

Minutes
DANK National Executive Board Meeting
DANK Haus – 3rd Floor
Saturday, May 17th, 2008 – 1:00 PM

ROLL CALL: Attending: William Fuchs, Erik Wittmann, Donna Lippert, Linda Voit, Beverly Pochatko, Harald Pitz, Robert Miske, Hilde Schloesser, Reinhard Lippert, Margaret Kodrzycki, Ernst Ott

Excused: Chris Decker

Guests: (Committee Members) Ann Marie Fuhrig, Alexandra Ott, Christa Garcia, Ron Zielinski, Darlene Fuchs, Dave Fairbrother, Regina Kania, Rudolf Schloesser, Harald Pitz, Siegfried Endlichhofer, Christel Miske, Alfred M. Mueller, Sr., Hans Wolf, Dagmar Freiberger.

Addition to the Agenda:

Associate Membership (Merl Arp & Erik Wittmann)

Minutes of previous meeting were approved by the Executive Board and sent out via e-mail. A copy is available for those not having received one.

Treasurer's Report: (Linda Voit) Report of treasurer for January thru April was given.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report: Donna Lippert, 2nd by Erik Wittmann. Motion Carried.

Finance Committee (Harald Pitz)

- The first four months has been favorable, however we are \$4,000 behind in dues collection.
 - Dues reminders will be handled by NP Fuchs in a special letter.
 - Raffle tickets for the 50/50 will be done again as a fund raiser.

- A letter will be sent to delinquent members as of March 31st, “love to have you back as a member but there are consequences of your failure to renew. (Erik has two proposed letters we can use.)
 - Why didn't you renew?
 - What do you feel you are not getting from DANK?

- Have the Chapter Membership Chair send out the letter and adapt the proposed letter to the individual chapter.

Erik Wittmann will create an ad to be used in the GAJ to reach out to non-paid members. They will have until the end of June to get caught up. “Unless you are a paid member, you will not receive another newspaper.”

Investment Committee: (Linda Voit – Siegfried Endlichhofer) We need to create our own account for DANK. Currently it is combined with Siegfried's personal account.

A motion to create our own investment account a.s.a.p. was made by Erik Wittmann, 2nd by Robert Miske. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Membership

- Member renewals are a priority. We need to use person to person contact; see if there is a problem within the individual chapters.
- Membership development
 - Advertising in national German magazines. It was approved by the previous Board, but there were no resources to follow through. Perhaps we can get German Life to do an article for our 50th Anniversary.
 - Chapters need to advertise locally
 - Monies are needed (German Life - \$700)
 - Help Chapters who can't afford it – roughly \$5000 is needed. We need to start with \$2500 now to the end of the year.

MOTION: A motion to provide a total of \$5000 for brochures (\$2500) and \$2500 for membership initiatives was made by Robert Miske. 2nd by Donna Lippert. Motion carried.

There are no Chapter problems or DANK property problems at this time.

The Board is wearing polo shirts that Eric Wittmann purchased with the DANK logo on it. The shirts can be customized for the individual Chapter. Cost \$20 each. (Cost \$20.00 \$5 to Chapter and \$5 to the membership fund)

School Budget Issues:

Motion was made by Erik Wittmann and 2nd by Bob Miske requesting the Education Fund consider assisting the DANK Schools Budget. Motion Carried.

50th Anniversary: (Committee: Nikki Dombrowski, Al Mueller, Ernst Ott, Donna Lippert, Bev Pochatko, Darlene Fuchs)

- a. Newspaper ideas (running the front page of earliest newspaper(1962). Because it was written in German, Christa Garcia, Alexandra Ottt and Ann Marie Fuhrig will translate.
- b. Consider a History Book of DANK
- c. Need to come up with a special pin, logo, sticker
 - have a contest to design them
- d. History of DANK schools
- e. Culmination of the 50th Anniversary at the National Convention

Miss DANK Contest: Terry Viebach – No report

Associate Membership (Merl Arp, Erik Wittmann) Currently there are about 40 Associate Members.

- a. What do we offer them?
 - Free article on their organization in the GAJ
 - Directors receive free copy of the GAJ
- b. Need to increase our umbrella of DANK
- c. Reconsider the fee for Associate Membership (was \$75/year)

Region Reports: (See attached reports) No Chapter problems were noted. Just the normal maintenance (North needs a new roof). Parking lot will replace the Walgreens store eventually. North is counting on the HofBrau Haus (of Munich) as a major tenant.

Office Staffing: Please note... our Secretary, Eva Timmerhaus is not retiring at this time. We are still working on getting her support help that may eventually be helping her in a transition to part-time work then retirement when she decides to retire. The candidate has a contingency problem, but we are working on it.

DANK Education Fund: The account has \$3500 in it. Fund disbursement is divided between DANK and non-DANK requests per IRS regulations. Texas College was one of the recipients. Current officers are: President Ernst Ott, Treasurer Robert Brouse, and Secretary Melissa Lesniewski. A change in the Bylaws of the Fund is needed to add new directors to the group. They would like to defer the addition of the new directors until the October Meeting. NP Fuchs asked for a copy of their Bylaws.

NEW BUSINESS:

Conference Calls: A motion was made by Erik Wittmann and seconded by Hilde Schloesser to permit conference calls as an acceptable means of conducting business for DANK. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Ernst Ott Award for Illinois History Expo (Ann Marie Fuhrig) A request was made to approve the prize in the amount of \$100 (in US Savings Bonds) It was noted that the DANK Education Fund will support the funding of this award. **Motion by Erik Wittman, 2nd by Bev Pochatko. Motion carried.**

Life Membership Plaque: It was brought to our attention that the plaque needs updating with the new plates to be done by a trophy shop. Donna & Reinhard Lippert will take care of this. Currently there are 48 life members.

Chapter/Regional Information Packets: We need to get information from the Chapters to set into the data base.

- a. Have e-mail contacts for the President/Secretary of Chapters and Membership Chair.
- b. Have one person send file, data and jpg photos to include
- c. Need calendar of Events from each Chapter.

Bev Pochatko will try to formulate a table or database for the calendar. (Use as a MS Word form – fill in the blanks, save and then send.

Motion to Adjourn at 3:30 PM