

Date: April 11, 2015

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:11 am by Andy Anderson in San Antonio at University United Methodist Church, 5084 De Zavala Road, Room S302/303, San Antonio, TX 78249. In attendance were the following: Andy Anderson, Christie McNeill, Patsy McMillan, Mauri Norris, Kathy Keaton, Diana McCurtain-Talbert, Martha Warren, Duane Whilhite, and Judy Cornett. Voncille Hardy & David McCullough were absent from the meeting.
2. Guests: Greg Stanford & Rhea Anderson
3. Minutes: The minutes from the last board meeting were sent out by Patsy McMillan via email. Judy Cornett made the motion to approve the minutes as distributed and Duane Wilhite seconded the motion. All approved unanimously. These will be sent to Greg Stanford to be posted on website.
4. Treasurer's Report: Mauri distributed the treasurer's report showing the amount in checking at present to be \$41,440.08. This report will be filed for audit.
We had an unexpected expense due to burglary of Mauri's residence that made it necessary to purchase a new computer at a cost of \$250. Andy contacted the Executive Board for approval to buy new computer.
It was also time to renew our insurance and update to include convention coverage, thus the premium was increased by \$500.
Tax situation of changing from 501(C)(4) has been finalized at a cost of \$400 - - we are now 501(C)(3). Discussion ensued as to put on the website for perpetuity in the Members Only tax status section.
Diana declined her stipend.
We have 138 members that renewed before 4/1/15 with 30 Ambassador & Lifetime members. James Fitzgibbon won the early dues renewal contest and will have his \$25 dues refunded. Kathy Keaton suggested that the Area Rep reach out to un-renewed members in their areas and Mauri will send a list of non-current members for that purpose.
5. Convention Report:
2014 Convention update— Diana reported that two donations of \$1,320 each were made to Fisher House and UUMC Special Needs programs. These were the organizations sponsored by the 2014 convention.
2015 Convention - David McCullough was absent so Andy reported that 56 are pre-registered. They are getting lecturers and vendors in place and everything seems to be coming together.
Christie McNeil motioned and Diana McCurtain-Talbert seconded that we keep the same vendor as last year to make the awards at an approximate cost of \$350. After a vote, it was approved unanimously.
The convention website is **tca2015.com**

6. Committee Reports:

- Ambassador – Martha will be asking all Ambassadors to meet at the convention site to review the submitted letters to verify nominations. The Ambassador meeting is immediately after General Membership meeting. Hopefully the nominations will be submitted by email and can be reviewed prior to the convention.
Mauri was reviewing guidelines and saw a few things that needed to be explained about the award. Mauri will cross check the old guidelines along with the new to make sure everything is covered, then will send to Greg to put on website and in Joey Journal.
- Education – Scholarship Guidelines
Item 3 – in the guidelines to be changed from 2 years to 1 year. Need to be a TCA member for at least 1 year or more.
Item 2 – in the guidelines should read “all applications need to be received by the deadline published in the current Joey Journal”.
Andy will collect applications until we get a chairperson. If no one agrees to become the chair, Kathy Keaton said she would step up to do the job.
- Historian – Nothing to report.
- Nominating – David McCullough- nothing to report
- Competition - Greg Stanford has nothing to report at this time, but has concerns about the photographer. Will discuss with David McCullough.
- Membership – Alley Report should go to current Vice President who is in charge of membership.
- Sunshine Fund –\$167 – stable, nothing changed.
- Spark Plug Nothing to report at this time.
- Joey Journal – A request was made to designate inactive alleys. Next deadline is April 17th for the May issue and June 1st for the July issue. Diana is going to start a series on judging for competition. Greg asked for good pictures for front cover since David Pitts is not doing this anymore.
- Website – Discussion about reconstructing the website to be user friendly. Kathy Keaton made a motion for Greg Stanford to take over the website, Duane Wilhite seconded and all were in agreement. Andy will pave the way for this to take effect.

7. Area Director Reports:

South/Central – Duane Wilhite says their alley stays very busy and has a lot of upcoming gigs. They will take part in the Battle of Flowers parade and other Fiesta activities. They have 3 current members on the WCA Board. Duane is planning to attend the Clown Cornvention in Iowa in conjunction with the Abracorndaba Convention May 15th, 16th & 17th. We are asking him to write article for Joey upon his return.

North Central – Martha Warren of Happi Tymes said they have 38 members and has been trying to advance scholarships. Eight or nine of their members are going to Clown Jam in Branson again this year. Martha has a room block if anyone is interested in joining them. Martha applied for and received the Bo-Dino scholarship at Mooseburger.

Southeast – Judy Cornett says Cheerful has 123 paid members at this time and some of the members are moving out of state reducing the membership. Cheerful just got a new Chatter editor who is doing a great job. Their clown school will be June 17th through August 8th. Brenda Marshall will be doing a workshop on July 18th. Cricket officially turns 86 on April 25th. Cheerful's new president and vice president are encouraging more group participation at meetings and it seems to be working out well. Hopeful that this will be the answer to keeping the alley energized. Cheerful also has members on both TCA and COAI Boards.

Panhandle/West – Kathy Keaton said Duane Laughlin came in for a magic class and they also had a face painting class. Linda Greene is doing a lot with Relay for Life and Kathy for cancer survivors. Mentioned they want to join with Voncille Hardy to go to VA hospitals. For National Clown Week they are looking into to doing something regarding disability, and Kathy will be doing a little library in San Angelo. Kathy mentioned that Clown Camp is planning a reunion in Wisconsin. Last, but not least Kathy received a scholarship to WCA this year – and was a competition winner along with Linda Greene.

8. Old Business:

- Tax Exempt status – we are officially 501(C)(3) status.
- Greg Stanford will add membership applications and alley reports to the website that can be a fillable form.

9. New Business:

- Membership – Ways to increase – Cheerful pays for new clown school students to become TCA members in the hopes they will continue with it after the initial year. Diana mentioned adding a Boost (which is like a commercial) with Facebook to increase the number of people that see what is going on in the world of clowning. Kathy Keaton motioned that we should try Boosting for 1 day a week for 4 weeks at a cost of \$40 (\$10 a day). Christie McNeil seconded and all agreed. Hope to have a report at next board meeting.
- 2016 TCA Convention
Kathy Keaton mentioned she would talk to Oops Alley about hosting one in San Angelo. We will also investigate Kileen, Shriner's facilities, Waco and Round Rock location options. Will investigate costs and availability for both time frames (Jul/Aug and Sep/Oct). Would like to have a decision made by July 11, 2015 meeting.

10. Other goings-on:

- Aurora Krause “BeBop” - April 25, 2015 Cowtown Workshop
- Brenda Marshall – July 18, 2015 Cheerful Workshop
- August 14, 2015 – Clown Jam in Branson

11. Next Meeting(s):

- July 11th in Fort Worth
- Convention in Tyler

12. Adjournment Motion - Martha Warren motioned that we adjourn and Duane Wilhite seconded. All approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patsy McMillan
TCA Secretary 4/11/15