

Date: January 24, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Andy Anderson in Houston, Texas at Grace Presbyterian Church, Massey Tucker Room #101. In attendance were the following: Andy Anderson, Christie McNeill, Patsy McMillan, Mauri Norris, Voncille Hardy, Diana McCurtain-Talbert, Martha Warren, David McCullough, Duane Whilhite, and Judy Cornett. Kathy Keaton was absent from the meeting.

Guests were John Luce , L J Lomenick & Rhea Anderson.

1. Minutes: The minutes from the last board meeting were sent out by Olivia Adamson. Christie McNeill made the motion to approve the minutes as read and Judy Cornett seconded the motion. All approved unanimously. These will be sent to Greg Stanford to be posted on website.
2. Treasurer's Report: Mauri distributed the treasurer's report showing the amount in checking at present to be \$41,323.73. This report will be filed for audit.
3. Convention Report:
2014 Convention – Diana reviewed all the surveys and items were discussed, and we felt it was very beneficial to help in future planning.
Final Report: 102 full registrations with a total of 229 room nights sold. Donna Manna and Inez Esquivel really went over the top with auction and raised \$2600. Congratulations ladies to a job well done.
2015 Convention - David McCullough, the Chairman of the 2015 convention in Tyler, Texas gave the following report:
 - Pre-registration count is 25 and we were shown a printout of the convention logo.
 - Bungles is the headliner and his son did the artwork for t shirt –just need to add the location of convention and should be complete.
 - David has put together a great fundraising letter that is very impressive and hope we can follow in his footsteps to duplicate for future conventions.
 - The convention schedule should be close to what we had last year.
 - There will be a circus for the kids on Saturday afternoon to showcase all the talent coming to convention.
 - Also, they have planned a rose tour before the award banquet provided by the Master Gardeners of Tyler – shuttle will be provided. The convention will be one week before Tyler's rose festivities so everything should be in great shape to view.
 - The convention website is **tca2015.com**
4. Committee Reports:
 - Ambassador – Martha needs to put a letter in Journal about guidelines etc. for ambassador. Deadline should be around Sept 1st.
 - By-Laws – Discussed the JJ Editor becoming a board member, but scrapped the idea in favor of offering a stipend for him to be at board meetings. David McCullough made a motion that a stipend be offered to Greg Stanford for that purpose. Christie McNeill seconded and all approved unanimously. This will be for all meetings except the convention meeting.
 - We discussed changing the bylaws to do skyping in emergency situations to meet the quorum. Voncille motioned that we keep the bylaws as is for now in regard to skyping and do some

investigating going forward. Martha seconded it and all is tabled for now. Majority ruled – no opposition.

- Education – Scholarship Guidelines need to be addressed and we need to find an educational director for TCA. Diana mentioned Maggie Clauder, along with some other names. Christi will reach out to Maggie. TABLED EDUCATIONAL STUFF AGAIN UNTIL CHAIRMAN IS APPOINTED
- Historian – Nothing to report.
- Nominating – David McCullough will continue as Nominating Chairman with nothing to be done at this time.
- Competition - Greg Sanford is the Competition Chairman
- Membership – Alley Report
Discussed changing the alley reports to be done on website. Christie sent email to Greg to get this accomplished. Hope to have this completed soon. No Alley roster will be required.
- Sunshine Fund - Before Ice cream social we had \$205 – John spent \$39 and now we have \$167.
- Spark Plug Mauri had no comment at this time.
- Joey Journal – Sparse this time, we need to get more articles to him on a timely basis. Andy suggested that the Area Directors should submit reports for each issue of The Joey Journal about goings on in their areas.
- Website - nothing to report at this time.

5. Area Director Reports:

South/Central – Duane Wilhite had nothing to report at this time. Diana mentioned wanting to do clown workshops over a period of weekends and try to build that way. BeBop is working on the advertising. Tried a meet up group that didn't work. Doing membership now and think they have 30/35 total.

North Central – Martha Warren of Happy Tymes said they have 35 and had 28 renewals. Trying to center programs around education to build the Jr Joeys to get them involved. Midcities talked about the same thing. Asked Greg if he needed any help growing his alley.

Southeast – Judy Cornett says Cheerful had 138 paid 2014 members with 2015 renewals at 84. Didn't have meeting in Dec & Jan so didn't have time to push renewals so it is lagging at the moment. Looking at people to have a 1 day workshop this summer. Clown school will be June 18 – 29th with graduation on Aug 2 including a Saturday workshop (to be announced later) and garage sale.

Panhandle/West – Kathy Keaton - Oops Alley wasn't at the board meeting but sent in the following:

Oops Alley has 11 members (4 are inactive but are invited and encouraged to return). Most of their activities are combined with the Midland Magic Club. For the November meeting they teamed up and brought Duane Laflin in for a family entertainment class. Oops Alley member, Lupe Vasquez from Lubbock gave a class in creative face painting. In December they had their annual Christmas party along with the Magic Club. Linda Green and Claudette Hayes volunteered for church groups and Sky High Children's Ranch. In January they had a combined

meeting with the Magic Club to bring in Barry Mitchell who did family entertainment and “make your own props”.

6. Articles:

New member welcome Packets – discussed that it should contain letter from area directors telling when and where alleys meet etc.

7. Old Business:

- Tax Exempt status – we are 501C4 and trying to go to 501C3 –information on IRS website is very confusing and Mauri is still trying to talk to IRS. Money is in budget if we need to pay a fee. It is on Mauri’s list of things to do.
- Would like to have a fundraiser that would highlight Joey covers – Diana mentioned that she would look into doing a TCA clown coloring book. Tabled until next meeting and hope to have firm ideas to do fundraising.
- Poster on website -not able to find it on webpage

8. New Business:

- Membership –Would like to increase membership and had discussions exploring different ways to achieve this. There are a lot of clowns in Texas that are not members of TCA and we would like to target them for membership. How to find old members to get them to return. Ask every alley to bring in at least 1 member in the next year. Mauri will send out a list of who we can reach out to and recruit again. What is the best way to get membership increased?
- 2016 TCA Convention
Cheerful talking about hosting and Judy will talk to them about it. Nacogdoches has reached out to have a convention there.
- Get on Facebook. Diana is thinking of doing an electronic clown academy.

9. Other goings-on:

- Saturday workshop during Cheerful’s clown school to be determined later.
- BeBop - April 25th will be at Cow Town Alley for education
- Spotlight Article - if you have any suggestions, please send them to Mauri Norris

10. Next Meeting(s):

- April 11th in San Antonio
- July 11th in Fort Worth
- Convention in Tyler

11. Adjournment Motion - Martha Warren motioned that we adjourn and Voncille Hardy seconded. All approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patsy Mcmillan
TCA Secretary 1/24/15