

## NORTEX Quarterly Business Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2021, 2:00 PM

Swingtime Center

5100 SE Loop 820

Fort Worth, TX 76140

Attendance: 44 Delegates, 6 Past Presidents, NTCA

### Agenda

- Past Presidents, NTCA members and first time visitors were recognized.
- Minutes from past meetings and current Financial Report Approved.
- NORTEX President, Kevin Hadley addressed the meeting regarding several topics.
  - State of the Association:
    - Official Purpose reminder: promote and stimulate interest in square dancing and round dancing in our area.
    - General attendance at NORTEX clubs is down. Clubs are also facing difficulties retaining facilities for dances.
    - Outbound communication improvements are being worked on.
    - An increase in negative comments and complaints have been noted. The continued survival of our member clubs depends on working together. The president requested that everyone work to squelch negativity and negative influences.
  - Suggestions for Increasing Dance Attendance:
    - Recommend club presidents make personal contact with each other. Collaborate on encouraging visitations and make personal invitations. Have follow-up phone calls to discuss any issues and be open to making changes. Insure all guests feel welcome, use walk-around greetings, etc.
    - Clubs should ensure that new dancers have an enjoyable experience.
  - Rumors:
    - Some talk about clubs forming independent associations has come to light. The president that clubs should do what they think is best for their clubs. As an aside the president noted that an association requires a good number of dedicated volunteers and work to maintain.
    - The NORTEX is working to establish friendly relations with the Texas State Federation of Square and Round Dancers. NORTEX split from this group in 2006. The Hadleys (and others) have been making contact with the State Federation board since 2011. There have been some cross association visitations. State officers visited at the last Circle-I dance. NORTEX is hoping to reciprocate. <http://www.squaredancetx.com/>
- Financial Review Report:
  - Review of Quick Books and financial records was satisfactory.

- Delegates approved financial report.
- NTCA President, Ray Savell:
  - Ray stated that since “square dancing’s hay days” square dancing clubs have experienced a 90% loss of members.
  - SSD is formulated to enable more lessons to be completed quickly in a year. More frequent and more quickly completed lessons will help recruiting new members.
- Teen Scholarships:
  - No teen scholarships have been awarded in the last two years.
  - Scholarships are available to students aged 21 years and under.
  - Scholarships can be for academic or trade school attendance.
  - It was noted that home school children can get a PE credit for square dancing lessons.
- Insurance, Ray and Vicky Spray:
  - Request that all incidents at any dance or lesson be reported. Take pictures when possible.
  - Change of location for dances must be report at least 1 week ahead of time.
  - Locations of lessons need to be reported.
  - An standard from is forth coming and will be placed on the website.
- Lesson Grants: None
- Round-Up:
  - Registrations were much less than hoped for (114 as of Sunday.) NORTEX and NTCA could not afford to sustain the predicted losses.
  - A motion to cancel the event was made by the President and seconded. Motion approved by the delegates.
- Committees To Review NORTEX Operations:
 

Ten committees were announced to review current procedures and guidelines. Reports are requested to the next quarterly meeting on November 7.

  - Round-Up Cmte: Chair and committee members were assigned to consider the future structure and operations of Round-Up.
  - By Laws Cmte: Chair and committee members were assigned to review and suggest changes to NORTEX bylaws.
  - New Dancer Handbook: Chair and committee members were assigned to review the handbook and recommend content and format changes.
  - Friendship Cmte: Committee consisting of Ehlingers and Hadleys to review current practices and guidelines.

- Education Cmte: Committee consisting of Laniers and Hadleys to review current educational materials and make recommendations.
  - COVID-19 Cmte: Chair only, volunteers welcome, to formulate a standard set of guidelines for clubs to consider for dealing with current science and legal issues.
  - Banner Game: Chair only, volunteers welcome, to review game guidelines and recommend updates as needed.
  - New Members Cmte: Chair only, volunteers welcome, process to accepting new members is not documented. Request for established guidelines and recommendations.
  - Lesson Grant Rules Cmte: Chair only, volunteers welcome, to review current rules and make recommendations.
  - Teen Scholarships Cmte: Chair only, volunteers welcome, to review current procedures for awarding lesson grants, make recommendations.
- Meeting adjourned before 4:00 PM.