

Minutes of Meeting  
August 3, 2013

MEDAH Board Meeting – Saturday, August 3, 2013, at Coffee Talk, 3601 Waiālae Ave., Kaimuki.  
The meeting was called to order at 11:26 a.m. by President Natalie Phoenix. The meeting venue was changed due to family issues at Ward's Rafters.

**In Attendance** – President Natalie Phoenix, Vice President Anna Han, Secretary Renée Arnold, Treasurer Dorothy Wheeler, Member-at-Large Jasmine El Gohary, and Member Angeline Han.

**Minutes of Meeting** – July minutes were approved as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report** – The report was read by Treasurer Dorothy Wheeler. As of June 10, 2013, MEDAH had a balance of \$3,324.09. The bank statement shows we have \$400 less. Dorothy needs to do a spreadsheet and figure out the problem. One problem is that we have 2 sets of checks and 2 debit cards, one set for herself and the other for the President. This results in receiving information after the fact. The Board will discuss this issue in New Business. At the meeting Dorothy was given \$20 cash for a new membership and stipend of a \$100 check for participation in the Foster Garden Gleam event. This was the first time MEDAH received a stipend.

**Old Business:**

Foster Gardens Midsummer Night's Gleam event – The Island Oasis Ensemble played for the first time, providing live music for some of the dancers; MEDAH received a \$100 stipend for the first time for participating in the event. There was very good participation and it resulted in two new members. President Natalie Phoenix appeared on KHON Hawaii News Now to advertise the event :  
<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/22878338/midsummer-nights-gleam-at-the-foster-botanical-garden-part-2> Joyce Spoehr, the director, will be retiring July 1 next year and the Gleam event will be scheduled in June instead of July. MEDAH will note this for the 2014 Calendar.

Greek Hafla – The hafla is set at Loading Zone, corner of Hotel St. and Smith St. in Chinatown, Saturday, August 17; set up at 5 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m., show from 7:00-9:00 p.m. MEDAH will supply pupus. On August 14, Dorothy will let the Board know if she will cook some Greek dishes. Otherwise she will pick up pupus from Costco. The Board discussed various Greek dishes as possibilities. Water will be for sale. Vending tables will be provided. Island Oasis Ensemble will play for dancers who wish to dance to live music ; Dorothy will lead some line dances to Greek recorded music or to the band; The band does know some Greek music. Renée to bring the paper products and MEDAH banner and fabric for decoration, in case Anna cannot attend.

Annual Fundraiser – Natalie contacted Laurien Nuss ,521-7041; 851-7010; [laurien@pacificgatewaycenter.org](mailto:laurien@pacificgatewaycenter.org), at Lemon Grass Café, 83 N. King Street, but she has not confirmed our Saturday, September 14 date. Natalie was given the contact by Chanel Tanaka, owner of Loading Zone. Lemon Grass Café has a bar, wine, and a liquor license. The Board needs to negotiate a price, find out the seating capacity, whether they can provide Middle Eastern food, if there is a sound system and dressing room. We need a vegetable and a meat choice. We will mention the municipal parking lots on the flyer when we advertise. Renée, Anna and Jasmine agreed to go to the Café to negotiate on Wednesday, August 7, 2013.

Meeting Venues - The Board discussed other venues for having meetings.

1. Coffee Talk – room is free, parking free on Sundays, must buy something
2. Elks Club – room is free, but book ahead; \$3 pkg, MEDAH can pay for the parking
3. Renée 's office at KCC, free, but AC may not be on during the weekend, can bring own food
4. Ward's Rafters – free, free parking, can bring food

PayPal - Dorothy will work on creating a spreadsheet for management of the PayPal account, and will get help from Anna.

Advertising for new teachers – Discussion of ways to promote MEDAH to new teachers was deferred to the next meeting

Reference list of belly dance resources – Discussion is deferred to the next meeting.

Visiting Dancer – Discussion is deferred to the next meeting.

MEDAH Trip to Middle East – deferred due to the recent increase of violence in Egypt and Syria.

**New Business:**

Journey through the Silk Road event- November 9, 2013; The Board discussed venues which have a kitchen area. Elk's Club charges approximately \$300 to rent and requires having scrip; Hawaii Pacific Arts, has wooden floor and parking; Queen Emma has a kitchen and parking, but we would need to check if alcohol is allowed. The Board decided to book ArtZone . Natalie will contact the owner to see if that date is available.

MEDAH checks and debit card - Motion was made and passed to have the President return the second checkbook and debit card to the Treasurer and for the Treasurer to have the only checkbook and debit card. The President and other Board Members may purchase items for MEDAH and be reimbursed. This facilitates the bookkeeping and management of the bank account.

Advertising on the website & eblasts – The Board agreed to allow members to advertise personal events and/or business ventures on the MEDAH website, even if they are not related to dance. It was noted however that emails are being sent to the MEDAH Board, and possibly to MEDAH members, without having paid the required eblast fee. More discussion is needed.

Hawaii Belly Dance Convention – October 11-15, 2013, at the Blaisdell Convention Center. On July 26, 2013, Malia Delapenia contacted Secretary Renée Arnold and asked if MEDAH would like to pay \$50 (half price) for a booth at this event, for 2 days, Saturday Oct 12, and Sunday Oct 13. The Board is interested, but we need clarification on the \$50 cost : is it for each day (\$100 total)? Would we need to man the booth during the entire convention? We need to find volunteers to man the booth. We need to make flyers and business cards for MEDAH, and we can allow members to advertise their classes and other business. Renée will get back to Malia and let the Board know on email.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. The next meeting will be at 3 p.m. on Sept 2, 2013 (Labor Day), at Coffee Talk.

Respectfully submitted by

Renée Arnold  
MEDAH Secretary