Texas Clown Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes 8/1/2012

Meeting was held in a meeting room at Westin DFW Hotel in Irving Texas, during the 2012 TCA Convention. Meeting was called to order at 6:34p.m. by President Andy Anderson. Board members present: Andy Anderson, John Luce, Mauri Norris, Judy Cornett, Christie McNeill, Peggy Barton, Valerie Bandy, Jeanette Sanders and Diana McCurtain-Talbert. Guests: Rhea Anderson, Richard Neece and Kevin Neece.

Kevin Neece addressed the board concerning some ideas and options regarding their contract and the convention videos. They have been video-ing the TCA conventions for 15 years and want to continue but in the last few years they have had a hard time making their sales goal to make the TCA job profitable. They presented some ideas about options for their contract. They are proposing a 'set-up' fee rather than just a sales target – something like \$1,000-\$1,500 fee plus the sales target. They suggested that the registration rate for the convention could be adjusted to include funds to cover all or part of the base fee. They are also trying to provide better incentives for sales by offering a USB file of the competitors' performances. They also can make Demo videos (and agreed to make a complimentary demo video for TCA to use on their website). They also agreed to write a series of articles for *The Joey Journal* to promote their products and explain the benefits to he membership. And they agreed to address the general membership at the meeting tomorrow to explain the products that they have available. In addition they are available to lecture about the marketing benefits of videography at the 2013 convention. Peggy Barton suggested that TCA might be eligible for some sort of education grants and agreed to look into that possibility. Andy A. thanked Kevin and Richard for their input and explained that the convention registration rates are typically set by the hosting alley and vary from year to year. The Board agreed to consider ways to help All Occasion Video make a profit so that they can continue to be the TCA videographers.

**Minutes** from the last Board meeting on 5/5/2012 were distributed via email prior to the meeting. Judy moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion was seconded by Valerie and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report** – Andy Quittner had to leave the convention and no report was available. Regarding our tax-exemption – Judy reported that she received the form needed from Andy Q. There was a question about what if anything needs to be submitted to the IRS.

**2012 TCA Convention Report** – Mauri reported that we had 100 pre-registered and so far we have had 8 walk-ins. Judy reported that we are still a number of rooms short of our room block.

**2013 TCA Convention** – Andy A. reported that he has appointed a committee to handle the planning for the 2013 convention. Members of the committee are Andy Anderson, Chair, Mauri Norris (Registration/Treasurer), Judy Cornett (Hotel Liaison), Christie McNeill (Dealers/Lecturers), Rhea Anderson (Hospitality/Goodie Bags/Raffle/Banquet Decorations). This committee will work under the new president and with the new Competition Director. Each committee member will reach out to other TCA members for assistance with the convention planning.

**Competition** – Diana McCurtain-Talbert, chair reported that she has tested the projector and everything seems to be working and ready for the slide show. She still needs a few judges. Andy A. says that he will announce a need for a new Competition Director at the general membership meeting.

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**Ambassador** – June Hinkle, chair -- Andy A. stated that June will hold a meeting of the TCA Ambassadors immediate following the general membership meeting tomorrow.

**By-Laws** – Andy Quittner, chair – there was one proposed by-law change published in <u>The Joey Journal</u> and listed on the published ballot. This clarified the ages for Junior members and Regular members.

**Education** – Rhea Anderson, chair -- there are a few Junior members at the convention and several 1<sup>st</sup> Timers too. The Buddy program is underway.

Historian – Susan Keys, chair – no report

**Membership** – John Luce, chair – had previously asked Diana to survey members of the Jolly Joeys, but Diana reported that the members did not take the survey seriously so the results were not very helpful. John is assembling a committee here at the convention to discuss ways to promote and boost TCA membership. There were 2 winners of the Renew Early Dues Contest – Brennan Spikes and Diane Gauthier. Each will receive a \$25 refund of their dues. John reported that he has alley reports from the following alleys: Jolly Joeys, The Clown Alley, Tejas Klowns (inactive), Happi Tymes, the Clown Arounds, Mid-Cities Clown Alley, Cow-Town Clowns, Cheerful Clowns, Oops Alley, Payasos Latinos, Coastal Confetti (inactive) and Cedar Creek (inactive). The status of the various alleys is basically the same as 2011. The question was also raised: do we need some business cards for TCA?

**Nominating Committee** – Diana McCurtain-Talbert, Chair – slate of officers was published in The Joev Journal and is as follows:

President – Diana McCurtain-Talbert

Vice President - John Luce

Secretary – no nominees but interest by Olivia Adamson and Carrie Ray

Treasurer – Mauri Norris

Sgt-at-Arms – Judy Cornett

Area Directors -

NE – no nominee but Susan Kevs is interested

NC – 3 nominees – Margaret Clauder, Martha Warren and Carrie Ray

P/W – no nominee

S/C - Olivia Adamson

S/E – Valerie Bandy is withdrawing, no other nominees – Patsy McMillan is interested Also, several people have mentioned that they would be interested in being appointed to any unfilled positions. It was noted that members can only be nominated from the floor if they are present to accept the nomination.

**Spark Plug Award** – Andy Quittner, chair – Andy A. has the plaque and certificates.

The Joey Journal – Kay Quittner, Editor – since Kay had previously announced a desire to hand-off the magazine to a new Editor, both Mauri and Andy A. got quotes on having the magazine printed. Mauri presented a quote for \$296 for 200 issues printed, folded and stapled. That is \$1.48 per copy. Andy A. got a quote for printing, folding, stapling, stuffing, labeling and mailing at \$535 for 300 issues (\$450+\$85postage) or \$624 for 350 issues (\$525+\$99postage). That is \$1.50 per copy already stuffed and labeled and ready to mail (approx. \$1.79/copy including postage). An announcement will be made to the general membership that the Board is accepting 'applications' for the Editor position. Board will establish some Guidelines and Qualifications for the position. Call for 'applications' will be printed in *The Joey Journal*.

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**Website** – Andy A. reported that new web-designer is about ½ finished with the TCA website. Should be ready very soon. We still need a Webmaster to keep the site updated.

**Sunshine Fund** – Christie McNeill, chair – a collection was taken at the meeting and the new balance is \$167.00 (previous balance \$152 +\$53 donations - \$38 for ice cream).

## Old Business -

**TCA polo-style shirts** – purple with new TCA logo – each board member owes TCA \$22 for their shirt. Shirts will be sold – pre-paid orders only – for \$25 for S-M-L-XL and \$27 for XXL-XXXL. Minimum order is 12 shirts.

## New Business -

An email proposal was presented to all board members prior to the convention regarding purchasing a projector for use during the annual TCA conventions. Approximate cost of \$500. The majority of the board voted via email to proceed with the purchase. For the records Diane McCurtain-Talbert moved to purchase a projector for \$541.24. John Luce seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Andy A. purchased the projector prior to the convention.

In the interest of time, no Area Director reports were accepted at this meeting.

Andy A. announced that new Board members will meet after the breakfast Sunday to set the date of the next board meeting.

There being no further business, Valerie Bandy moved to adjourn. Jeanette Sanders seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:31p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mauri Norris, Secretary 8/10/2012