

Minutes of Meeting
January 14, 2012

MEDAH Board Meeting – Saturday, January 14, 2012, at Ward's Rafters, 3810 Maunaloa Ave. The meeting was called to order at 2:16 p.m. by President Natalie Phoenix.

In Attendance – President Natalie Phoenix, Vice President Kari Meyer, Secretary Renée Arnold, Treasurer Dorothy Wheeler, Members-at-Large Mandy Jansen, Dee Dee Valencia and Tammy Yee-Custodio.

Minutes – Minutes of the December 3, 2011, meeting were amended to include the approval of the minutes for the November 5, 2011, meeting.

Treasurer's Report – The report was given by Treasurer Dorothy Wheeler. Balance is \$2,714.70. The December 3 hafla brought in a net \$285. It was attended by 26 members, representing a 50% turnout. \$240 was received for 8 membership renewals and 4 new members. 18 visitors paid \$15 each; 3 cookbooks were sold for a total of \$15. On Dec. 22 two more cookbooks were sold for a total of \$10. Dorothy must go to the bank with Natalie, taking the MEDAH minutes. Sat is best for both. Natalie must also get checks #1850-1879 from Masayo who has had them from Feb, 2010, as well as MEDAH's second P.O. box key. Dorothy will check into getting a visa card for Natalie (2nd one in addition to the one Dorothy has). There are 16 renewals and/or new memberships as of today. Dorothy received 6 renewal checks at today's meeting.

Old Business:

Journey through the Silk Road Hafla – Dorothy needs to retrieve her costumes from Nikki, Masayo, Natalie and Tammy. Kari brought hers to the meeting. Renée gave hers to Dorothy previously. Masayo has a list of the costume items that were borrowed. There was discussion about passing a hat or mentioning donations during the show, in order to receive more donations at haflas.

MEDAH email – It was suggested that the handling of MEDAH email be shared by board members or by Kari or Lita. Natalie gave the board a list of the email addresses of all the new board members. Lita and Jessica were absent and are not on the current Board, but may still be involved in the email and eblasts. This still must be sorted out.

Website – Jessica offers to continue handling the website, but needs input. However, some information was submitted in September and never used. The new board members must be added into the FaceBook page. The website is on Yahoo but Tammy suggested creating a blog that all of the Board can access. Natalie suggested having a monthly topic such as makeup, costume design, etc. on the website. (see new business/blog)

New Business:

PayPal and Cookbook sales – The Board discussed selling cookbooks online to facilitate sales. PayPal takes .022 per transaction. The price of the cookbook could be raised to include the costs. The cookbook will be sold at future events.

Framed Photos – The Board discussed the photos of MEDAH dancers, which were originally compiled for an exhibit at Borders several years ago that never took place. They have been

displayed at Shadiya's Island Oasis Boutique and Studio at Aloha Tower until it closed at the end of 2011. The Board would like to exhibit them at another venue. Fresh Café was suggested and Dorothy reminded us that the café could write it off as a tax write-off due to the fact that MEDAH is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit. Jessica knows more about this and will be contacted.

New Venues – Natalie and Renée recently performed with the Island Oasis Ensemble at an event at the Queen Emma Summer Palace. They inquired about having a hafla in the venue and found that it is available from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. for \$250 + \$60 for an alcohol license which is easily obtained online. There is plenty of free parking. Another suggestion was Hawaiian Brian's Billiards across from Jazz Minds on Kapiolani Blvd. More information will be needed. Ballet Hawaii and Still and Moving Center are other venues to be investigated.

Blog on Blogger or Word Press - Tammy will set up a test site for a blog on both these platforms. The blog can point to our domain. We could all post our own pictures. This would take pressure off Jessica or anyone else who may take over the website in the future. The blog could possibly replace the Z. The new website should include Board member biographies, the MEDAH calendar, random photos, bylaws, the Z and archives. Board members need to send photos and bio to Tammy for the blog.

MEDAH General Tasks – Lita will continue to do Eblasts and media contacts. We will ask Lita if she will do press kits. Editor emails can be checked by Mandy. Natalie will let Jessica know. Kari will be the new contact for making eblast calls for performers at events. She will use her yahoo email address, which is on the membership list. The posters and fliers will continue to be made by Tammy. The task of contacting venues will be shared by all the board members.

Tentative Calendar –

Feb. - First hafla will be a membership drive from 7:30-9:30, on Friday, February 24 at Ward's Rafters. All the Saturdays are already booked. Souren will be in town and will be asked if he can come or have a workshop for MEDAH. Souren plays at Atherton on Feb. 17. Natalie will talk to Kip about the cost for a Souren performance or workshop.

Feb. – April – Souren will be in town; workshop/show possible. Natalie will ask Kip.

Mar. – Souhail in the Big Island; workshops possible.

Mar. 22 – KCC International Festival. Renée will confirm with the director if MEDAH can perform as we did last year. Available to perform: Renée and Tammy; Masayo, Lita, Nikki and Shadiya will be asked and an eblast to members will be sent.

Mar. 23-25 – Naga Sita, visiting dancer from Oregon coming to Big Island. MEDAH may help sponsor her. Her style is Tribal, yoga, fusion with Indian flair.

April/May – Fundraiser, possibly on April 22. Note that Tribal Fest is the 3rd week of May. Pyramids was sold to a Japanese corporation and has stopped dancing and made other changes; therefore it may not be this year's venue. Renée will contact the new manager.

May – Quarterly sew bee? This would have to be scheduled not to conflict with the Tribal Fest on the 3rd week of May.

June – Student Recital – at ArtZone or another place with a stage. It was suggested having a big hafla at this event instead of at the end of the year, since students and families attend.

July – Midsummer Night's Gleam

Aug. – line dance workshop one week before the Greek Festival

Sept. – Another visiting instructor?

Oct. – Journey through the Silk Road event – before Halloween

UH International festival - We must find out the dates and whether MEDAH can participate.

Visiting dancer - Natalie will find out more information about Naga Sita, as mentioned in Mar. of the calendar above, and whether or not MEDAH can co-sponsor her trip and split the costs with the Big Island sponsor. Motion was made to proceed with bringing Naga Sita and the motion passed. For a possible second visiting dancer in Sept., Board members are asked to bring possible information on other guest dancers. The Board will visit the list of visiting dancers compiled in 2010.

Immediate Tasks -

Natalie – contact Casablanca, Souren and Kip, Lita, Adly, Dorothy (for bank and costume).

Kari – contact Fresh Café about photos and events, contact those dancers in the photos.

Renée – talk to KCC and Pyramids; send tentative calendar to Lita after we get info on Souren.

Tammy – website with Kari and Jessica; during the meeting she sent to Lita the info for an eblast regarding the Feb. 24 membership drive hafla.

Mandy – contact UH about International Festival dates.

Lita – eblast about the party and the tentative calendar.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

The next meeting will be at 2 p.m., February 11, 2012, at Ward's Rafters.

Respectfully submitted by

Renée Arnold
MEDAH secretary