



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

## **ROLL CALL**

### **NABO Officers**

President – Jean Flesher

Vice-President – Philippe Acheritogaray

Treasurer – Mayi Petrcek

Secretary – Kate Camino

### **NABO Administrators**

Euskara Coordinator – Edurne Arostegui

Facilitator – Kate Camino

Webmaster – Lisa Corcostegui

### **Program Directors & Committee Chairpersons**

Finance Committee – Mayi Petrcek

Investment Committee – Mayi Petrcek

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia

Education – John Ysursa

Euskara – Ziortza Gandarias

Mus – Pierre Etcharren

Pilota – Tony Huarte

Txerriki Contest Organizer – Valerie Arrechea

Udaleku – Valerie Arrechea & Kate Camino

Euskal Kantari Eguna – Becky Sarratea & Noel Goyhenetche

### **Board of Directors (delegates) Representing 42 NABO Member Organizations**

#### **British Columbia**

Zazpiak Bat: Vancouver

Julia Etchart

Julia Etchart proxy

#### **Quebec**

Euskaldunak: Quebec

Arik Loinaz

Arik Loinaz proxy

#### **California**

Bakersfield



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Kern County Basque Club	Louis Iturriria	Maria Toretta
Chino Chino Basque Club	Marianna Etcheveria	Marianna Etcheveria proxy
Fresno Fresno Basque Club	Jean Pierre Etchechury	Jean Pierre Etchechury proxy
Los Angeles Oberena	Pello Urrutia	Pello Urrutia proxy
Los Banos Los Banos Basque Club	Christopher Bengochea	Christopher Bengochea proxy
Ontario Southern California Basque Club	Mike Aguerre	Anne Marie Gariador
Rocklin Iparreko Ibarra/Northern Valley Basque Club	Mike Uro	Mike Uro proxy
San Francisco Anaitasuna Basque Club	Mike Aguerre proxy	Mike Aguerre proxy
San Francisco Basque Club	Matthew Etchepare	Philippe Acheritogaray proxy
Basque Educational Organization	Philippe Acheritogaray	Anna Marie Etcheverria
San Francisco Basque Cultural Center	Valerie Arrechea	Pierre Etcharren



# The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

## Susanville

Susanville Eskualdun Inc.	Jeanette Goñi	Jeanette Goñi proxy
---------------------------	---------------	---------------------

## Ventura County

Ventura County Basque Club	Pello Urrutia	Pello Urrutia proxy
----------------------------	---------------	---------------------

## Colorado

Denver Euskal Etxea	Mayi Petrcek	Jone Brunelle
---------------------	--------------	---------------

## Saint Pierre et Miquelon

Euskal Etxea SPM	Absent	
------------------	--------	--

## Idaho

### Boise

Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Annie Gavica	Miren Maguregui
------------------------------------	--------------	-----------------

### Basque Studies at

Boise State University	Nere Lete	Ziortza Gandarias
------------------------	-----------	-------------------

Cenarrusa Foundation	Gloria Totoricagüena	Gloria Totoricagüena proxy
----------------------	----------------------	----------------------------

Euzkaldunak: Boise Basque Center	Mark Bieter	Argia Beristain
-------------------------------------	-------------	-----------------

Oinkari Basque Dancers	Josie Wray	Jaclyn Lasuen
------------------------	------------	---------------

### Gooding

Gooding Basque Association	Lisa Daley	Jose Antonio Luzar
----------------------------	------------	--------------------

### Homedale

Txoko Ona Basque Club	Gloria Lejardi	John Lejardi
-----------------------	----------------	--------------

### Mountain Home

Euskal Lagunak	Jaclyn Lasuen	Jaclyn Lasuen proxy
----------------	---------------	---------------------



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

## **Nevada**

Battle Mountain

Battle Mountain Oberenak

Johna Reeves

Johna Reeves Proxy

Elko

Elko Euzkaldunak Club

Mercedes Mendive

Mercedes Mendive proxy

Gardnerville

Mendiko Euskaldun Cluba

Teresa Cox

Becky Sarratea-Murphy

Las Vegas

Lagun Onak

Argia Beristain

Argia Beristain proxy

Paradise Valley

Santa Rosa Basque Club

Susan Gavica

Annie Gavica

Reno

Center for Basque Studies

Kate Camino

Kate Camino proxy

Zazpiak Bat

Reno Basque Club

Enrike Corcostegui

Jennifer Etcheberry

Winnemucca

Euskaldunak Danak Bat

Maureen Macdonald

Mike Errea

## **New York**

Euzko Etxea

Elisa Vidasolo Ancona

Elisa Vidasolo Ancona  
proxy

## **Oregon**

Ontario, Oregon Basque Club

Frank Yraguen

Lisa Corcostegui

## **Rhode Island**

Portsmouth

New England Basque Club

Absent



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

## **Utah**

Basque Club of Utah

Cristina Sangroniz

Sonia Castañon

## **District of Columbia**

Washington D.C.

Euskal Etxea

Jurdana Izagirre

Jurdana Izagirre proxy

## **Washington**

Seattle Euskal Etxea

Patti Aramburu

Edurne Arostegui

## **Wyoming**

Alkartasuna Basque Club

Martin Goicoechea

Mikaela Goicoechea

Big Horn Basque Club

Mick Camino

Mick Camino proxy

**Clubs not attending** – Euskal Etxea SPM, New England Basque Club,

**Basque Government Representatives in attendance**– Benan Oregi from the Basque Government's Directorate for the Basque Community Abroad

**Guests** – Patty Yraguen, Mike Franzoia, and Pedro Oiarzabal

**Quorum** - 39 out of 41 attending, simple majority is 40 or 80 delegates, and 2/3s is 52.

Jean introduces Mike Franzoia Euzkaldunak president who tells us about the Morcilla Dinner and Bingo night activities. Mark Bieter, Euzkaldunak delegate, then filled us in on the afternoon visit to the Basque Museum.

Jean encourages everyone to visit the Museum and support Boise club Museum etc. in their weekend activities.

Jean asks Todor and Martin to sing one verse each to welcome us to the meeting.

Jean let us know that there is a note card at each spot that he would like everyone to fill out with suggestions, "What would you do if you were NABO President." Please return these to Kate.



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

**Approval of the minutes** - clarification of minutes on page 20 change Jean P E. to Elissetche as a second

Mayi moves to approve the minutes with corrections, Teresa Seconds - minutes approved

**Treasurer's report** – Please refer to Treasurer's report in packet: All clubs have paid dues. There are now 6,046 members across NABO, and all dues are current. Pierre and Tony Campos reached out and got more donations for Mus and so the finance committee decided to put \$20,000 into a CD that is earning 5%. In opening the CD Mayi was made aware that many things have changed in the banking community and more controls are in place. Valerie was removed as a key executive and Jean has been added as a key executive, along with Philippe and Mayi in accordance with banking regulations. When there is a change in leadership in your clubs, make sure the bank is aware. Please refer to treasurer's report in delegate packet where there is a sheet for each club treasurer to follow.

There are now 41 clubs in NABO with Marin Sonoma having disbanded and officially resigning from NABO. SPM is also in limbo since we have not received dues from them.

Marin Sonoma thanks everyone for their support over the years. They have appreciated their time in NABO but it became impossible to continue.

Chris moves to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Teresa Cox, passes unanimously.

Mayi moves to move the CARL loan program under the finance committee.  
Seconded by Philippe. Mayi explains what it is. All in favor - motion passes.

Finance investment committee report – Please refer to report in packet. All of our funds are in government T-bills, we are below 3% but we are still in the positive. The goal is for our money to stay safe and that it continues to earn more money than we were before.

## **Committee Reports - please refer to Committee Reports**

**Calendar** - Mary Lou – There are some changes in the calendar. One thousand still cost \$5,000 and we are hoping to break even on these. Clubs are still being showcased, and this year the calendar includes two tear outs in the middle. One includes summer festivals, and



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

the second includes Mus tournament dates. She clarifies that she lets Mayi know about orders and Mayi then creates the invoices.

Jean introduces Benan from Eusko Jaurlaritza - connecting via Zoom

**Basque Government Report** - He would like to talk about four items: the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress will be in Donostia from December 18-21, 2023. Many representatives from NABO will attend. Larger federations also include a number of guests, as in our case. Eighteen countries will be represented and we will have the opportunity to present NABO there.

Grants are coming - proposals have been submitted, and so the amounts will be reported soon. The first 25% payment should be coming as well.

Gaztemundu - Gaztemundu will take place just before the congress and attendees will also participate in the congress. They will take a course on managing cultural institutions and the second week they will come to the congress as guests. There is no US representative participating in Gaztemundu this year. Fourteen of the fifteen attendees are from Argentina and one from Chile.

Jean - will it be in summer next year?

Benan - they did try it in summer once but there were still no kids from here participating. They would make an effort to provide translation if there were American kids. We have to think about this and take a different approach to change things. This should also be an opportunity for US kids too. The congress is also an opportunity to provide suggestions to changes to Gaztemundu.

In the Archive of the Basque Diaspora in Bilbao, they are going to open a library because they have a huge amount of publications from all over the diaspora, books and magazines, etc. The news is that the library will be named after Emilia Doyaga.

The next big project that they are dealing with is another Ellis Island exhibit for 2025. They have been offered 3 months in the summer and will have the exhibition on the first floor that will be visited by thousands of tourists from all over the world. This is also a wonderful opportunity for Basques coming from the Basque Country for Jaialdi to visit the



## The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

history of immigration with cultural events at Ellis Island. They have put 50,000 Euros aside from 2024 for this project and more will be coming in 2025.

Philippe - Will there be an inauguration of the archive library?

Benan – He's not sure but guesses something maybe happening soon. He will let us know ASAP.

Philippe - has Emilia's family be notified.

Benan - they will be contacted soon through the NY Euzko Etxea

Jean – NABO voting delegates at the congress are Gloria Totoricagüena, Mayi Petracek, and Eurne Arostegui- Guests are Jean Flesher, Jean Pierre Etchechury, Philippe Acheritogaray, Tony Huarte, and Kate Camino.

**Education** – John Ysursa - Artzai Ona - was organized to support Aita Antton's ministry who is currently in Merced, CA. They want to lead a cultural tour to the Basque Country in June email [info@basquecatholic.org](mailto:info@basquecatholic.org). Kudos to BEO on featuring women at their last Basque Cultural Day held in October. The event was a great success.

50th anniversary of students going from BSU to Oñati. Many events are being planned more information to come. Seventies marked end of migration, Pat and Eloise Bieter had the vision to create this program.

Jean - In the 1980s, John and Jean created the North American Dance Federation, which became the cultural committee, and which is now the education committee. When John provides information for dance groups, it is not being passed down, so John has nominated Jaclyn Lasuen to head the dance program - Teresa C moved and Jean Pierre Etchechury seconded. She will be reaching out to dance groups directly.

**Euskara report** - refer to packet.

Ziortza - Allocated some money to improve the website and begin using social media more. April 20th may be the date for the next Barnetegi.





# The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Edurne – She is working on summer classes. She is trying to streamline the program. There are a ton of classes, so a big shout out to euskal etxeak, Gloria and Eli Etxetxikia are teaching in person classes in Homedale and Reno respectively. Edurne opened registration early to make sure everyone was registered and paid in time. They were able to fill more classes when they were advertised all together. Opportunities for C1 certification if you'd like to become a teacher, it is a four-year program. Esther has a huge class of 16 but hopes not to have that big of class again. Etienne also teaching in person and is now supported by NABO. Still looking at Mus guide etc. to reflect US rules etc. Euskaraldia will happen in November to get people to speak Basque. She hopes Dominique Etchechury can teach in Fresno, and she also has other potential teachers but looking at immigration status etc. Korrika is next year. She can help with Korrika materials. She also shared stats, and mid-semester feedback. She doesn't have solid numbers on student ages, but some feedback included comments on younger and older folks being in class together.

Is the barnetegi open to everyone?

Edurne - usually just for teachers or folks who are interested in teaching.

Todor – the age thing is very important. Since the average is older people, we have to figure out how to attract youth. Language is a new door that opens to the culture and will last longer.

Gloria - Homedale numbers may be wrong

Edurne will double check those numbers.

**Facilitator Report** – Kate - Since our last meeting I have written and submitted the 2023 Basque Government Grant for NABO. The maximum grant award for federations is 50,000 Euros, but due to the lack of eligible expenses this year, NABO is looking at receiving a lower yet to be determined amount. This will be explained further at the meeting. Kate and Lisa continue to publish Astero every week, and we are very thankful for those who share their club's news. Please use [info@nabasque.eus](mailto:info@nabasque.eus) to send information to Kate.

Lisa - Guebs transition has been a little rocky, but everything is forwarding to personal emails too. If you have a NABO email, she updated contact lists so those can be updated too.

Jean - please update delegate information too.

Coffee Break at 10:24 - Call back to order at 10:43am



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

## **Mus Report** - refer to committee report

Pierre talks about the Mus committee and its members and their regions.

Jean - one point of order - directors are to be approving members of the committee and he needs a motion to approve Teresa as permanent member.

Lisa C. moves, Jean Pierre Etchechury seconds - Teresa is now a permanent member.

Boise hosted international Mus last year - thanks to Tyler and Boise area clubs for all of their work. In 2023, 556 teams participated in Mus tournaments. Finals were in Gardnerville because the winners from the year before were from there. Winners were Aitor Berrueta and Philippe Elicagaray who represented NABO at International Mus in Valdivia Chile and took 3rd place. International Mus in Chile took place October 21-29th with 8 countries represented and 10 teams participating. Our players did very well. Thank you note from Aitor Berrueta was read aloud.

Pierre talks about finances. International Mus in Boise was expensive and we may have lost around \$30,000. This year it cost \$10,500 to travel to Chile and they were lucky to get donations from Simplot etc.

Next year - there are already 22 clubs who have tournament dates set. Not all dates are there yet, but it looks great.

International Mus is in Kuzco, Peru and we already have their program Oct 19-27th 2024 - Global Mus.com.

Valerie thanks Gardnerville for hosting tournament. She noted that Aitor used to play with his dad and last year marked the 1st year of his death and he won. And Philippe used to play with Nicolas, but he moved back to the Basque Country, and so he played with Aitor - very emotional win for them.

Mus committee - tournaments are long so logistically it gets complicated. They recommend changing the format slightly. First round play your table, but second round making it eliminations, and that should be approved by the delegates and brought back to clubs so everyone understands how it goes.

Jean - it will be a bracket system with single elimination tournament.



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Move - Jean Pierre Etchechury seconded by Teresa, all in favor motion passes.

Pierre - Last meeting we lowered age to 16 and there is no age limit for international Mus players. Encourages pushing Jr. Mus in our clubs.

Mayi - Colorado already had their tournament.

Jean thanks Pierre and Tony for getting donations and explains that money was put in a CD to generate more income.

Pierre – 2028 International Mus will be in the US. Asks clubs if they are interested in hosting.

**Pilota Report** - Tony Huarte refer to report in packet – This is the first time we've had women handball players from the Basque Country. NABO finals at Chino picnic at Apessetche Trinquet.

NABO can't compete in world competitions - United States Federation of pilota was formed to allow US players to participate. Pan Am Games in Santiago October 31-Nov 5th - frontenis team will be playing for gold this weekend.

Later on there will be the Under 22 world championship in Mexico City.

Presents upcoming events, and would like to return to Fresno again next year. SPM still hoping to go there as well. Plaza Urrutia was added to official register of historical sites. Mayi explains how it came to be. This will be inaugurated in May so trying to organize pilota and something with Colorado EE. Also would like to host fall meeting in CO.

Mayi realized that we are missing a banner to take to NABO pilota events - Mayi makes a motion to purchase a banner for pilota. Teresa seconds; all in favor - motion passes. Mayi and Tony will create this.

2024 NABO finals - Elko and Bakersfield celebrating their 60th in 2024 so hope to split finals between the two clubs.



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Udaleku in SF will also include a pilota camp again.

Presented a pilota budget - USFP is the only organization that NABO folks can participate in world events through. Tony would like to see if we can help this non-profit organization. Have helped them in the past, but not sure when/why we stopped doing that?

Mayi doesn't have any history on those donations. Nothing from 2014 forward.

Philippe - when we started competing internationally, the NABO pilota leadership created the UFP - and in the early years, they worked closely with NABO. International competition helps promote local participation, Philippe moves to donate \$1,000 to International Federation of Pilota - Enrike seconds.

Jean - at the time it was created, members paid dues to participate led by NABO. Jean is in favor of continuing support.

Teresa - Tony suggested an annual donation

Philippe yes, annual donation

\$800 dues collected annually from clubs that host NABO pilota events. Mayi - maybe pass a hat at a match or ask for donations.

Jean - trading off what they give us in balls and equipment - motion passes.

Lisa - include QR code on the banner for donations

Gloria Lejardi told Tony who to contact in Jordan Valley

Philippe - Jean you were there when that happened in 1980, but Philippe wasn't there, but if you read the book by Argitxu Camus on the history of NABO one can find a lot of information there.

**Txerriki/Gateau Basque** contests - both would benefit from more exposure on social media etc. Thanks the Goyhenetche family for staffing this in Los Banos. Not one way of being Basque and so will be hosting both again in Bakersfield at NABO convention.

**Udaleku Report** - Valerie, Boise Udaleku a success, the number of kids and where they were from are included in the report. She thanks the local community for all of their work,



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

and donating time and effort. Did a great job getting donations - this kind of support makes it as successful as it was.

Turns it over to Argia Beristain and John Aldape - 107 participants in 10 groups, with 10 aides- 6 local aids and 4 from elsewhere. They taught Mus and briska. Used all spaces possible on the Basque Block.

Annie - local artist created a logo and they made shirts for the kids and also as a fundraiser. She thinks they made \$600 on these that came back to NABO. Suggests using Bonfire at future Udalekus.

Argia - a little bit of reinventing the wheel every year but encourages everyone to share their materials. She is proud of the binder that they created.

Jean Pierre Etchechury - can we have that scanned?

Annie - can be shared through Canva and include it on the website for people to reference from year to year.

Valerie - has pdfs of many of the past binders, and provides a google drive to each organizing club, including budgets etc. Thank you to all of the clubs that donate to Udaleku. Not all clubs can host, so wonderful that they participate in this way. Or like BEO, donating the cost of the art project. Meals can also be donated. Any amount helps, and is a way to stay involved even if you can't host.

Jaclyn - thank you to Homedale, for hosting the kids too.

Mercedes – I met a guy who made a modified triki keyboard, maybe something to consider down the road, so it could be used to teach at Udaleku. - Cost, Xabi would be willing to negotiate the cost. Base price around 500 Euros?

Mikaela - also following that instrument and agrees that it might be great for NABO.

Valerie - Udaleku 2024 - San Francisco June 16-28th - will go back to 2-week format. Theme will be Iparralde, and she has potential instructors and is very excited that Patrik Larralde and his wife will come from Donibane. Patrik plays everything, and makes his



## **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

living from music and teaching triki. Besides txistu, she will encourage everyone to bring an instrument, to create a banda. Patrik also attended Udaleku in Boise when he was 10 with Philippe Elicagaray. He learned how to play txistu in Boise. More information in February in San Francisco. Her budget is \$130,000. Would like to do a COLA increase for tuition, but not much more than that. Valerie would like to invite folks from Australia to Udaleku might be a good encouragement for clubs there.

Argia - usually require NABO club membership to attend Udaleku

Valerie - have allowed attending without paying tuition.

Jean - will discuss future budgets later - will come back to NABO membership for Udaleku attendance.

Jean introduces Jeannie and Dave Eiguren, Miren Artiach, and Steve Mendive, who have joined us for lunch on the occasion of NABO's 50th anniversary. Dave and Steve are past presidents, and Miren was a former secretary. Annie Gavica was also recognized as past president, along with Pierre Etcharren and Valerie Arrechea.

Philippe - presented Annie and Steve Mendive with their past president plaques since they were unable to be in Los Banos at convention.

Steve - his mom was a delegate from Elko in 1975. Keep doing the great work.

Jean to presented the Bizi Emankorra to Lisa Corcostegui - thank you for dedicating most of her life to NABO.

Lisa - thank you all so much, and especially Kate for nominating from the Center for Basque Studies. Such an honor to join the ranks of those who have received this award. Grace Mainvil was my mentor and made sure that we kept up with our Basque heritage. She has been a NABO delegate for 22 years, and so enjoys getting know everyone from everywhere as part of our network of our shared Basque heritage. She feels her most invaluable participation was teaching at 12 Udalekus. She thanks Johnny Ysursa for including her in camp. She transitioned from teaching dance to just teaching Basque culture. Really enjoyed meeting kids and now seeing them at various Basque events. In 2018, she taught



## **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Iñaki Dougherty, the son of one of her first students, Argia Beristain. Thanks her nieces and nephews for inspiring her to transmit the Basque heritage. Thanks Maria and Enrike too.

Meeting resumes at 2:21pm

Resume Udaleku attendance by Australian kids.

Valerie - we are not replacing NABO members with 2-3 Australians. We have never turned anyone away from San Francisco, so not suggesting that. I am also being open about this, so kids don't surprise parents with news of them being at camp. International courtesy between organizations.

Mayi - would they still pay tuition?

Valerie - not sure because it was waived for Argentine kids. I would like to move that we allow Australians to come to Udaleku, as long as they are not taking away space from others.

Mayi feels they need to belong to a club.

Valerie – we can ask them to join whatever club for \$20 she is trying to be transparent.

Philippe I am seconding this motion in the spirit of world collaboration, along with the World Congress and Ateak Ireki. I will be in San Francisco to help Valerie with this and we will make it happen.

Gloria Totoricagüena - Is there a reason to highlight Australia?

Valerie - we were contacted by Ruben - delegate to World Congress who is trying to set up an Australian Mus Federation. This is the first time that Australia has tried to create a federation of Basque communities. They have fallen off the radar because of lack of communication between their clubs. They approached us in regards to Mus and this is what we can do to help and maybe we can go a little further.

Pierre - Australia has been part of international Mus since the beginning

Valerie - She is just trying to be transparent and have a discussion ahead of time.





# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

The motion is to give Australian kids permission to attend Udaleku, as long as NABO members are not excluded, and let them join whatever club they want.

Pierre - there are a lot of countries who need help to keep the culture going and we can provide that help.

Jean - the motion is to allow Australian kids to attend Udaleku, without excluding NABO kids, and they can join whatever club they would like. Any other discussion?

All in favor – Motion passes.

Jean - ok will continue discussion in February. You can go ahead and invite them to come, per our rules. We do have more Mus committee members then I realized and so Valerie is going to make a motion so that we can approve that.

Valerie – In Los Banos Annie Gavica and Becky Sarratea requested to be part of the Mus Committee members, seconded by Mayi.

Jean – all in favor? Motion passes.

**Music Report** - trying to do a new Foku Musikala every 2 months. She wants to talk about recruitment for various music groups, choirs etc. to hear ideas on how to do that.

Jean thanks her for her work at Ateak Ireki

**Euskal Kantari Eguna** - Mike Uro – Rocklin will host Kantari in the fall. Always the second weekend of October, October 12, 2024 Columbus Day.

Becky - Chris did a great job MC'ing in Gardnerville for the first time.

**World War II committee** - refer to report – The goals are included in the packet Mayi names committee members who were accepted in Los Banos. Hoping to fundraise and come up with potential sites for the physical memorial. Jonrie Etchemendy Davila – Assoc. Director of Planned Giving at Stanford is also on the committee. The hope is to finance the project without imposing on NABO, to complete the research and for the





## **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

physical monument. Since the committee was created, we have developed a charter, and we've met in June, August and September, recruited Jonrie and have obtained media support, and have identified various Basque organizations and corporations for help financially. Created a budget for 2024-2025 to complete research.

Future steps - need approval from the board to approve the chairperson and committee members. Need to establish a checking account for this effort as a 501c3, will design a new logo and get the community more involved, develop a fundraising campaign, and criteria for location of the memorial, will accept bids from communities who want the memorial.

Philippe - secretary of the committee - Mayi Philippe, Chris Bengochea, Kate Camino, JP Etchechury, Pedro Oiarzabal and Jonrie Davila . Presents the charter for approval.

Jean - talking about putting \$5,000 in the budget as seed monies for printing, advertising etc.

Pedro also let us know that his organization has been invited to an event to recognize Basque veterans in Okinawa.

Frank - maybe creating a mock monument in order to show folks and inspire donations?

Mayi - between \$10,000-\$30,000 is needed to complete research and they have come up with some conceptual renditions of monument to share with the clubs and beyond.

Philippe - could be \$30,000 annually.

Jean - Jonrie is confident that we will be able to fund this project.

Mayi - Jonrie is already compiling a list of donors. Families of veterans have already told Pedro that they are ready to donate.

Mary Lou Urrutia - could we tie this in to the exhibit at Ellis Island?

Pedro, we have identified 1,600 Basque veterans over the last 8 years, covering 46 states. After research is complete, the rest would go to the memorial.

Johana - is there a way to look up if your family member is included yet?



# The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Pedro - not yet, but please ask him and he can check the database.

Philippe - I move to accept the charter as read, and accept the members of the committee as well as Mayi as chair, and approve a \$5,000 for seed monies. Teresa seconded it. Motion passes

**Ateak Ireki** - refer to her report in the shared drive – We learned a lot from the first year. Only expense to participants is flight and insurance and spending money. She thanks Mikaela for all of her help. It was valuable to have a mix of former Udaleku kids and non-Udaleku kids. Maybe make Udaleku experience as a criteria? As those participants were more engaged. Kids asking for more down time either with other kids or with host families. Open registration in January to give time to save money. Maybe arrive on Friday or Saturday to have some time to acclimate before everything begins.

Culture Clash – she really hoped that the kids would be part of the family so there were some hurt families. Argia would like us to write letters to host families showing our appreciation for all they did.

Maybe begin the first day of Ateak Ireki - include rules and expectations etc. like at Udaleku. Host families really want dinner with participants every night. They are also hoping that NABO will make this an official part of our program.

Will it always be in Goierri?

No, they want it to move. But in 2024, maybe again in Goierri but also want to move to Urdaibai eventually etc. and other communities with barnetegis.

Jean – I was part of the original meeting to organize Ateak Ireki. This was life changing for some of these kids. One kid (4<sup>th</sup> generation) met his family from Urapel. One of the interviewers was from his same house. That kid now stayed, and is at Maizpide. Many want to become involved in their Basque communities, and take Euskera. Jean is 100% behind this program. Proposing a committee with Argia as chair to set a code of conduct, help with flights, scholarships etc. priority for first-timers, but maybe allow repeats if room permits. Will have to work on some of these things over the next few weeks.



# The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Mayi - thank you Argia, and sad state of affairs that we need a code of conduct, especially if we need to teach our kids how to act. Mayi moves to make Ateak Ireki a formal NABO program and Argia continue as chair. Seconded by Anne Marie Gariador.

Philippe - will it be a committee or a program?

Jean - it will be a committee - Miren Maguregui, Annie Gavica, Cristina Sangroniz, Sonia Castañon, Patty Aramburu, Johana Reeves to be on committee.

Lisa – shares another family connection story

**Bertsolaritza Report** - Todor Azurtza/Martin G. - explain what they have done to date with the school and that there is an equation of senders and receivers. He's preparing the next generation of senders the audience is the receiver.

Bertso events - need audiences for events and expose our community to create a new generation of fans. Several local events and one international event annually.

This year they will be featuring female bertsolaris and Xabi Paya will attend again to translate. They created a YouTube channel with most of their events translated into English.

Finance - not asking for money today. Sharing costs associated with the initiative.

Mayi - the Bertsolaris that come from the Basque Country get paid to do their profession since they are professionals.

Todor - they are paid by hosting organizations. - Not all funding needs to come from NABO, but it needs to be supported somehow.

Mayi - are you asking clubs to host bertsolaris?

Todor - I'm not asking clubs to take care of everything but it needs to be financed somehow. He doesn't want to impose it on the club because nobody wants to pay.



## **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Cristina – Dance groups ask for help from clubs, gas money, hotel etc. If we didn't receive any help, we wouldn't be able to attend.

Jean - some clubs have already participated in this to date. However, this is a NABO program

Teresa - have you presented a budget?

Jean - Yes, we have worked on it. I've just submitted it to Mayi now. They are looking for between \$15,000-\$20,000 annually to make it go. If we can get Etxepare or Bertsozale Elkarte to support it as well.

Chris - why can't we do some of this stuff in English, because many don't speak Basque.

Todor - Bertsolaritza is in Basque, I can't do it in English.

Anne Marie Echeverria - address doing something in English

Kate the instructional piece is missing

Philippe – I want to compliment you because one of your students Oier Pastor took the stage with Johnny Curutchet hats off to you to getting this off the ground.

Todor - I'm not facilitating bertsolaritza for English speakers. Our commitment is to create new bertsolaris to perpetuate this in the US.

Jean are we willing to pay him \$1,000 per semester as an Euskera teacher.

Teresa moves to pay \$1,000 the same as a Basque teacher receives, and Philippe seconds it, or \$2,000 a year.

Todor, I only do an hour a week I don't teach 2 hours a week so it should be less expensive.

Elisa - why doesn't he get cross-linked as the teachers.

Jean - that's another level of classes.



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---

Valerie - we are only committed to pay Todor currently and help them find funding for other events.

Edurne - explains how Euskera teachers are paid.

Valerie - If he can't get outside sources, are we expected to pay travel as well?

Jean - no, we he would have to come back with future proposals.

All in favor - motion passes.

Facilitator and Euskara Coordinator positions - Kate and Edurne would like to continue in their respective positions. All in favor - motion passes.

Budgets - Mayi addresses bonding the treasurer and president to protect the organization. Do you think we need bonding? She would feel more comfortable if we did it, but not sure what the premium is. Will bring back premium amounts in February.

Mayi thanks everyone for submitting budgets. Gives us a roadmap for what is forthcoming and how much money may be needed to carry out business. If anyone has issues, we can come back to that in February.

Jean - February 17th in San Francisco 8am at the SFBCC. Will have some tougher budget decisions to make. May have to raise our dues, or find funds from other sources. Have a provision for associate memberships, and proxy discussions.

Convention is in Bakersfield - Memorial Day Weekend 2024

Mayi moves to adjourn seconded by Lisa - all in favor - meeting adjourns at 4:06pm



## **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** –

Boise, ID - November 4, 2023

---