

Texas Clown Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
11/2/13

Meeting was held at the Grace Presbyterian Church, 10221 Ella Lee Lane, Houston, Texas. Meeting was called to order by President Diana McCurtain-Talbert at 10:02 am. Board members present: Diana McCurtain-Talbert, John Luce, Olivia Adamson, Mauri Norris, Judy Cornett, Charles Anderson, Kimatha Grice, David McCullough, and Patsy McMillan. Guests were Rhea Anderson and L.J. Lomenick.

Minutes from last meeting on July 31, 2013, were discussed. Motion was made by Judy Cornett to accept the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Patsy McMillan.

Treasurer's report-Mauri Norris reported that as of October 14, 2013, that TCA has 263 members. She distributed the final report post convention with profit noted. See current report for details. New membership cards ordered through Vista Print for 1,000 cards at less than \$30. An external hard drive was purchased for \$70.00.

Convention report-2014- Update given by Diana McCurtain-Talbert. Headliner has signed a contract. Bebop is ahead with lining vendors and instructors. Hotel contract has been signed. Logo is in the process of being completed. Theme is An American Original a tribute to Hobo, Bag ladies and tramps. Advertising is in Calliope, Clowning Around and other advertisements. Website is being worked on along with pay pal being set up.

Mauri stated 26 have preregistered thus far. Deadline is end of November.

Committee Reports:

Diana reported that Bebop put together a mission statement for education chair as well as duties for that position. Bebop will be committed for 1 year at doing this. Diana will post this on the website but stated this will be a 2 year commitment.

Ambassador: Donnabelle (Donna Manna) was voted as most current ambassador. Discussion held on posting nominations for next year in Joey Journal in May-June.

Membership: John Luce reported on an application submitted for a new charter alley in Tyler, Texas from David McCullough, called the Rosy Nose Clown Alley. Currently it has 6 TCA members (required is 5). Monies have been submitted. John made the motion that the Rosy Nose Clown alley be added as a Charter alley #25. Patsy McMillan seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Discussion held on having new charter alley poster with year changed.

Nominating Committee: Discussion was held on each position being vacant after this year. Preservation of TCA history was discussed to pass onto the next board members. Recommendations for archiving information for new board members for continuity of procedures, by laws, etc. Posting of minutes and other pertinent information is available on the website.

Spark Plug: No report at this time.

Joey Journal: Articles due NOW!

Website: Mauri reported a corrupted file November-December of '08. She has contacted Greg Stanford on this matter.

Sunshine Fund: Kimatha Grice reported that \$30 was spent on ice cream social and balance is currently \$177.00.

Area Director reports:

South central-Kimatha Grice reported that Jolly Joey's is hosting 2014 convention. Membership is a concern. Clown school has begun with 6 attending.

North central: Martha Warren was absent.

North east: David McCullough reported about his new alley forming. He reports his alley tackling convention 2014.

South east: Patsy McMillan reported having ~ 128 members with difficulty retention of members. Skype meeting was held last meeting as first try. It was a challenge due to building and reception of internet connections.

Panhandle west: Kathy Keaton was not present.

Old Business: Discussion held regarding on TCA 2013 final report from Andy Anderson. There were a total of 125 paid registration participants in 2013 convention; 8 comp registrations; 5 junior joeys and 37 paid through pay pal. It was brought to attention of board members of having available to TCA members to pay their dues and convention registration through the website by using a "square" vs. pay pal to save transaction fee. Members can pay through credit card at convention. Diana stated she has a "square" that can be utilized.

Recommendations for changes to consider are to keep entertainment at a minimum at the Awards Banquet.

Convention 2013: Net profit was \$10,694.95 with some earmarked for education, host and TCA. Of that profit, \$2668.00 was earmarked for education. \$8026.95 was for the operating fund. Education fund now has \$4438.14 in the education fund. General fund balance is \$35,000 +\$1000 for seed money that remains the account.

Discussion held on changing convention from fall to summer or summer to fall. By-laws indicate that current board makes the decision of when convention is held, per statement made by Mauri Norris. Recommendations from Mauri Norris to David McCullough to start working on tax exempt alley status now before plans for 2015 convention.

New Business: Rosy Nose clown alley of Tyler has submitted a bid to host TCA convention, September 30-October 4, 2015 at the Holiday Inn at \$94.00 a night. Proposed convention rates are same as TCA 2014 convention. David McCullough is chair person, Kurt Gun, co-chair, Cindy Rice will be treasurer.

Diana McCurtain reported receiving a call from a clown named "Ducko", Don Stifle, requesting for charter members to have free registration for convention. His TCA number is 31. David McCullough made the motion to allow charter members to come to convention for free, Kimatha Grice seconded the motion. Discussion was held amongst board members with offering discounted registration and free membership to TCA instead of the requested free registration. Board voted for charter members to have lifetime free membership and discounted 50% TCA convention fee (at the door rate) unanimously.

Mauri Norris made the motion to post charter members with TCA numbers on the website. Judy Cornett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding potential books featuring David Pitts artwork from Joey Journal covers over the past several years. Kimatha Grice reported contacting David Pitts for artwork for potential book with his Joey Journal covers. Kimatha is going to explore printing cost after decisions made on which covers to use. Diana McCurtain offered to scan and photo shop the artwork. Those involved in this project agreed to continue to explore cost avenues and bring back

David McCullough brought up that the Holiday Inn requested a \$500.00 deposit for securing hotel space for 2015 convention. Diana made motion to give Rosy Nose clown alley \$1,000.00 seed money for hosting 2015 convention, Patsy McMillan seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

Patsy McMillan declined her stipend. All other stipends given to board members.

Kimatha proposed that the quilt she made be raffled off 2014 convention and offered to make another quilt. Andy A. discussed that it should be announced at banquet that it is actually being auctioned off and not bidding side to side at banquet to raise money. Recommendations for writing an article in Joey Journal about saving change/money and bring to convention to help with fund raising/raffle.

Next TCA meeting will be held April 4, 2014 in San Antonio, Texas at Diana's work place board meeting; July 26 in Tyler and at convention in October in Kerrville. By-laws states that TCA board must meet one time a year.

Funding raising and recruiting issues were discussed. John L. stated Kathy Keaton utilized the poster for advertising TCA. Recruitment within your own alley was recommended by Kimatha G. John Luce brought to board's attention that lack of recognition for members and contributions within their own alley or TCA is detrimental to retaining members. Feeling like a worthwhile contributor/member is something we are lacking within our organization. Mentoring and nurturing relationships is important in retaining members. Mauri N. recommended having a column in Joey Journal to recognize and appreciate someone for their efforts as a member. It would be like spotlighting a member. Diana Mc. recommended that area representative could be on the look out for people in their alley to be recognized. Kimatha recommended that just 1 or 2 people be recognized each issue rather than what each alley does in the community. Mauri N. will send all board members a list of questions to ask the person being spotlighted and she agreed to write the article on the person spotlighted. Sammy Simons was recommended to be recognized.

President, secretary and treasurer signed the charter alley certificate.

Kimatha G. made the motion to adjourn the meeting. David McC. Seconded and meeting adjourned at 3:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Olivia Adamson, Secretary

11/02/13

