

Minutes of Meeting
December 19, 2016

MEDAH BOARD meeting was held at Century Square Building, 1188 Bishop Street, at the office of President Miko Ries. He called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

In Attendance: President Miko Ries, Vice President Helena Ratzlaff, Secretary Renée Arnold, Treasurer Kornélia (Nelli) Szauter, Members at Large Amala Gameela, Bob McKeand, and Anjanette Thomas. Also in attendance were new 2017 Treasurer Seiko (Aptihaj) Nishida and Member at Large Dayl (Tara) Workman.

Minutes - The November minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Kornélia (Nelli) Szauter read the report. The December 8 statement balance was \$3471.72. \$668 cash from the November 5 Culture Event was deposited on November 10, 2016. The donation check for \$334.50 to the Windward Spouse Abuse Shelter was cashed on December 1, 2016, and the shelter sent MEDAH a thank you note along with 3 envelopes for future donations. The American Savings Bank sent a notice that on February 1, 2017, the Business Simple Checking account will have a \$5/ month charge. However, the MEDAH account is called Business Classic. The new 2017 Treasurer, Seiko Nishida, will ask about this when she goes to the bank with these December minutes, to change the signature for the Treasurer at the bank. Money was transferred from PayPal today for membership payments for 7 people. Two checks were received for 2017 membership but are not yet deposited. The following information was passed on to Seiko regarding the Treasurer's position: the membership list is shared in Google docs; she will need to go to the bank to change the signature and to get a debit card in her own name; the new card number will be given to Tammy Yee-Custodio (Webmaster) for deduction of the payment for the yearly website hosting on Yahoo (payment is attached to the card and not to the bank account); Nelli will then destroy her own card; Nelli will give Seiko her email and phone number. The IRS e-post card Jan-April was moved to IRS.gov; Seiko should set up a new account with her email and address; it is due on May 15; Seiko is to google " IRS 990 postcard", EIN number is needed to register. There are 3 emails linked to the PayPal account (Nelli, Renée and MEDAH); the Password to PayPal (which is kept by Secretary Renée) is to be given to Seiko, and Seiko is to give Nelli an e-mail that could be added to paypal. Seiko keeps the 501(c)(3) and the minutes (Non-profit organizations should keep the 501(c)(3) designation letter and documents and minutes forever, other documents for 3 years); the name on the MEDAH P.O. Box cannot be changed from former President Willow Chang Alleon's name unless Willow accompanies the MEDAH Treasurer to the Post Office in person. Notices come to the MEDAH P.O. box and MEDAH is able to pay the yearly fee. Given to Seiko at this meeting: P.O. box key, cash box, ink stamp with MEDAH address, checkbooks, 3 boxes of checks, old deposit slips, 22 cookbooks by former Treasurer Dorothy Wheeler, 2 big binders of papers, a CD of all information and all old documents that had been scanned (except for some items from the year 2009). All payments will go to the Treasurer. The President can also sign the checks. Nelli will go with Seiko to the bank as soon as the minutes are provided if needed.

Old Business:

Zoe Jakes & Kami Liddle Big Island Kalani Retreat (Kalae's 6th annual event), December 5-12, 2016 - Member at Large Anjanette Thomas attended on the weekend only, and she reported to the Board that it was very well attended, by 60 people; half were during the

week; half on weekend; huge belly dance community on Big Island; people came from Japan, Australia; very loving reception; very good food (vegetarian). Maui Belly Groove dance group also attended.

Souhail event - as mentioned in the November minutes, Souhail Kaspar had expressed a desire to come here and do workshops sponsored by MEDAH. Jay Junker, an ethnomusicologist at UH, had offered to help, and he wants to meet with Amala, new 2017 MEDAH President, and to discuss having the event at Shangrila, the Doris Duke estate; MEDAH can do PR and help with a workshop. Souhail wants to come Feb or Mar. Amber Brose, a dancer on the Big Island, met with Amala (see below) and spoke very highly of Souhail and his workshops.

Karim Nagi event - renown teacher, musician and dancer, wants to come to Hawaii upon being contacted by Amala who knows him personally and professionally. He offered to organize his own event on the West Coast to get airfare from Boston. New Member at Large Dayl Workman may be able to help with airfare. New Treasurer Seiko Nishida will ask her realtor friend about the availability of a condo for Karim to use. Seiko can also advertise in Japanese. Dayl can tell Australian dancers. There was discussion of having him do 2 workshops, a music workshop at UH and a dance workshop; show on Fri night; workshops on Sat; he agreed to lower his rate to \$250/hr as a favor to Amala; possible venues: Hawaii Theater, Orviz Auditorium or Kennedy Theater at UH; Leeward Community College; Kaimuki High School auditorium.

MEDAH member performances - After the last meeting, MEDAH was contacted about performing on November 26, 2016, for the opening of an acupuncture office and hair salon in Kailua. The owner of the acupuncture office is Alicia Lily Yang, a former MEDAH member who participated in the 2015 Shimmy Mob event. President Miko & former MEDAH member Aschraf played as Beats Generation; later Vice President Helena danced a gypsy fusion; then Beats Generation and Helena performed.

New Business:

New Officers - The Board Members for 2017 are:

President: Amanda (Amala Gameela) Talpas

Vice President: Rev. Dr. Richard (Miko) Ries

Secretary: Renée Arnold

Treasurer: Seiko (Aptihaj) Nishida

Members at Large: Holly Rudin-Braschi, Jackie (Ariyana) Lucarelli, Bob McKeand, Helena Ratzlaff-Bauer, Dayl (Tara) Workman

Welcome of new Board Members - Miko welcomed new Treasurer Seiko Nishida and Member at Large Dayl Workman. Duties of the offices were explained.

Post Office keys transferred - President Miko Ries gave his Post Office key to new President Amala Gameela. As mentioned above in the Treasurer's Report, Nelli's key was given to new Treasurer Seiko Nishida.

Meeting time and day for 2017 - The Board agreed to meeting on Tuesdays at 7:45 in 2017.

Facebook and Website updates - The new Board members will be added to the Board Facebook page, which will be renamed MEDAH 2017. They must send a short bio and photo to Tammy Yee-Custodio to be added to the MEDAH.org website.

Shimmy mob - Registration for 2017 is open until March 31, but the discount rate is just until January 15. The event is on May 13, 2017.

Women's March - a walk for women's and human rights, 9:30 a.m., Saturday, January 21, 2017, at the State Capital building. MEDAH will encourage members to participate. More information is needed.

Ward's Rafters Fundraiser - Larry Ward sent emails with a PayPal link asking for donations to help with repairs and buying out his brother on the mortgage of the house, so that events can continue. MEDAH voted for Nelli to make a \$150 donation through Paypal. Several board members reported having already made an individual donation, which Renée will relay to Larry.

Request for Donation - MEDAH received a letter from Jawaahir, a dance company in Minnesota, asking for a donation. The Board rejected this request due to MEDAH's non-profit status.

Amala New Workshops and Classes - Member at Large (2017 President) Amala Gameela is currently teaching 4 classes at Honolulu Club, which are to be continued in 2017. She will also teach a workshop at Still and Moving Center on January 21, 2017, and a Saidi workshop at Aloha Dance Sport on January 29, with a discount for MEDAH members.

Amber Brose, a dancer on the Big Island, met with Amala about being MEDAH's "ambassador of dance" for Big Island. She gave Amala names of many other dancers there. She also mentioned a photographer who is interested in working with MEDAH.

ATS Workshop - New Member at Large Dayl (Tara) Workman reported about the ATS workshop that she attended on the Big Island in July 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m. The next meeting will be at the above location at 7:45 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by

Renée Arnold
MEDAH Secretary