

## **Dolina Officers' Meeting**

Minutes – March 28, 2011

Location: Czichray household

**Attendance:** Tori Piorek, Theresa Czichray, James Bueltel, Jerry Drinka, Anne O'Brien, Bev Piorek, John Czichray, Karina Rajtar, Edziu Rajtar, Kaja Rajtar

**March Minutes:** unanimously approved. (motion – John, second – Bev; Edziu and Kaja not present for vote)

### **Financial:**

<b>Account</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>
<b>Savings</b>	\$18,665.91	\$18,665.91
<b>Checking</b>	\$14,214.61	\$19,292.06
<b>Total</b>	\$32,880.52	\$37,957.97

- Income increase is likely from people paying for Rzeszów.
- We are about \$3,000-4,000 ahead.
- We should be getting about \$30/ticket back from International Transaction Fee reimbursement.
- Source of discrepancy not yet found.
- Not enough interest for Kramarczuk's Easter fundraiser.
- Give to the Max
  - Preliminary plan done
  - Regular Dolina updates/reminders via e-mail blasts
  - Still some work to be done

### **Rzeszów:**

- Terri working on collecting documentation/information.
  - Info for Poland collected.
  - Some information we as a group are asking for still needs to be collected.
- Transportation
  - E-mails sent to all bus people, no response yet.
  - Told them we needed to know by the end of the month.
  - Tarnów is set and taken care of.
- Dancing/singing
  - Behind schedule.
- Rehearsal tapes – might need to be fixed.
- Final recordings scheduled for Tuesday, April 19 at the International Institute
  - Jeff & Bernie
  - All music we need to send to Poland
  - Following Tuesday would be back-up if we need more time.
- Appalachian: OBI may be interested in coming and playing for us; still just talking about it and working things out.
  - We do have access to a good tape, but we need to see if we can get rights to it.

- Costumes
  - We still need to figure out how many fit in a suitcase.
  - We will have “bring-in” sessions in the beginning of July – dancers will bring in costumes, and Theresa, Joan, and Terri will pack them.
  - Need to look for extra available suitcases.
  - Might need to sew new Appalachian costumes – Blanche willing to help.
- **Action:** John will get new credit card for Poland. **Deadline:** unspecified.
- Videotaping will be on April 25 at Totino Grace High School.
- Finances
  - Payment deadlines still set at May 15 and June 15.
  - Individual reimbursement status:
    - 1/3 at reimbursement status
    - 1/3 owe less than \$500
    - 1/3 owe more than \$500
  - \$27,000 currently allocated to the trip.
  - \$16,130 projected expenses
  - About \$375 allocated per person
- Poland itinerary is in process.
- Gifts
  - Possible ideas: (yay or nay?)
    - Can cozies – yay (Edziu nay)
    - Pens
    - Chapstick – nay (Tori said chapstick melts)
    - Minnesota keychain (beaded) – easy to make – not beaded?
    - Bottle openers
    - Luggage Velcro tab thing – nay
    - Jordan will get back to Anne
    - Karina – will ask friend about “Livestrong” bracelets; look into [orientaltrading.com](http://orientaltrading.com) – for parades
    - Notebooks – nice for dignitaries
    - Thinking
      - Notebooks
      - Books on Minnesota (Half Price Books)
      - Pens
      - Keychains
  - On each item
    - Minnesota, USA
    - Dolina logo
  - We need about 20? More?
  - Budget – can we get all these?
  - Dolina lapel pins – every member; dignitary gifts; people trade pins – Joan looking into
- Group attire
  - Carolina blue polos – group paying
  - If we get 29 (1 for each person going) – group would be paying \$522; 40 = \$720; \$18 a piece – including embroidery

- Order extras for dignitaries? Less-expensive fabric for them?
- Female/male shirts vs. unisex
- Baseball shirts as a “fun shirt,” \$14
  - “Dolina” in cursive at an angle with “Minnesota, USA” on front
  - On back, “Poland 2011”
  - Extra \$3.50 per shirt to personalize
- Skirts – Dolina embroidered on bottom in red or white, \$4.50, optional
- If we get money, Kaja wants to do windpants (\$32, black and red)
- Full wind suits for \$35? Edziu has website
- For polos – black bottoms
- Income sources
  - Rog grant done, will be sent
    - Expecting articles about it for the PolAm
  - Larson letter sent out Friday
  - Steven Ukasick (going in PolAm) – will be sent out tonight or tomorrow
  - Possibly Gostomski – drafted
- Critical dates –
  - April 1
    - Personnel data sent
    - History and tidbits will be sent tomorrow
    - Photo will be sent soon
  - May 15
    - Audio recording due – scheduled for April 19
    - Video recording due – scheduled for April 25
    - Group ticket can be cancelled without penalty
    - 1<sup>st</sup> payment for Rzeszów room and board due
  - June 13/15
    - Group ticket payment
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> payment for Rzeszów room and board due
- Brochure – in progress

#### **Rehearsal space:**

- Starting April 5, will have every Tuesday at PNA
- Have Klub Haus through April on Wednesdays

#### **Misc.:**

- May 5 Chabry for May crowning – just procession in costume
- Sept. 11 HC Banquet – confirmed (Sunday afternoon) – at St. Maron’s

#### **VP:**

- Scrapbook – Tori hasn’t received photos, will request

#### **Costumes:**

- Splitting costumes for Rzeszów and get suitcases
- Keep pushing for a new costume person
- Chair for Rzeszów – Theresa might back out of Poland

- Ordered red socks – option to buy own, otherwise group will buy – get 3 dozen
- Opportunity to order boots - \$200-250
  - Tori will coordinate

### **Fund raising:**

- May 21 car wash – bring up with group – still free?
  - Gasthof's – Kaja will ask
  - 10-2ish?
  - If not, Culver's
- Ice cream for TCPF
  - If bought ourselves, prices fluctuate throughout the year
- Vendor forms for TCPF due May 1
- Photo booth?
- Drop one?
- Dates for Gasthof's Oktoberfest confirmed (see schedule)
  - Guaranteed \$8,000 for 4 weekends
  - 120 time slots to fill if we use shifts
  - 6-10 p.m., plus cleaning
  - Kaja and Anne will be the point people
  - Time commitment?

### **Sloneczniki proposal:**

- Two Sloneczniki parents served as representatives to propose that Dolina take over Sloneczniki.
- The biggest problem for the parents is that Roman has been unreliable, hasn't shown up for rehearsals, and has canceled/tried to cancel performances.
- Parents are currently running rehearsals but don't think they can do so beyond Festival of Nations.
- Would like help with Festival and TCPF, would want new instructor beginning this fall.
- Argued the codependence between Dolina and feeder groups.
- Parents are willing to help contribute one new costume to the group each year. They feel it would make sense to work on one dance each year with the kids anyway.
- Children's group – Edziu, Kaja, and Tori will lay out a long-term plan. Is it feasible?
  - Motion to table – Karina

- Dolina doesn't have access to Sloneczniki assets.
- Financial resource requirements to consider (John's point). We need a long-term plan if we take on a children's group. 30-year commitment. Costumes.
- Wouldn't be Sloneczniki; would be separate children's group.
- We have to fund it. Dolina rules, dues. We want it to be successful.
- People may leave by September if there's uncertainty.
- Willing to put a lot of money and effort into preserving culture. If this doesn't work, would find other activities.
- Just want some sort of decision.
- Feel like they're nagging and nagging and nobody cares.
- Want to know where dues go, who owns costume, etc.
- Roman has Lowicz, Opoczno, Lublin, Kurpie, Krak.
- Whatever activities you sign children up for, you have to pay for it. They know the time and money involvement.
- Currently 9 children in the group.
- We can help a bit through FON.
- We need to decide what we want to do long-term.
- Give Roman a deadline.
- Patient. Gave him multiple chances. He never contacted them with any updates.
- All of a sudden, he was ready to go again.
- Called in sick for Christmas Party. – showed they could do it without him.
- If Roman in September wants to keep going, what's the commitment? They don't think parents will go with it.
- Gave up on them September, Christmas Party, any big performance.
- Brand management.
- Need a plan. Willing to move slowly as long as they're moving *somewhere*.
- Want a short-term and long-term plan.
- John recommends they ask a specific person for help from a parent standpoint rather than asking Dolina as an organization.
- Typical season is September to May (FON) – school year. So many people go out of town in the summer. If want TCPF, a couple rehearsals would be needed as refresher.