

Minutes

**Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee
Saturday, October 17, 2009 – 10:00 A.M.
Ramada Inn, Stevens Point, Wisconsin**

Attending: Barry Dahl (Tr), Jan Floeter (Gud), Robert Fossum (Tr), Cheryl Goodin (Tr), Dixie Hansen (Hed), Nancy Hawkinson (Tr), Marv Lang (Gud/Hed/Tr), Jim Olson (Gud), John Reindl (Hed), Linda Schwartz (Tr), Joy Shong (Hed), Marilyn Sorensen (Gud), Betty Strand (Gud)

Absent: Ron Helstad (Hed), Dick Lundgren (Gud), Joanna Shager Hocker (Gud/Tr)

2010 Stevne Date: August 4-7, 2010

2010 Stevne Site: Ramada, 1501 Northpoint Dr., Stevens Point WI 54481

Introductions, Agenda & Election of Officers

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by 2009 chairman, Joy Shong. Following introductions the agenda was approved with the addition of two additional topics, Review of Speaker Fees and Web Site Hosting.

Election of officers for the 2010 TLSSC was held:

Chair:	Joy Shong
Vice Chair:	Jim Olson
Treasurer:	Ron Helstad
Secretary:	Nancy Hawkinson

Committee Assignments:

Vendors:	Cheryl Goodin & Robert Fossum
Registration:	Dixie Hansen
Genealogy:	John Reindl
Publicity:	Marv Lang & Nancy Hawkinson
Local Coordinator:	Marv Lang
A/V:	Joy Shong
Music:	Johanna Shager Hocker
Memorial Service:	Jim Olson
Hospitality:	No volunteer at this time
Banquet:	Linda Schwartz. (Joy will provide Linda with the contact information)
Program:	Motion by Jim Olson that the Committee continue the practice followed in past of the Program Committee to be chaired by the TLSSC Chair with the entire committee acting on individual elements. <u>Motion approved.</u> Robert Fossum opposed, noting this does not conform to the Tre Lag Bylaws.

Comments:

Joy will contact John Peterson to see if he will be available to help with A/V.

Marilyn complimented Dixie on the smoothness of the Registration process.

No one has volunteered to host the Hospitality Room. Responsibilities of the committee include arranging for refreshments, including making coffee, etc, and scheduling persons to host the room. The Hospitality Room has been generally well received and utilized in the past.

At this point, Tim Mueller, of the Ramada Staff, joined the group and provided the Committee with Overview and Room Dimension handouts. A tour of the facility followed.

Room Recommendations:

Hospitality	Rooms 182 & 1843, off the atrium
Genealogy	Grand Ballroom, Salons F & G (Larger than in 2009)
Vendors	Grand Ballroom, Salon E
Registration	Garden Room or Precon 1
Banquet	Convention Center, Salons H, I & J
Speakers	Corporate Square, Salons A, B, C & D (Salons to be opened up for Keynote Speaker)

The Ramada does not have a piano; there are several places in Stevens Point where one could be rented. Estimate that cost, including tuning, would run about \$600;
Ice and water stations, refreshed throughout the day, will be available in each salon;
If a Hospitality Room is used, the hotel will remove the furniture and put in eight foot tables;
Wireless is free and available throughout the facility; the hotel always has a house man on duty to assist with wireless and A/V issues;
Salon A does not have separate audio, Tim will check whether Salon B has separate audio or not and advise;
Tre lag room cost of \$84 for a single, \$94 for a double, includes a continental breakfast—Tim indicated that he may be able to adjust those costs;
Those with trouble walking should request a room in the block 170-384.
Room reservations should be made to the Ramada directly at 1-800-998-2311; ask for the Tre Lag rate.
John Reindl has sent copies of the contract to board members; if you didn't receive it, please let John know so he can re-send.

Secretary's Minutes

Dixie Hansen made a motion to accept as presented; Jan Floeter seconded.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Helstad was not present. Joy Shong summarized his report—the 2009 Stevne ended with a profit of about \$2887, \$360 of which is a Fergus Falls attendance refund and should be distributed based on the 2008 formula. The amount for distribution to each lag cannot be made until final lag registrant counts are provided to Ron. Ron will send the distribution checks directly to each lag treasurer.

Old Business: Committee Reports, 2011 Stevne Selection Committee, 2009 Stevne Evaluation

Committee reports were received and reviewed. Committees were thanked for the work done to make the 2009 Stevne successful. It was noted that none of the committee members receive reimbursement for their travel, hotel or meal expenses for attending TLSSC meetings. In addition to the TLSSC committee it takes many additional volunteers to make a successful Stevne—too many to note individually but appreciated.

Robert Fossum and Jin Olson volunteered to head the 2011 site selection committee. If anyone has input or would like to volunteer for this committee please contact either Robert or Jim.

Jan Floeter went over the 2009 Evaluation noting the Genealogy Lab was well received with several comments regarding having it open longer. There were several comments on Internet problems caused primarily because one of the hotel's routers had been stolen and needed to be replaced. Comments on the Minnehaha Park and Mill Museum tour were excellent. The lefse and kransekake demonstrations were well received. Overall, the ratings received were very good. It was suggested this year's committee review the evaluation as they make plans for the 2010 Stevne.

Joy noted we had three A/V projectors available last year and with more speakers requiring them, we may need to think about renting in the future. Tre Lag owns one projector and Dixie Hansen and Elaine Hasleton provided projectors for use last Stevne. There were some glitches—incompatible equipment and incompatible versions of Power Point. It would be beneficial to ask future presenters if they will need a projector and what version of Power Point their presentation requires.

Review of Speaker Fees

Speaker fees have been increased several times since the first Tre Lag Stevne in 2003. The current schedule of \$80 for a single presentation, \$110 for a double presentation, \$100 for Keynoter, and entertainment fees varying based on their normal charges, has been in effect for two years. We've been fortunate to have had some very good speakers in the past but there are increasing costs for travel, etc.

Motion by Robert Fossum that we pay a speaker \$100 for one presentation, \$125 for a double presentation, keynote speaker \$150, and to negotiate entertainment fees. Motion approved. Opposed, none.

New Business – 2010 Stevne Planning

THEME: Looking Forward, Looking Back: Norwegian Spirit and Perseverance

Speaker & Entertainment Ideas: We will probably need to fill 23 or 24 time slots; double presentations were appreciated at last Stevne.

Marv Lang, local coordinator, had several speaker and tour suggestions, drawing from the local area. There are several Sons of Norway lodges in the area, historic churches (Norwegian and Catholic), Norskedalen, Helstad House, and more.

Other suggestions included something on the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Norway from German occupation, Prof. Kathleen Stokker of Luther College, a DNA presentation, more on Norwegian food and genealogy, craft/food demonstrations have been popular in past.

Robert Fossum will be attending the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters and offered to present a report on the history of the Society and the activities of the celebration.

Jon Satrum has offered to present a slide presentation titled "The Hurtigruten: A Journey Across Time",

Publicity: Need to have specifics by the end of February at the latest so the information can be conveyed timely. Marv suggested featuring the Stevne and each lag in successive articles in the local area newspapers in July. Marv will handle. Each lag to send text and pictures to him.

Genealogy Lab: Discussion of whether it is feasible to have the genealogy lab open longer hours this year, perhaps from Wednesday through Saturday morning. First time we have not had to take the lab down early for room conversion. The lab should be closed down for Keynote speech. If open longer hours would require additional volunteers.

Tour: Has received good comments in past; could be a Wednesday afternoon or Thursday evening event.

Saturday Luncheon: Suggestion to have a traditional Norwegian breakfast rather than the luncheon on Saturday—perhaps combined with an offsite tour. Marv will check on possibilities.

Hospitality Room: It was suggested that the local area Sons of Norway may be willing to host the Hospitality Room—a different SoN group each day. Marv will approach them about this.

Other: Trønderlag had a sales/membership table at the 2009 Stevne which worked well for obtaining new members and sale of publications. Robert suggested that the other lags might want to consider something similar. Downside is that they do have to be manned throughout the Stevne.

Website Hosting: In the past the official Tre Lag minutes, Bylaws, etc, have been posted to the Trønderlag website, primarily because Linda served as Tre Lag secretary and is the Trønderlag webmaster. More recently Dixie has been posting similar information to her website. Postings to continue to both sites.

<http://www.tronderlag.org/TLSSC.htm>
<http://www.dxhansen.com/trelag>.

Dixie reported that she sends pertinent information to the newsletter editor of each lag.

Next Meeting: January 16, 2010 with January 30th as an alternate date in case of inclement weather. Meeting to be held in La Crosse, place to be announced. Next meeting to be held March 13th, also in La Crosse, with an additional meeting to be held in April or May if needed.

Motion to adjourn at 3:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Hawkinson, TLSSC Secretary