

Texas Clown Association

Minutes for the September 26, 2007, meeting of the TCA Board of Directors

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors for the Texas Clown Association met on Wednesday, September 26, 2007, beginning at 6:02 p.m. The meeting was held during the annual TCA convention, at the Houston Hobby Marriott Hotel, 9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston, Texas 77071

Present were: Lisa Ezell, John Luce, Andy Quittner, Mauri Norris, Barry Yount, June Hinkle, Andy Anderson, Susan Keys, Kay Henry, and Donna Manna.

Not present: Donna Wagner and Lisa Porche. A proxy was received from Lisa Porche.

The following guests were present: Robert Whitley, Kathy Jamison, Greg Stanford, Ed Fitzgerald, Francis Poage, and Aurora Krause.

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting minutes from July 21, 2007, were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

- Amount checking: \$ 11506.86
- Amount CD: \$ 7428.97
- Today have gotten about 11 new members and a few dues paid.
- Before this morning had 289 actual current members; now over 300 paid members;

Versus budget: dues is running behind budget – probably even with the 20 members joining today.

Discussed whether the Joey Journal editor should be compensated – to a small degree; consensus is yes; talked about offering convention registration as an honorarium. Gave David Pitts a membership (as he is doing covers, but not attending convention – which, in the past, was offered).

June moves to pay Kay's registration for convention and membership dues; seconded by Susan Keys. Passed; Andy Quittner abstained from discussion and vote.

Joey Journal will be a little over budget. Overall doing well for year.

Discussed a need to present a preliminary 2008 budget at general membership meeting.

Aurora asked about paying for the clown buddy buttons, which cost about \$50. That is all that was spent out of \$500 budget for the year. She requested that the \$450 be rolled over to next year.

- 2007 Cheerful Convention Report

Francis talked about this convention; As of the board meeting there were 169 people registered; 132 were pre-registered, the remaining registered at the door. Presently have one registrant for balloon track today and two for face painting tomorrow; . Everything is fine; They don't need any board help; Before convention they assembled 188 binders; it would be nice to run out. They had 150 goodie bags; so some of the others who were later didn't get as good a goody bag.

It was suggested to make those who register at door pay a much higher price, and make late registration cash only. The purpose is to try and encourage all participants to register at least 2 week prior to the convention. Consensus was that we should charge at least \$25 higher than last pre-registration price.

There have been no snags; The hotel has been very helpful; rooms are nice;

- 2008 Convention: Clown Arounds – Wichita Falls

Changing hotel – will be the Holiday Inn at the Falls; Room Rate is a bit higher (but much better service) \$72.00/night and rooms will be renovated between now and then. The Alley was discussing theme and thinking about using 25th Anniversary as the theme: Celebrating family and community for 25 years.

They are excited about it.

Discussed that presentation of the next convention is generally done at the breakfast on Sunday morning; but this year will actually mention it at the general membership meeting in announcing the 25 celebration; The Clown Arounds are hosting hospitality Saturday night and registration forms will be there.

Would like seed money as hotel needs deposit. That will be taken care of this week.

Robert wants 2008 information for the website as soon as possible so he can replace this year's convention.

Competition Report: Had some stage hands drop so that they could compete. All of the score sheets and sign up sheets are ready. Presently have 6 or 7 judges, but could use some more.

At the general membership meeting it will be pointed out that winning last year does not disqualify one from competing this year.

The number of people signed up for competition, at this early stage, is OK.

Ambassador Committee – Aurora Krause & Ed Fitzgerald, co-chair haven't met; but will meet tonight and make selection; don't need to let board know; this will be presented at the banquet and will be the last thing presented at the banquet.

- Anniversary/Birthday Celebration – Barry Yount, chair

The cup and button look really cool (passed around) two posters are made up one is mounted and will be used for the reveal. The other is rolled up for auctioning; Vern (artist, knows he won but due to prior engagement cannot be here).

Talked with Kay Henry about the founders and original charter members and are trying to contact as many as possible and get them to attend the next convention. Also hope to make enough on sales of mugs at \$15.95 (\$4 for TCA) \$7 for pins (\$2 for TCA) to pay for special party. (We have 15 mugs and 28 badges for sale at the convention and will take orders if more are needed).

We might want to make patches of the logo;

An agenda of party will be available for January meeting;

By-laws – Andy Quittner, chair

The By-Law amendment will be read at the general membership meeting and voted up or down by voice vote.

- Education – Aurora Krause, chair

Everything looks good. There are a lot of new clowns just coming in; She has red buttons for volunteer buddies and blue buttons for the novice clowns. She thinks the committee may be over-prepared; but that is good.

- Membership – John Luce, chair
 - Alley Reports – Has all but Cheerful.
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Will be sending stuff about new members to area directors after convention;

- Merchandising – Barry Yount, chair

There are no patches or decals left. Mostly pins and a couple of license plate covers. Not really much to sell at a table.

- Nominating – Andy Anderson, chair

The nominating committee needs to start considering next year's nominations. Andy will begin asking for persons to run next year as we need another president; secretary; treasurer; and vice president. President must come from a former TCA board member. We need to have all nominations this finished by July; Andy will announce the need for officers at the general membership meeting.

- Scrapbook – Kay Henry & Susan Keys, co-chairs

The scrapbooks will not be displayed this year. There was a discussion about what to do with the books after next year's convention, including – who is going to keep them. Kay will pass the torch to Susan, but doesn't want to do it until something in plan. Also includes a collection Joey Journal's. The Board considered having a TCA Historian.

- Spark Plug – Mauri Norris, chair

The winner has been determined and the name sent to Andy Anderson. There is no free registration because no one recruited 6 or more; Mauri will talk about the Spark Plug award during general membership meeting with membership report.

- *The Joey Journal* – Kay Quittner, editor

Talked about the board members continuing to write articles. It was decided that rather than assign articles per issue we would try the honor system for the next year.

- Website – Robert Whitley, chair

General discussion.

- Sunshine Fund – Susan Keys, chair

- \$200 in Sunshine treasury

Talked about getting supplies for tonight's hospitality room, which will be on the second floor. The sunshine fund will reimburse for snacks at the next board meeting.

Old Business:

The mail ballots for the date change are tallied. Only Barry and Andy Anderson know the results, which will not be announced before the general membership meeting.

9. New Business:

- 2009 Convention location – Arlington has expressed some interest.

11. Other goings-on:

The last weekend in April, Roly Bains and Randy Christiansen will be in the Dallas Area.

12. Next meeting: January 12 in San Marcos using the large library room.

13. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.