

Minutes Board Meeting: August 28, Monday, 5:30 - 7 PM Zoom & Eagles Club Minneapolis, Hybrid

Present: Cino Adelson, Fran Howley, Kathya Dawe, Eduardo Drake, Rob Peterson, Jack Levi, Joe Bowman, Gerald Girouard, Cathy Petersen, Terri Davis **Absent:** Mary McKeon **Guest:** -

1. Approve August 2023 Agenda, approved.
2. Approve July 2023 Minutes, approved.
3. Treasurer's Report for July (Rob)

The August 13th, milonga party had receipts of \$572.00 and costs of \$776.44 (Venue - \$107.13, Music - \$600.00, and Food- \$47.36, Decorations - \$10 and PayPal fees - \$11.95) or a net loss of \$204.44. Total attendance: 54 | Please note the outdoor venue expense was prepaid, no refund due to weather cancelation.

August 2023 revenue from the weekly practica series was \$582.00 with \$260.92 in expenses for a net gain of \$321.08. There were 103 members, 18 non-members and six free entries for an average weekly number of 32 attendees in this reporting period.

In August 2023, Membership revenue totaled \$145, but expenses subtracted were \$4.75 due to PayPal fees.

August 2023 Operational expenses, in total, was \$13.00 for our Mail Chimp subscription fee.

August 2023 Net Income:

- \$ 204.44 - 2023 Milonga
+ \$ 321.08 - Practica Sessions
+ \$ 140.25 - Membership Payments
- \$ 13.00 - Operational Expense
+ \$ 243.89 - 2023 Net Income

8/24/2023 balance on hand: 18,395.58

4. Membership Report, Membership Committee, (Kathya, Cino)

Survey Responses - Cino / Kathya (5 minutes)

Total attendees: 44 + 4 musicians (July: 48) | Nonmembers: 4 | Students: 0 | Renewals at the gate: 4 | Free: 8 = 2 Hosts + 4 renewals + 2 gatekeepers + musicians

Fran and Kathya suggested that the January milonga be free only for TSoM members.

Rob suggested we discuss whether this should be considered as part of a strategic approach to membership benefits. Kathya stated she has requested this benefit for members – i.e., free milonga entrance on renewal. Fran suggested having January free and Jack suggested TSoM identify what our minimum funds on hand should be. Fran and Rob stated this has been discussed and the results found in past minutes.

Survey results are available; the committee is working on an executive report to share with the board for recommendations and future actions. Eduardo suggested there might be items that could be reviewed now by the board rather than waiting for a summary.

Jack said we are so interested in the results that we want to see the data in addition to the summary. Cino said the membership committee is working at an elevated level of transparency. Cino suggested there be a communications plan to share survey results with the membership. Gerry suggested an update be provided to the membership about the survey status. There was general agreement and a suggestion made to include the update in a TSoM news email.

Need to make gatekeeper location more obvious at outdoor and multi entrance venues. Joe suggested there be a banner that says here's check-in for payment.

5. Instructors' Entrance free to TSoM milongas? Who? (Fran re Bill's communication)
Now, instructors are admitted free to all practicas. Kathya asked if it makes a difference whether they are members or not. Fran said her perspective is that it can be any active local instructor; she will provide a list of the instructors for review by the board. Rob will compare the list of instructors with the list of attendees in 2023. Eduardo suggested that the instructors be identified and recognized by the MC. **MOTION**: Fran moved that instructors on a list by the TSoM board will be admitted free to practicas and milongas, except the gala. **The Board passed the motion with 1 abstention.**
6. Community Bulletin Board for Travel Buddy Finders, Member Loneliness, etc.: Eduardo no update; deferred to next meeting.
7. SEPTEMBER 9 milonga–Venue: Danish American Center, DJ Lois; MC Cathy, Janeen, Fran - Gatekeepers Mary Pearl and Cino; Food Salad **POTLUCK**; PR Mariola
Rob advised that our insurance policy has limitations regarding TSoM's alcohol policy. **ACTION**: Rob will check with the insurance agent about alcohol at TSoM events. Cathy will check with the Danish Am Center regarding changes to their policy about alcohol on premises.
8. Discuss a TSoM MicroGrant/Loan program to provide seed money (e.g., up to \$250 per event, and maximum \$3k for one year) to stimulate and support non-board-initiated tango events and activities, e.g., Friday Night Milongas, Sunday Milongas, etc. Eduardo stated he had hoped to see survey results to develop a proposal for TSoM MicroGrant/Loan Program. Eduardo will study this after reading the survey results.
9. Website and Communication Committee (Eduardo, Gerry).
Gerry asked what TSoM digital presence is beyond the website and Facebook. He asked where all our minutes go online and who has control over them? Also, what about communications generated by board members to various entities?
10. Gala Committee (Fran) The committee has met once, and plans are moving well.
Janeen and Mary Pearl are seeking caterers. Charles' band with a singer are under contract.
11. Update on U tango and \$ (Jack)
Emilie submitted a budget the morning of our TSoM board meeting, asking for \$3000.
Fran mentioned that at TSoM's July milonga she spoke with Huana and was advised the

U paid their registrations, and they would provide a budget within a week. Emilie provided the budget 8/28/23. In an email 8/28/23, Emilie advised each person had paid for their own festival registration. It was recommended that we say no to the grant request but encourage them to work with TSoM for future events. Gerry stated that the timing is too close; also, they haven't actively participated in the local tango community (except for Ron and Tia). Jack suggested they be advised about the opportunity for them to volunteer, and they can seek funding in the coming year. Tango has 10 members – 8 students and 2 alumni. Further, he suggested they expand their membership from 10 to 20-25 people; he proposed we help them increase their community. Eduardo suggested that TSoM provide free entrance to UTango members; there wasn't a motion to change the payment for UTango members as they pay \$5 for each milonga; there was general discussion that the fee won't increase or decrease their participation as it is already very low. Eduardo urged that the letter to them include "We're not providing any money, but we want to support you and your development." Rob suggested we add language "within the U of MN's guidelines".

12. Timetable for Nominating Committee (Fran)

Fran asked for recommendations for the nominating committee – suggested were Tamara, Roxanne, Bill Boyt, Terry Holten, and Dan Browning. She and Gerry will ask them.

13. Eduardo proposed that Jay Stotsky be recognized for all the joy he brought to the MN tango community. **MOTION**: Eduardo moved that Jay Stotsky and Wendy Tanger-Foster be recognized with TANGO TREASURES CERTIFICATES. **Motion passed**. Eduardo will create the certificate and obtain a card for the board to sign for each.

Fran submitted a request to the board via email 9/9/23 presenting the proposal by Paola, Chair of the Cine Latino Film Festival, asking TSoM to partner with the Festival organizers:

1. Promote the film in their calendar and email blasts to their contacts
 2. Bring a spread of appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages for about 60 people for the after film party on Oct 15 at 6:30pm at the Pracna Fireplace's Room next to the Main Theatre, 115 SE Main St, Mpls
 3. Bring a tango play list and connect with possible Tango dancers/Instructor to give a 15 min lesson and dance show for 30 min
 4. Email them at maury@mspfilm.org with a high resolution TSoM's logo to be added to their website and added in a trailer before each film during the festival, plus verbal recognition before and after the film.
- 6 agreed to support this proposal (Cino, Jack, Cjp, Kathya, Terri, Fran, Mary Pearl)

Next Meeting Sept 26 5:30 - 7: TUESDAY