifth, so make the basics for the alley.

Andy Quittner moved to accept charter for new alley; Second by Barry Yount. Motion passed accepting them as Alley 23.

Discussion regarding Fleur Fekkes – trying to find a United States clown convention where Justin could come. Fleur is a producer with MonoTV in London, England. Justin wants to learn to be a clown and compete. Want to film Justin as he goes through the process. Producer for Mono TV doing a documentary on becoming a professional clown. Five attendees, but want to film, with as little disturbance as possible.....haven't registered yet.

Photo release – will need one for any commercial filming, need to print Spanish and English versions on separate sheets. [Andy Q will revise COAI photo release for our use and have ready at convention for everyone to sign.]

Next meeting: September 26 at 5:30pm at the convention hotel

Motion to adjourn by June Hinkle, seconded by Andy Anderson. Meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.