

Stevne Steering Committee
(Gudbrandsdalslaget, Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag, Romerikslaget, Solørlag, Trønderlag)
Zoom Meeting; Thursday, April 15, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Members Attending (Alpha order by Lag and then last name): Dick Lundgren (Gud), John F. Peterson (Gud), Nancy Pickering (Gud), Dixie Hansen (Hed), Joy Shong (Hed), Norma Kjenstad Barnes (Rom), Mike Miller (Rom), LeAnn Hookom (Sol), Kathy Johnson (Sol), Robert Fossum (Tr).
Absent: Sam Christenson (Tr)

Call to order:

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. CDT. Ten members were present via computer using Zoom.

Introductions

Members introduced themselves with references to the lags to which they belonged and offices held if applicable, and many mentioned the areas where their ancestors were from.

Adoption of Agenda

John Peterson reviewed the Agenda which had been sent in advance. He made a point of mentioning that although the lag genealogists were not part of this meeting, they would be a critical part of planning our stevner in later meetings, especially in regard to locating, configuring, and staffing the Genealogy Lab at the venue. Norma moved, Nancy seconded to adopt the agenda, motion carried.

Election of Officers

- Chair: Robert had nominated Norma as Chair previously via email but Norma declined via email. At the meeting, Norma nominated Robert to serve as Chair. Seconded by ?? Motion carried.
- Vice Chair: Dick nominated Norma, and she accepted. Robert seconded. Motion carried.
- Secretary: Dixie nominated Nancy. Robert seconded. Motion carried.
- Treasurer: After discussion of how this office has operated for Tre Lag previously, Norma nominated Joy. Dixie seconded. Motion carried.
- Result: Chair is Robert, Vice Chair is Norma, Secretary is Nancy, and Treasurer is Joy.

Stevne Name

The Stevne name in current correspondence and By-Laws will change when the new name is finalized. Our working name for this committee has been 'Mange Lag Stevne Steering Committee'

John had provided a list of suggestions, mostly gathered from email conversations:

Mange Lag Stevne, or Mange Norsk Lag Stevne.
Flere Lag or Samlet Lag or Norsk Samband (but not Samling).
Østland og Midt Norge Lag Stevne
Fjellrike Lag Stevne
Norsk Kusiner og Venner Lag Stevne
Norsk Slektshistorie og Kulture Stevne
Norsk Forening Stevne

Pros and cons of various choices and reasonings were discussed, as well as proposed "edits" to those finalist names. It was proposed this committee (only) would vote, rather than our entire memberships. Ultimately, it was agreed that:

- 1) we would weed down the existing list (including edits),
- 2) Joy would put together a list for voting to send to committee members,
- 3) the list of names would be sent to Sam, who would be in charge of sending/collecting/tabulating email responses using a ranked system of voting.

Bylaws – Approve Name Change

We needed to approve the By-Laws, with the stipulation that we would insert the “new name as amended” when final votes were tallied. Joy moved we approve the Bylaws, with the slight change that the lags listed in the Purpose section be arranged in alphabetical order. Dixie seconded, motion carried.

Site Selection for Stevne 2022

This needs to be decided before our Fall 2021 Stevne because we announce the following year’s Stevne location at this year’s Stevne. Robert says the deadline and report should be completed at least by August.

- Dixie will put together a list from past stevners to learn capacity for hotel selection. Going forward, Site Selection Committee members can take turns being in charge from year to year. She also stated at least one early meeting should actually be at the site selected to assess the space.
- Tre Lag had discussed Rochester for 2022. Will it work for all 5 lags? Is the hotel still open? If 2021 won’t work for Tre Lag for Madison after all, can we postpone for 2022 at the Madison location including two more lags, especially if Rochester is a problem?
- The next Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee meeting is on Saturday April 24. Can we know whether the 2021 Stevne in Madison will be held as planned by then? If we postpone, planning is already set up, if not we’ve already done some advance work for the combined 5 lags.
- Site Selection schedule of meetings: the first one is in the Fall and in person at the venue to check it out, but other meetings (usually 2-3 through winter and spring) can meet via Zoom.
- Names for 2022 Site Selection Committee Members: Andy Berg (Sol), Mary Gross (Rom), Robert Fossum (TLS/Tr), Dixie Hansen (TLS/Hed), Dick Lundgren (TLS/Gud).

Stevne Committees

The main two committees under the Steering Committee are Site Selection and Program, the latter with several subcommittees.

Noted that every lag has input for the subcommittees and we can always tap into others who can contribute, even if they are not officially on a committee.

- Program Committee: Joy is fine with the mechanics of organizing information and lists, but declines to be the contact person for reaching possible speakers. Dick will continue to be a contact; Norma also volunteered.
- Joy had previously listed other subcommittees (most under the Program Committee), some of which need to start planning earlier than others, in a distributed a spreadsheet, including: Banquet, Budget, Catering, Entertainment, Evaluations, Hospitality, Music, Photography, Program Speakers, Program Materials, Program Schedule-Speaker liaison, Editor, Publicity, Registration, Silent Auction, Tech/AV support, Tour, Vendors, and Fellesraad site database maintenance. Robert had mentioned previously in an email that each of these committees will need a chair and a method of reporting to the larger group.
- Genealogists should be their own subcommittee, and will want to be fully involved in planning the Genealogy Lab, including participating in the first visit to the venue.
- Dixie will continue as Registrar.

Next Meeting of this Steering Committee for the 5 lags:

- Thursday, June 10, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
- Joy will set up the meeting and send invitations for Zoom.
- Include discussions of handling Publicity and of Vendors (more & better vendors tends to attract more registrations).
- Dixie mentioned our Program should change Memorials: Instead of a part of the Program on the first day, we should shift to a mounted display for each lag.

Communication Methods

- Email works well
- Joy suggested everyone create their own email distribution lists; one for the main committee members, plus a second for the expanded group of names.

Financial Management

- We will set up a bank account for the new group *after* this year's 2021 Stevne.
- Each lag will put in "seed money" to the account (for example, each of the 3 lags in Tre Lag put in \$600), for cash on hand to prepay some expenses, such as rental deposits. We can adjust for 5 lags, perhaps \$400 each? Each lag should present this to their Boards for approval at their next meeting, and this will be an agenda item for the 5-lag steering committee next time we meet on June 10.

Note: John set up the Zoom meeting but has handed his voting privileges to Nancy, and he will bow out. Joy will set up Zoom meetings going forward.

Robert adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m. CDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Pickering
Secretary
Submitted 4/17/2021