

Membership meeting 3-21-09

The membership was called to order by President Amy Bright at 1:18 p.m. at Ala Moana Barnes & Noble. In attendance were Medah members Amy Bright, Willow Chang, Dorothy Wheeler, Beth Biller, Renee Arnold, Anas Nasr, and Jessica Schmidt.

Due to the late election and transition, no previous minutes were approved.

### **Old Business:**

(I) Election Results for officers. 17 votes were received by regular mail.

- It was noted that the nomination and election process was not properly followed, because a list of the current membership had not been provided; nor was the ballot sent in a timely manner; nor was it held at a haflah where membership could vote in person; thus there was not sufficient transparency.
- Suzanne Hamdi officially resigned from the nomination to the board by email before the meeting and did not renew membership.
- Member Wheeler made a motion that Suzanne not be allowed to be a member. This stems from an incident on March 14.
- The motion was seconded and it passed unanimously.
- Suzanne's vote was therefore not opened or counted.
- Member Biller opened the envelopes and called out the vote and Chang kept the tally.
- Amy Bright was elected President by 14 votes
- Renée Arnold was elected Secretary by 14 votes
- Bob McKeand was elected member-at-large by 13 votes
- Dorothy Wheeler was elected member-at-large by 13 votes
- Write-in for Treasure – 1 for Dorothy Wheeler, 1 for Glo Ayson
- Write-in for member-at-large : 1 for Gale Fenna

II) Election result for referendum to reduce the membership dues for 2009 from \$30 to \$20. Passed: 11 voted for; 3 against; 2 abstained.

- Member Chang was against the dues reduction, stating that we need funds to provide options such as bringing in teachers for workshops, providing food for haflahs, ability to allow members free entrance to haflahs.
- We never had a budget this year so we couldn't plan properly. We need to decide where we want our money to go.
- It was argued that much of the money had been needed for printing and mailing the Zagoreet. However, due to the vote in February to make the Zagoreet online, less money would now be needed .
- It was also argued that the lower dues cost would be helpful in these hard economic times. It would attract more members.

- It was reported that some members had complained that \$30 was too much because they didn't receive enough for that price. The Zagoreet was not coming out often enough.
- It was countered that it would be more difficult to raise the dues in the future.
- It was pointed out that the bylaws allow for dues to be changed and that we could raise them again next year if need be.
- The slogan "twenty for twenty" was suggested, emphasizing that it is a special price for 2009 only, to celebrate MEDAH's twentieth year.

III) Election result for referendum to remove term limits for all officers except the President. Passed: 11 voted for; 3 against; 1 abstained; 1 voted for all officers including the President.

IV) After the results removing term limits, President Bright made three appointments which were all accepted: Dorothy Wheeler to continue being Treasurer; Willow Chang to be Vice President; Anas Nasr to be Member-at-Large and Sergeant-at-Arms.

V) There was no Treasurer's Report made.

### **New Business:**

I) Discussion continued over the advantages and disadvantages of the Zagoreet being available on internet or in hard copy.

- What is the incentive for joining MEDAH if the Z is free online?
- There is still need to ask people to submit articles, therefore being online will not change that fact.
- It will be easier to update regularly when online.
- Member Schmidt said she is still committed to working on the Z and is able to get the necessary information.
- It was argued by many that the Internet is more open and free, which is the way of the world now. Maybe the Z will attract more members.
- One of the anonymous voters suggested having the Z available online but only through delivery by email to members, and not on the website accessible to the public.

II) The design of the MEDAH website was discussed.

- The website now has 5 links: officers listing; teachers listing; MEDAH information such as the bylaws; the Zagoreet; public information including how to advertise and a calendar of events.
- It was discussed whether or not to give all members access to archives online. Would we need to have a password? Only 2 members have no email.

- There was discussion of putting the video archives on the website and whether we would need permission from the dancers who appear on them.
- This should not be necessary because the videos were taken in a public venue.
- It was suggested to have a more dynamic homepage with revolving photographs and a counter.
- A Facebook site was also mentioned.
- Schmidt said she was unable to find the archives of the Zagoreet that Member-at-Large Bob McKeand had supposedly included with the video archives. She wondered if her computer was the problem and said maybe someone else should try looking at them.
- Schmidt and Biller are going to review the video archives to see if Zs are available. They also plan to ask Bob about this.
- Those teachers who have paid will be put onto the website.
- It was suggested to send members a letter to find out what they want on the website.
- President Bright will email a letter to Wheeler and she will send it to the members in regular mail. This will be to inform the membership of the election results.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m. by President Amy Bright.

Respectfully submitted by

Secretary Renée Arnold