



Northern California Naginata Federation

NCNF General Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2015, Pizza My Heart, San Jose CA

Recorded by Martin Nobida

Members in attendance

We had six members in attendance. Board members in attendance included Chad Goerzen – president and Saiyou Ohshima – treasurer. The secretary, Dominic Laeno, announced he did not want to run again and said he could not make the meeting several months prior. The vice president, Bruce Mitchell, could not attend the meeting because he had responsibilities at the hospital. Bruce did, however, wish to run again for vice president. In the absence of our secretary, Martin Nobida volunteered to record minutes.

Old business

1. Tenugui: Two (2) tenugui remain. We need to increase the supply, because whenever NCNF members attend an event, it is better for them to have new tenugui.
ACTION: Chad asked try to put an order in for the new tenugui before our February meeting. Talanda volunteered to talk to Malyne about putting us on to the supplier of our tenugui in the past, as the federation has been happy with those. Chad says we have pdfs on website.
http://www.naginata.org/ncnf/articles/NCNF_Tenugui.pdf
http://www.naginata.org/ncnf/articles/NCNF_Tenugui2.pdf
2. Passports for US team tryouts: Discussion about the case of Veronica Gunawan, who had qualified for a spot on the US team in the Montreal Naginata World Championships only later to learn that she was not eligible given that she was not a US citizen. NCNF seeks a method to avoid such a situation in the future. There was general agreement that NCNF will ask for passport expiration dates before allowing any NCNF member to attend the US team tryouts. This requirement will not be added to the bylaws, but will be introduced as a matter of policy.

New business

1. Proposed constitution and bylaws changes: Chad announced a summary of the draft bylaws changes. These changes include:
 - Simplification of the election mechanism, getting rid of the dojo representatives and instead using direct vote of NCNF members
 - Allow flexibility in voting dates (no longer require that it occurs in February)
 - Lighten the requirement to have two board meetings per yearWe should get feedback from the original signers.
2. Email list and shared documents. A listserv or email group should be set up to simplify handling of NCNF emails. An online document directory with documents shared by the board, including bylaws, minutes, membership lists, equipment checklist, annual task list, etc. should be set up.
3. Next meeting should occur in February 2016, to allow a vote on the constitution and bylaws amendments, and also to allow elections according to the old bylaws. It was agreed that following one of the Tangoubukan practices would attract the most members.

Matters from the floor:

1. NCNF Website: needs updating, including instructor biographies.
2. El Cerrito dojo: The El Cerrito dojo has stopped holding atarashii naginata practices, and is now open only for Tendo Ryu, headed by Eric Montes. Chad is planning to open a practice in San Francisco, for now unofficial practice is in San Francisco's Balboa Park basketball courts at 7:30 on Wednesdays.
3. Media: Look into magazine and newspaper advertising. Also need to create and distribute a federation flyer with information about practices and contact.

Election of Officers:

- In 2014 the officers were elected by show of hands, with terms set to expire in the summer of 2015. At the time we did not have access to the bylaws and did not know the voting procedure. Since then we have reviewed the bylaws – since they require a February vote, we decided to have another simplified election by show of hands for another short term.
- For an interim term of five months, running from October 7, 2015 until March 2016, the votes were as follows
 - President: Chad Goerzen running unopposed, **passed 6-0**
 - Vice President: Bruce Mitchell running unopposed, **passed 6-0**
 - Secretary: Talanda Williams running unopposed, **passed 6-0**
 - Treasurer: Saiyou Ohshima running unopposed, **passed 6-0**

Immediate Tasks:

- The NCNF president, Chad Goerzen, and treasurer, Saiyou Ohshima, should sign on to the NCNF bank account. Previous signers on the account may be dropped. (Chad, Saiyou)
- NCNF needs to begin steps in re-establish non-profit status (Bruce)
- The equipment checklist should be shared with the board (Bruce)
- Review of current bylaws needs to be ready by the end of the calendar year (Chad, Bruce, Martin)
- An announcement of upcoming shinpan seminars needs to be given to NCNF (Chad)
- Develop a calendar of annual recurring events for officers and share with the board (Chad, Malyne)
- Follow up with Yasui sensei about a homestay (Saiyou)
- Request equipment donation from Yasui sensei (Saiyou)
- Shared online document directory to be set up (Chad, Talanda)
- A listserv for emailing should be set up (Chad, Talanda)
- Communicate with the US office about the El Cerrito dojo changes (Chad)
- Determine regulations for examiner eligibility (Chad)
- Check into Japanese language newspaper advertising (Saiyou)