

Texas Clown Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
11/03/12

Meeting was held at the home of Mauri Norris, Kerrville, Texas. Meeting was called to order by President Diana McCurtian-Talbert at 10:57 am. Board members present: Diana Mc-Curtain-Talbert, John Luce, Olivia Adamson, Mauri Norris, Patsy McMillan, Charles Anderson, Kimatha Grice, Martha Warren, David McCullough, and Kathy Keaton. Proxy was received for Judy Cornett by Patsy McMillan.

Minutes from last board meeting On August 1, 2012 were distributed via email prior to the meeting. Motion was made by Mauri Norris to approve minutes as distributed, read and seconded by Andy Anderson. Motion was passed unanimously. .

Treasurer's Report-Mauri Norris distributed the TCA Financial report and budget to each board member. Bank balance as of October 32, 2012 is \$31,486.53 to include profits from 2012 convention. The amount of the balance include a main checking, main savings, and an education account through Wells Fargo. There is no CD that the account is associated with. Andy Quittner has been moved off the account(s) and Diana McCurtain and Mauri Norris have been added to the accounts for signature and access. Andy Anderson is currently on the accounts for signatures. Pay pal is available for members to make payments for dues and convention fees . Currently we are using the Joey Journal and Yahoo. Com with Andy and Kay Quittner forwarding to Mauri anything and Andy Q. recommended we do not make changes until the new website and links are up and running before we introduce another payor source, etc.

A proposed budget for 2013 was discussed with revenues being conservative with a current negative net income expense with modifications to be in progress. The budget proposed is preliminary and it is recommended we need to increase our revenue or refrain on expenses.

Tax Exemption Filing Status with IRS: TCA tax exemption with federal government was lapsed and was not maintained. Mauri has applied for reinstatement of the tax exemption for TCA and has received a response stating that contact will be made within the next 90 days from October, 2012. Information by Mauri was presented that we should wait to be reinstated by the federal government before applying to state government for tax exemption; however, with time frame considered, it may be beneficial to apply now for Texas IRS tax exemption to save on time due to federal and state governments are separate. Plans are to go back and contact hotel after we are reinstated for a refund.

Final Convention Report-2012-Mauri Norris presented to with financial statements of final 2012 convention , profit was \$3527.30 and this total was already transferred to current operating funds. There is \$1400in the education fund,
Email received by Barbara Allen, Kay Henry's daughter stating if anyone wanting to donate \$\$\$ to TCA , that those dollars could go into the education fund in honor of Kay Henry. This was stated in her obituary. Kimatha Grice made a motion that we all monies from the 2012 profit (\$3527.39)from convention stay in the general operating fund, seconded by Martha Warren. Motion passed unanimously. Mauri sent a recap of the convention evaluation comments to the board via email. Board discussed the eval comments.

Committee Reports:

Ambassador :Patty Gilbert (not present)

Guidelines should be followed. Kimatha Grice volunteered to work with Andy Anderson on updating the guidelines for ambassador. A co-chair was recommended by Diana McCurtain-Talbert.

Chair for By-laws: Not necessary unless change is made.

Education: Rhea Anderson stated we have \$1400 in education fund. There was only 1 scholarship offered last year for convention. There was a recommendation to offer at least 3 scholarships. All area reps can take back to their alley and offer the scholarships (which would be at the lowest rate (\$120)) A requirement is to write an article regarding their experiences at the TCA convention with the application. Qualifications for scholarships is TCA member for 2 years.

Historian: Susan Butler has scrap books and is in process of moving to electronic media, Diana McCurtain-Talbert will contact her to determine further information.

Membership: John Luce formed a committee to include Linda Green, Voncille Harty, Greg Stanford, James Gill and John Luce. This committee met to discuss options for increasing membership. Questions were proposed to determine interest in being a clown and joining TCA. He stated that Linda Green recommended a poster specifying a place and questions inquiring about being a clown and getting involved with a website and number to call, for \$5 for 2 hour class and then promote TCA membership to continue clown avenues. Voncille recommended advertising on radio, newspaper and facebook and said it was cheap to promoting an inexpensive clown class for beginners. Greg has a clown hotline for keeping in contact with other clowns and people who want to be clowns (social network) and maybe do a training video to set up in a specific location using a video library for clown training. Once they get the basics to get started, they can then join TCA. James would like to go to city events working for free or tips and advertising during the event for promoting clowning and connecting people to classes, and TCA. Small towns can contact a board member to do clown training for minimal funds or free. Area representatives could get involved with alleys that are small or shrinking by going to visit their alleys and discuss these ideas. Andy Anderson recommended that a charge of more than \$5 to increase the value to this mini education investment. Kimatha Grice recommended that other organizations to advertise such as Magicians, Jugglers, etc. in advertising for TCA in their publications. Olivia Adamson recommended beginning a pilot study to determine what works best or what is most successful in reaching and training people in efforts to connect people to TCA and then report back to board. John Luce suggested we begin with a poster that is Texas wide advertised but could be filled in locally on classes and training with the endorsement of TCA at the bottom of the poster with possibly a contact on the poster and can place in windows of various merchandise places (magic shops, etc.). The poster could be downloaded from the TCA website. Training is highly recommended to "wet people's appetite" to become a clown and then connect them to TCA according to John Luce. Diana McCurtain recommended that we connect with people who are already clowns but do not know about TCA, making convention all things to all people and how close we can get to that. Martha Warren recommended to improving interest to Hispanic clowns.

John Luce will meet again with his committee about a poster and various ideas and send to board before next mtg.

Nominating Committee: next mtg. to be discussed. Members to think about if anyone wants to be on this committee and report next mtg.

Spark Plug Award: Mauri Norris will be in charge of this.

Joey Journal: Electronic journal was discussed to possibly in progress. Andy Anderson has someone interested in doing this. Concerns of older members may not be in favor of electronic version, however, member would have a choice. Bi-monthly issues will stay the same per by-laws. Mauri Norris stated that membership database storage would increase, and recommended that journal be placed on website, but would have to be password protected. Diana McCurtain recommended we mail out at least first publication with password and/or on membership cards with password. Mauri stated it would be doubling postage.

Diana recommend that if members have access to website, they can update their information as needed to insure correct email address for sending journal electronically. Greg Stanford to be our new webmaster and could update it as necessary. Andy Anderson stated that you can now print off the joey journal from the website. Greg will compile information as the editor and send it off to Bill Freeman to send via snail mail. Currently the publish dates have been chronically late. Kimatha Grice makes the motion appoint Greg Stanford to be the new editor , Miss Cookie seconded it. Motion was passed unanimously . His first publication will be December-January to accommodate members prior to convention for information regarding convention in the journal. Andy Anderson will communicate with Greg to begin and about being the webmaster. Stipend was discussed for \$50 an issue plus registration. Mauri made motion of paying new editor \$50 an issue plus convention registration, Andy Anderson seconded the motion. Members noted in favor of motion.

Sunshine Fund: Kimatha Grice agreed to take over the sunshine fund. It was discussed exactly what the sunshine fund was which is a fund for sending flowers to send to a member for various reasons, and for the ice cream social at convention. Current total is \$187.00. \$35.00 was used for convention.

Area Directors reports:

South central report: Kimatha Grice reported having a summer class of 9 graduates total and 4 were junior joeys with almost all joined our alley and TCA membership encouraged! Fall is busy with lots of gigs to participate in.

North central report: Martha Warren reported a facepainting jam (8 in attendance) and repeats Nov 11, Balloon jam every 5th week, Facepainting guild 2nd Thursday at Grapevine mills malls.

North east report: David McCullough reports a new clown moved to Tyler from Cheerful clown alley, (Professor Q. B.) and is interested in starting a new alley in Tyler.

Southeast report: Patsy McMillan reports 20+ new clowns just graduated from Cheerful clown alley; Had a 30th year party to bring old members back into their alley again.

Panhandle west report: Kathy Keaton reports her alley was able to clown with Kay "Klynky" Henry before her passing. Her clown alley has increased their activity. Linda Green and Lupe were able to participate in Breast cancer walk.

Old Business: Discussion held about determining continued use of video photographer. Richard, the video photographer TCA used in the past requested a minimum of DVD's sold to make it most beneficial to him financially. It was recommended that Andy Anderson contact him to tell him no guarantees for sales of DVD's. David McCullough made a motion to have video photographer keep current business with Richard stay the same. Kimatha Grice seconded the motion. Members voted for it to stay status quo.

TCA patches: Mauri has 25 TCS patches left from last order. Recommendations and discussion held to order more patches for new members. David McCullough made a motion to distribute patches to 1st time convention goers. Martha Warren made a motion to give patches as incentives to join TCA at each alley. Kimatha Grice seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

New Business: Responsibilities of Board Members: Diana McCurtain-Talbert recommended that all new and old board members go to TCA website and review your own responsibilities on your own prior to this and future meetings. All board members are required to write two articles per year for the Joey Journal. All members did a self introduction.

Convention Host guidelines need to be updated, Mauri Norris stated she would look into this regarding dates and adjusting the guidelines with assistance of Andy Anderson.

Discussion held about 2014 TCA convention location possibilities. Mauri stated we usually have 2 years ahead with bids. Mauri Norris stated that there is a convention center in Sequin, Texas with good prices which has already been explored. A convention committee was discussed as possibility in the works. It was recommended by Andy Anderson that the next convention be held in the southern part of the state due to it being in Dallas/Fort worth for the last 5 years. Timeframe was discussed with changing it from summer to fall but nothing was voted on. We will have more information next meeting. Diana McCurtain will contact Andy Quittner about more information on Sequin convention center.

TCA POLO 2013 convention shirt: Mauri reported that Andy Quittner put a picture in Joey Journal but since it hasn't been published, this has not been confirmed; however, he could forward the picture to Greg to publish, if it hasn't already been done. They cost \$25.00 and \$27 for XL. Mauri has 4 orders and there must have a minimum of 12 before an order can be placed. Forms can be taken to your next alley mtg.

Donations in memory for Kay Henry was discussed. Andy Anderson recommended that all donations received be put in a Kay Henry Memorial Scholarship fund in her honor. Mauri motioned that TCA donate \$200 as a nice gesture to begin the scholarship fund. Patsy McMillan seconded it. Members voted all in favor. All donations will be directed to TCA, P.O. Box 820 Hurst Tx., 76053 for the Kay Henry Memorial Scholarship fund.

Mauri confirmed this would be out of the education fund but linked all under the same account.

Budget: Patsy McMillan made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Andy Anderson seconded it. Members voted in favor.

Mauri reminded members of stipend for travel.

Convention discussed. Andy Anderson reported about possibilities for headliners being from Texas such as Brenda Marshal and Aurora Krause. Nothing has been confirmed. It will be the 30th anniversary and possibly doing line dancing, western type theme party. Venders that were mentioned were Cherie Oats, Peachy Keen, Priscilla Mooseburger. Susan Keys has offered to do marketing through facebook.

Competition: Diana will look at competition guidelines, update and make grammatical corrections.
Other Stuff: Andy Anderson reported on Joey to the World changed to being in Dallas/Fort Worth area in January 25, 26 with headliners being David Laughlin and Don Berta/ \$30 registration, late registration is \$ 40 after January 15, hotels \$89 a night with free bkft, shuttle to and from church, Hampton Inn, Holiday Express,
Frequency discount cards can be used. First Baptist church in Hurst, Tx. Olivia Adamson reported about the Megabus and information was provided for low expense bus fare.

Next Meeting was voted on to be February 16, 2013. Location TBA; however, Diana will check with Sequin (or Andy Quittner) about a meeting room there and Kim will check her source regarding a possible meeting spot in Kerrville (a potential location for 2012, 2015) and let Mauri know what she finds out and if necessary Mauri will contact the Kerrville Convention and Visitors Bureau regarding meeting place.

Meeting adjourned at 3:49 pm with the motion made by Diana McCurtain and seconded by Patsy McMillan.

Respectfully Submitted,
Olivia Adamson, Secretary
11/10/12