

Minutes of Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide AGM, 08-05-2016

Meeting held at Marcellina's Adelaide CBD from 3:30pm

Attended by Existing Members:

Sophie Hollitt, Finn Stokes, Liz Jilbert, Kylie Cooper, Marcus Saunders

Attended by Proposed New Members:

Kayla Bremert, Genevieve Brandenburg, Peter Edwards, Katie Beckwith, Michelle Woodmore, Ian Knight, Anna Kovac

Apologies:

Emma Smadbeck [voting proxy: Liz Jilbert], Jennifer Lusk

Absent:

Samuel Maxwell, Spencer Reid, David Sowerbutts, Vedrana Budimir

MEETING OPENED AT 3:38PM

1. Administration

As chairperson Sam Maxwell is not present, a chair for the meeting is elected from the members present. **Sophie** is elected as chair for this meeting after being proposed by **Finn** and seconded by **Ian**.

The proposed new members of the organisation are accepted unanimously into the organisation by committee members present. Welcome to our new members (and returning members).

2. Financial Reporting

No official treasurer's report or auditor's report was required for this meeting, but **Sophie** offered a brief summary of the Association's activities since the last AGM. This included the success of Southern Blues and Fancy Feet, as well as mentioning our acquisition of the sound system. The amount of money donated by balboa groups to put towards future balboa events (~\$600) was also noted.

3. Elections

A paper ballot was chosen for the election of candidates. Paper ballots for the named committee roles were counted by **Genevieve**, while paper ballots for general committee positions were counted by **Michelle**.

The new committee of Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide consists of:

Chairperson: Sophie Hollitt

Secretary: Katie Beckwith (elected unopposed after Sophie Hollitt withdrawing)

Treasurer: Finn Stokes

Public Officer: Ian Knight

General Committee:

Vedrana Budimir, Marcus Saunders, Kylie Cooper, Liz Jilbert, Genevieve Brandenburg

4. Election-related business

Motion: That Finn Stokes be added as one of the signatories on the Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide bank account. **Motion by Sophie, Seconded by Kayla. Unopposed.**

Motion: That former treasurer Emma Smadbeck be removed as a signatory on the Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide bank account. **Motion by Finn, Seconded by Anna. Unopposed.**

Motion: That Chairperson Sophie Hollitt continue as a signatory on the Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide bank account. **Motion by Liz, Seconded by Kylie. Unopposed.**

Motion: That all new committee members be given access to the Google Drive of Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide documents. **Motion by Ian, Seconded by Marcus. Unopposed.**

Note that all members of the organisation are to be given access to some Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide documents, such as agendas and minutes of past meetings and the Association Rules.

Ian suggests that the AGM minutes should be made generally publically available on the SABDIA website. **Sophie** is concerned that there may be some legal implications of publishing minutes, notably in cases where budget information has been reviewed. Suggestion is to post instead a different version of the minutes with sensitive data removed.

Action item: Ian to research how other nonprofit organisations he knows of handle public vs private information in these contexts.

5. Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The constitution is briefly discussed (mostly in the context of arranging the AGM), but in general there is too much to look through today and **Sophie** thinks we may require legal advice about which parts of the constitution are appropriate to modify.

Action item: Sophie to email the members of the organisation a copy of the Association Rules to review, such that we may gather suggestions for changes before a Special General meeting specifically for reviewing the constitution.

5.5. Review of minutes of previous AGM

Upon reviewing the constitution, we recall that the AGM must include a review of the minutes of all the General Meetings held since the last AGM, including the last AGM. **Finn** reads the minutes of the previous AGM aloud.

AMENDMENT TO PREVIOUS AGM MINUTES: **Kylie Cooper** is listed as an apology to the previous AGM, but she states that she was not given adequate notice of the AGM in order to attend.

ACTION ITEM FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: Nick Mitchell was suggested in the minutes as a teacher willing to tour in 2016. **Sophie** to review who this is and bring that information back to the group.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the previous AGM as true and valid, apart from the stated amendment. **Motion by Liz, Seconded by Finn. Motion passes**

6. Other Community Business

6.1 Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide website

Suggested content for the Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide website:

- Information about what swing is, what its substyles are, and what blues is (in brief)
- Information about SABDIA as an organisation. Who we are and what we do.
- Specific information and a process for people to suggest events and apply for assistance (teaching insurance, renting sound system)
- History of dancing in Adelaide (both the modern revival scene and perhaps Adelaide information even further back?).
- History of the Association's achievements.
- Contact forms about support for events as suggested above.

Finn and **Ian** said they may be available to work on the tech side of the website after the Southern Blues website work slows down a bit. **Marc** and **Genevieve** said they might be interested to work on content creation for the website, but that compiling the content should also be open to volunteers from the community.

Action Item: review this situation in a few months.

6.2 Proposed Safer Spaces Network

From the agenda:

Proposal: Start a Safer Spaces Network and communicate information between schools in Adelaide, and between Adelaide and interstate groups. Proposal is to operate under Swing and Blues and make use of part of the website to give information about it; and to use data from Southern Blues/Fancy Feet to seed the network.

Verbally, **Sophie** spoke about the proposed idea by requesting to use part of the website to provide information about the network when it was up and running, and requesting to add information from Southern Blues and other SABDIA events to the network. **Sophie** suggested storing information from reports somewhere centrally, and used the word "database".

There was extensive discussion about this issue. The key sticking points were:

- Access to information. The idea of a database of safety reports was worrying to the group. In particular, the level of severity of offences to be recorded was a hot topic of discussion. No consensus was reached. Some level of standardisation of response and reporting between individual schools/groups in the network will probably be required.
- Concerns about legal privacy, and the manner in which reports are collected.

Discussion settled around the idea of facilitating somewhat informal communication between scene leaders as being preferable to a more organised structure, but the conversation is ongoing.

We also spoke about the Adelaide scene in particular, with **Kayla** mentioning that it's hard for the Adelaide schools to share information as many of the people in charge are fairly busy and don't necessarily have much interaction.

Motion: To discuss a Safer Spaces Officer/Safety Officer as being a named role in Swing and Blues Dancing in Adelaide, intended to communicate with schools in Adelaide about safety issues in a currently unspecified way, proposed to be added and discussed as part of the constitutional changes. **Motion by Finn, Seconded by Kayla. Motion Unopposed.**

Motion: To make a preliminary investigation of the suitability of national communication about safer spaces issues (including some legal advice). This may involve speaking to other scene leaders, but (a) it must be made clear that this is something that we are exploring, but not yet doing; and (b) that messages to other scene leaders on this topic should be reviewed by at least committee before being sent. **Motion by Finn, Seconded by Ian. Clarifications and Amendments from Marcus and Liz. Motion passed.**

6.3 Dance Merchandise

Sophie's request to organise and sell the dance merchandise of "Lead, Follow or Switch?" badges and "Dance Roles are not Gender Roles" tshirts under the banner of SABDIA and via the website was **approved without dissent**. Clarification: profits from this venture will pass to SABDIA and no long-term costs for this venture are expected. Clarification: other kinds of merchandise will also be permitted in future, subject to approval by committee on a case-by-case basis.

6.4 Discussion of SABDIA support for teaching events

Marcus discussed the recent organisation of a public event with the Adelaide Big Band and Bill Parton, and suggested that SABDIA provide dancer's insurance so that there can be beginner teaching at this event (organised by **Marcus**). We note that the suggested event is free to the public.

As part of this discussion, **Marcus** mentioned that he thought that Club Savoy was presently covered by SABDIA's insurance, and **Kylie** also thought that was the case. **Sophie, Liz, and Finn** don't think that there is any written contract about this anywhere, and as a result worry that Club Savoy may not presently be insured.

URGENT ACTION ITEM: **Sophie** to contact Lulu and Yarran at Club Savoy to clarify ASAP.

Motion: SABDIA to add insurance for **Marcus** to teach at public events with Adelaide Big Band/Bill Parton. Note that events with teaching are not yet organised, and that these depend on the success

of the upcoming first event without planned teaching. **Motion by Marcus, Seconded by Finn. Unopposed.**

6.5 Community Meeting

Kayla and **Michelle** were unfamiliar with last year's community meeting, so we discussed the nature of the event as a collection of people within the scene coming together to discuss their future hopes and ideas.

Motion: to encourage, support, and if necessary organise a community meeting every year, so that people can share their ideas for encouraging social dancing events, and find people to work with toward these goals. **Unopposed**

Motion: In 2017, to hold the community meeting before the AGM/before the notice period for the AGM so that people who have lots of ideas for events or want to become engaged with the administrative parts of the scene such as in the SABDIA committee have an opportunity to do so.

Unopposed.

6.6 Other Business

Kylie raised a concern that the current membership structure does not include enough voices from the community, and that school organisers from Swing out Adelaide and Club Savoy are notably missing.

Motion: to invite swing school leaders to our next organisation meeting. Clarification: If these leaders wished to become voting members they would still have to follow the process outlined in the constitution. Clarification: Extend this invitation to all the schools listed on the SABDIA website rather than just the specific schools we discussed. **Motion by Finn, Seconded by Ian. Unopposed.**

MEETING CLOSED AT 5:25PM