

Flere Lag Stevne Steering Committee
(Gudbrandsdalslaget, Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag, Romerikslaget, Solørlag, Trønderlag)
Zoom Meeting; Thursday, June 10, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Members Attending (Alpha order by Lag and then last name): Dick Lundgren (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. Nine members were present via computer using Zoom.

Adoption of Agenda, ByLaws, and Minutes

Chair Robert Fossum reviewed that he had sent an Agenda in advance, along with a current list of the members of the committee, Minutes of the last meeting, and a copy of the ByLaws (with minor revisions already approved). He also mentioned a note from Sam about the final vote totals for the new Stevne name. Dixie mentioned she can create a sub-page on the NHOH website as a storage place online for our planning documents, with access to all committee members.

Reports

1. Secretary's Report. Informal agreement that there were no changes to the minutes from the April 15th meeting and are adopted as sent.
2. Name. The final vote totals as tracked by Sam for the new Stevne name were presented: Flere Lag Stevne = 6; Øst og Midt Norge Lag Stevne = 4.
3. Bylaws. As stated in the Agenda, "The Bylaws were adopted at the previous meeting subject to the choice of a name and alphabetizing the organizations. A copy of these is attached to the message." No further additions or corrections were requested.
4. Committees. Some committees were already established at the last meeting and additional suggestions were listed in today's agenda; we may add more later as the need arises. We are not discussing each one in depth in today's meeting; just making a list for 2022. Suggested committees are: Vendors, Financial, Audit, Catering, Evaluations, Genealogy Lab, Publicity, Tour, Registration, Local Arrangements, Setup, and Audio/Visual.
 - a. It was pointed out that some tasks or roles may be part of a larger committee rather than a separate "entity." An example is that Sam has previously handled Stevne Evaluations, and this could continue without needing to name a full committee for that. Solørlag has a dedicated "vendor person" who makes contact and organizes. (Noted that some lags invite vendors for only one day of the Stevne. Food for future discussion.)

Business (Not categorized as "Old" or "New")

1. Stevne Date. Joy discussed the reasoning behind the first full week in August (Wednesday through Saturday) as the first choice, with the second week in August as a second choice. Seems to be the best schedule to avoid the school year ramping up. Following that logic for 2022, Joy moved that Flere Lag Stevne 2022 be held August 3-6 unless Rochester or the hotels there have a conflict, in which case we'd reserve August 10-13. Norma seconded, motion passed.
2. Site. Barry reports that Rochester is still suitable. The hotel we're considering is the Best Western in the Mayo Clinic Area/St. Mary's. Joy says they have nice-sized meeting rooms. A committee needs to actually visit in person, and we need the results before this year's Tre Lag 2021 so we can announce the venue then.
 - a. Discussion: Robert, Dick, and new volunteer Andy Berg will arrange for a visit with results to report back, within the next month. Barry will be a consultant. Informal agreement as if this were a motion, and this passed.

3. Discussion about format of the Stevne:
 - a. Do Romerike and Solørlag have differences with Tre Lag?
 - b. Both groups have vendors, hospitality, bunads or Norwegian sweaters, a tour (but not always on the same day), and a banquet.
 - c. Genealogy sessions are more concentrated with Romerike and Solørlag.
 - d. There has been an opportunity with Solørlag and/or Romerike to have a lunch together on Saturday in the past. Perhaps have a lunch for new members with their Lag Boards?
 - e. A concert or talent show/entertainment has been included, but not necessarily a show at the banquet.
 - f. Other suggestions to think about: Silent Auction? Other?
 - g. Since the general structure is similar, Joy will make and send a color-coded chart for us to study, to help in crafting the type of schedule we want to set up going forward.
 - h. RE: Speakers: A speaker may give more than one of the same presentation at the same Stevne. This is especially nice when two speakers speak simultaneously and attendees can't attend both in the same slot but want to attend the one they missed, at a second scheduled time. That could affect the formula for paying speakers, though.
 - i. Number of participants from far away varies; also it's good to get speakers as "local" as possible, to reduce travel time & expense, which we don't cover.
4. Site Selection for 2023. Suggestions and discussion points. For negotiating with the hotel (determining capacity), it would be good to get a listing of the previous attendance numbers. Dixie will send out the last 5 years of Tre Lag statistics.
 - a. Eau Claire (need a different hotel, though, as the one previously used was torn down and the site is now used for other purposes; there is a convention center downtown).
 - b. Bemidji (expensive in August, but maybe in September, but that would fall outside traditional dates and could be awkward for planning.)
 - c. Mankato
 - d. Willmar
 - e. LaCrosse (used recently and we really liked it, only downside was security for vendors.)
 - f. Fargo (on the edge of the geographical area we favor but haven't been there recently.)

Other Announcements/Discussion

1. Norma confirmed that the \$400 in financial "seed money" from Romerike has been approved.
2. Ron Halstead and Joy Shong will "pay out" to close the existing bank accounts and start fresh with a new account. Existing PayPal accounts will be analyzed for whether we can transfer name/ownership/access, or whether we need a new account.
3. Next Meeting: Our regular meeting schedule will normally be Fall, Winter, and Spring. But we need another Zoom meeting to review the site selection subcommittee's in-person Rochester visit and finalize for 2022, before August stevner, so it can be announced at those respective stevner.
Next Zoom meeting was set for: **Wednesday, July 14, 7:00 p.m.**

Robert adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m. CDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Pickering
Secretary
Submitted 6/12/2021