

NORTEX Quarterly Business Meeting August 18, 2021

The regular Quarterly Business Meeting of the North Texas Square and Round Dance Association was called to order on Sunday, August 15, 2021, at 2:00 P.M. at Swingtime Center, 5100 SE Loop 820, Fort Worth, Texas 76140-1508 by President Kevin Hadley. The secretary was present.

President Kevin Hadley reminded each person present to register his/her attendance. Delegates were asked to check in at the appropriate Area Vice President table. Alternate Delegates were to complete an Alternate Delegate Form signed by either their club president or another club delegate listed on the sign-in sheet. The alternate delegate form must be approved by the NORTEX Secretary. Chris and Carolyn Mills, President Pro-Tem, oversaw the sign-in sheets and alternate delegate blank forms.

Please remember there is to be no open beverages on any kind on the Swingtime floor. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Invocation was given by Sam Stephens. Pledges of Allegiances (U.S. and Texas) were led by Chris and Carolyn Mills, President Pro-Tem.

After giving welcoming remarks, President Hadley recognized Past Presidents and NTCA officers and members in attendance. Attending their first NORTEX Quarterly Business Meeting was Lori Millner (President of Pegasus Squares). Past Presidents who were attending were Bascom and Peggy Kemp, Kevin Hadley, Ray and Vicki Spray, Sam and Mary Stephens, John Currie, and Debbie Anderson. President Hadley thanked them for attending. NTCA members attending included Ray Savell, Jack von der Heide, Vernon Jones, Bill Hinckley, and Melton Luttrell.

President Pro-Tem Chris Mills gave a Preliminary Delegate Count of 37 Delegates and 6 voting Past Presidents for a total of 43.

President Hadley stated in order to save time we will not have a roll call unless it becomes necessary. We are continuing the system which we have used previously; delegates were given a voting stick when they signed in. The only delegates who received a voting stick were those whose names were listed on the sign in sheets, or who had an alternate delegate approval sheet that had been signed by their Club President or another club delegate who was listed on the sign-in sheet. Alternative delegates must be approved by the NORTEX Secretary. Our President Pro-Tem, Chris and Carolyn Mills, is in charge of the sign-in sheets.

The Chair wants to remind the Delegates of the special rules of order for all Business Meetings passed at the August 5, 2007 meeting. For this and future meetings all debates should be limited to 2 speeches per person and each time a speaker speaks it will be limited to 3 minutes. Any delegate wishing to introduce a motion from the floor must present this motion to the secretary in writing by the end of recess time in order to be recognized to speak.

Minutes of the April 18, 2021 NORTEX Quarterly Business Meeting, presented by Secretary Audrey Mansell, were distributed by e-mail to all club presidents or representatives 10 days prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved.

Minutes of the June 6, 2021 NORTEX 54th Installation Meeting, presented by Secretary Audrey Mansell, were distributed by e-mail to all club presidents or representatives 10 days prior to this meeting. The minutes were approved.

The Financial Report, presented by Sam Stephens (filling in for Larry and Kaye Horstmann who were out of town), was distributed by e-mail to all club presidents or representatives 10 days prior to the meeting. President Hadley asked if there were questions or comments. There were none. President Hadley announced he would entertain a motion to accept the Financial Report. Sheila Milliron, of Rebel Rousers, made a motion to accept the Financial Report. Motion was seconded by Ray Spray. The Financial Report has been approved and will be filed for financial review.

President's Report: President Kevin Hadley spoke from his heart.

- State of the Association
 - Most clubs are dancing
 - Most of those that aren't dancing don't have a hall to dance in
 - We need to support our clubs
 - Attendance is down – we all understand why
- Communication
 - We want to improve the information being passed out to the clubs
 - Alex Nestor and Sam Stephens are working on that
 - Outbound Communication improvement
 - Officers are working to simplify, improve, adjust to a changing world
- We have dancers that are willing to help
 - We must work together
 - Shut down the negatives
 - Ask negative people to leave
- We are all human
 - We make mistakes
 - Be an encouragement
- Visitations
 - When you have a dance treat it like a dinner party
 - Be a good host
 - Give a personal invitation
 - Call other club presidents and ask them to bring their club to your dance
 - Flyers and emails are good
 - Personal is better
 - Make people feel welcome
 - Circle the room and speak to everyone
- Disappointed in your dance?
 - Find out what caused the problem
 - Take steps to fix it – make changes
- Official purpose of NORTEX (according to Article 2 Section 2)
 - Maintain communications between clubs
- YOU are NORTEX
 - We are doing the best we can
 - Delegates control NORTEX
- Square Dance Activity – we have to turn things around for it to survive
 - Do you want it to be here for other generations?

- Rumors throughout Association
 - Some clubs are thinking of starting a new association
 - Every club needs to do what's best for them
 - We will support that decision
 - Realize – an organization takes people working to run it
 - Why not join in and help NORTEX?
- State Federation
 - NORTEX withdrew in 2006 and has operated independently since
 - 2011 dialogue was opened but did not continue
 - Dialogue has been opened again
 - Meeting was held at Red River Festival in Wichita Falls a few weeks ago
 - These are great people
 - President: Rod and Rena Gibson
 - Vice-President: Everett and Tina Kelly
 - Treasurer: Matthew Whiteacre
 - Secretary: Sam Daggett
 - We need to support and interact
 - They came to our area and attended the Circle I dance on August 14th
 - Heart of Texas Association has an anniversary dance in Waco on August 21st. Chris and Carolyn Mills are heading up our visitation to them.

The Financial Review Report, presented by Debbie Anderson (filling in for Kathy and Larry Kirchner who were unable to attend today). President Hadley asked if there were questions or comments. There were none. President Hadley thanked Debbie and asked her to extend our appreciation to Kathy and Larry.

President Hadley announced he would entertain a motion:

The Chair recognizes Dave Burson, Delegate of Swinging Stars. “I move to adopt the 2020-2021 Financial Review report.” Mary Stephens seconded the motion. President Hadley announced it has been moved and seconded to adopt the 2020-2021 Financial Review report. The Financial Review report was adopted.

North Texas Callers Association: Ray Savell, president of NTCA

- Our activity continues to shrink
 - We cannot continue doing the same thing expecting different results
 - Put your egos to the side and make sure everyone is having fun
 - Think about changing lessons
 - SSD – basic mainstream less some complicated calls
 - Two classes a week
 - Six weeks gets new students on the dance floor
 - Make square dancing fun again
- Hands Up / Hands Down
 - Dancers need to be considerate of new dancers
 - They need hands up
 - UNIFY
 - Experienced dancers in a square can do hands down
 - Be sure you aren't assuming everyone is at your level
 - Don't leave anyone behind

Teen Scholarship: Chairs Chris and Carolyn Mills gave the Teen Scholarship report. There were no applications for the Teen Scholarship. They asked delegates to talk up the scholarship program. Trade schools are currently included and might be changed to include Cosmetology very soon.

Clubs needing NORTEX diplomas, New Dancer Dangles, and other educational items, should contact Terri and Fred Lanier the Education Chairs, or your Area Vice President.

President Hadley asked that any delegates who came in too late to sign in before the meeting started to sign in during the recess and pick up their voting stick from their Area Vice President.

Final Delegate Report: Total of 44 Delegates and 6 voting Past Presidents for a final count of 50.

Insurance Report: Ray and Vicki Spray

- If you have an incident an officer needs to report what happened.
 - Was equipment damaged
 - Was there a personal injury
 - Provide pictures
- Location of your dance and / or lessons
 - The insurance company needs the location
 - Must be reported to the underwriter
 - If you have a location change notify us immediately
 - There is approximately a week lead-time needed

Lessons Grants Chair: Paul and Connie Killion, no report

Round-Up Report: Chair Donna Miller and President Kevin Hadley

- Ticket sales are very low - 114 as of today
- Research and hard questions have us concerned we will lose a LOT of money
 - We need our money to help clubs
- We propose we cancel Round-Up this year
 - Comments or Questions before we ask for a motion
 - Refunds / Logistical questions
 - Treasurers will likely want to refund the money to clear the books.
 - Featured caller has not been notified yet – it was a non-issue last year
 - There are alternatives being considered with money and COVID in mind
 - Two Signature Pre Round-Up dances can move forward
 - Motion: Pat Cadenhead Second: Russ NejdI
 - Delegates approved the cancellation

Appointments of Committees: President Kevin Hadley

Round-Up: As an association, we have enjoyed Round-Up for 60 years. During that time there has been many changes in our nation and society. We believe it is time to take a serious look at Round-Up, to put it in budget terms, 0 Base. We would like to present the following dancers as our recommendation for a Round-Up review committee:

Chair Ray & Vicki Spray
John and Shirley Currie

Jill and Earl Davidson
JW and Nellie Kuether

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

By-Laws: Our By-Laws need to be reviewed and potential updates presented for delegate consideration. An example of a needed change is an option for virtual meetings. The last change was in 2008. We would like to present the following dancers as our recommendation for a By-Laws Review committee:

Chair Allan and Dorothy Mussler
Ray and Vicki Spray
Debbie Anderson

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

New Dancer Handbook: The New Dancer Handbook needs to be reviewed and potential updates presented for delegate consideration. We would like to present the following dancers as our recommendation for a New Dancer Handbook Review Committee:

Chair Joyce Sellers
Dave and Lorraine Burson
Don and Mary Jo Henry

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Friendship Fun and Club Visits: The Friendship Fun and Club Visits rules have not been reviewed for many years. James and Carolyn Ehrlinger are the current officers in charge of the programs. We would like to request your approval of a committee to review the Friendship Fund and Club Visits rules to be selected by James, Carolyn, Christine and me. This will be an adhoc committee with additional members.

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Education Materials: The Education Materials have not been reviewed for many years. Fred and Terri Lanier are the current officers in charge of the programs. We would like to request your approval of a committee to review the Education Materials whose members will be selected by Fred, Terri, Christine and me.

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Covid-19 Response: We are in a difficult and unknown time due to Covid. We believe it is important to have a committee investigate how we as an association and you as clubs/dancers deal with Covid at dances and meetings. Sheila Milliron has agreed to chair the Covid-19 Response Committee. We would like to request your approval of this committee whose members will be selected by Sheila, Christine and me.

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Banner Game: The Banner Game guidelines have not been reviewed for many years. Larry and Kaye Horstmann initiated the most recent review and changes when they were president in

2008. We would like to request your approval of a committee to review the Banner Game Guidelines whose members will be selected by Larry, Kaye, Christine and me.

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Membership: The process for a new club to join NORTEX has not been reviewed for many years. Charlie and Linda Harris are the current membership chairs. We would like to request your approval of a committee to review the membership process whose members will be selected by Charlie, Linda, Christine and me.

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Lessons Grant: The Lessons Grant rules and documents have not been reviewed for many years. We would like our approval to charge the current lessons grant committee with the task of reviewing the current rules and documents.

Committee was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Teen Scholarship: The Teen Scholarship Program rules and documents have not been reviewed for many years. We would like your approval to charge the current Teen Scholarship Committee consisting of Don and Mary Jo Henry, President Kevin and Christine Hadley, and Treasurer Larry and Kaye Horstmann; with the task of reviewing the current rules and documents.

Charge was approved.

The goal of this committee will be to provide a report at the November Quarterly meeting.

Sickness and Concerns: COVID – keep dancing family in our prayers. Some are vaccinated and some are not. Keep safe.

Announcements: Assisted hearing device has been donated, if you are interested contact Linda Harris (Swinging Stars). Sheila Milliron (Rebel Rousers) next Saturday 21st celebration dance in honor of Theron Hixson's 90th birthday; everyone is invited to attend.

The next NORTEX Quarterly Meeting will be on November 7, 2021 at 2:00pm at Swingtime Center. The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.