



The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

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

Bakersfield, CA May 24, 2024

NABO Officers

President – Jean Flesher

Vice-President – Philippe Acheritogaray

Treasurer – Mayi Petracek

Secretary – Kate Camino

NABO Administrators

Euskara Coordinator – Edurne Arostegui

Facilitator – Kate Camino

Webmaster – Lisa Corcostegui - excused

Program Directors & Committee Chairpersons

Finance Committee – Mayi Petracek

Investment Committee – Mayi Petracek

WWII Veterans Memorial Committee – Mayi Petracek

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia - excused

Education – John Ysursa

Euskara – Ziortza Gandarias

Mus – Pierre Etcharren

Pilota – Tony Huarte

Txerriki Contest Organizer – Valerie Arrechea

Udaleku – Valerie Arrechea & Kate Camino

Music – Mikaela Goicoechea

Euskal Kantari Eguna – Becky Sarratea & Noel Goyhenetche

Board of Directors (delegates) Representing 41 NABO Member Organizations

British Columbia

Zazpiak Bat: Vancouver Absent

Quebec

Euskaldunak: Quebec Arik Loinaz Arik Loinaz proxy



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California

Bakersfield

Kern County Basque Club

Teresa Echeverria

Kathy Laverty

Chino

Chino Basque Club

Denis Petrissans

Marianna Etcheverria

Fresno

Fresno Basque Club

Jean Pierre Etchechury

Jean Pierre Etchechury
proxy

Los Angeles

Oberena

Jose Urrutia

Pello Urrutia

Los Banos

Los Banos Basque Club

Christopher Bengochea

Christopher Bengochea proxy

Ontario

Southern California
Basque Club

Mike Aguerre

Mike Aguerre proxy

Rocklin

Iparreko Ibarra/Northern
Valley Basque Club

Katalin Etchamendy

Katalin Etchamendy proxy

San Francisco

Anaitasuna Basque Club

Gina Aguerre

Gina Aguerre proxy

San Francisco Basque Club

Jean Pierre Elissetche

Joana Arrechea

Basque Educational
Organization

Philippe Acheritogaray

Anne Marie Etcheverria

San Francisco Basque
Cultural Center

Valerie Arrechea

Pierre Etcharren



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Susanville

Susanville Eskualdun Inc.	Michelle Zubillaga	Jeanette Goñi
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Ventura County

Ventura County Basque Club	Jose Urrutia	Pello Urrutia
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Colorado

Denver Euskal Etxea	Mayi Petracek	Mayi Petracek proxy
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Saint Pierre et Miquelon

Euskal Etxea SPM	Absent	
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Idaho

Boise

Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Miren Maguregui	Annie Gavica
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Basque Studies at

Boise State University	Ziortza Gandarias	John Ysursa
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Cenarrusa Foundation	Gloria Totoricagüena	Gloria Totoricagüena proxy
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Euzkaldunak: Boise Basque Center	Mark Bieter	Mark Bieter proxy
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Oinkari Basque Dancers	Jaclyn Lasuen	Jaclyn Lasuen proxy
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Gooding

Gooding Basque Association	Absent	
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Homedale

Txoko Ona Basque Club	Gloria Lejardi	Gloria Lejardi proxy
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Mountain Home

Euskal Lagunak	Jaclyn Lasuen	Jaclyn Lasuen proxy
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Nevada

Battle Mountain

Battle Mountain Oberenak Absent

Elko

Elko Euzkaldunak Club Bob Echeverria Bob Echeverria proxy

Gardnerville

Mendiko Euskaldun Cluba Teresa Cox Becky Sarratea-Murphy

Las Vegas

Lagun Onak Amaya Beristain Amaya 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 Erinn Zubillaga Erinn Zubillaga proxy

Winnemucca

Euskaldunak Danak Bat Maureen Macdonald Maureen Macdonald proxy

New York

Euzko Etxea Aitziber Buqué Myriam Mugica

Oregon

Ontario, Oregon Basque Club Frank Yraguen Frank Yraguen proxy

Rhode Island

Portsmouth

New England Basque Club Absent



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Utah

Basque Club of Utah

Cristina Sangroniz

Sonia Castañon

District of Columbia

Washington D.C.

Euskal Etxea

Paule Betanzos

Paule Betanzos proxy

Washington

Seattle Euskal Etxea

Patti Aramburu

Eduarne Arostegui

Wyoming

Alkartasuna Basque Club

Martin Goicoechea

Mikaela Goicoechea

Big Horn Basque Club

Mick Camino

Mick Camino proxy

Clubs not attending – Zazpiak Bat Vancouver, Euskal Etxea SPM, Gooding Basque Association, Battle Mountain Oberenak Basque Club

Basque Government Representatives in attendance– Gorka Alvarez and Benan Oregi from the Directorate of the Basque Community Abroad, Unai Telleria and Nerea Arrieta from the Delegation of Euskadi in the US.

Guests – Pedro Oiarzabal, Denise McCombs, Aline Elicagaray, Joseba Etxarri, and Maria Urrutia. Also representing FEVA, Asier Iriberry and Arantxa Anitua.

Quorum - 36 out of 41 attending Simple majority is 37 and 2/3s is 48.

Jean called the meeting to order at 8:12am and welcomed everyone to the NABO convention hosted by the Kern County Basque Club. Club president, Louis Iturriria, provided a rundown of the weekend's activities. Thanks to Francois and Christian for hosting the meeting at the Woolgrowers. The NABO Bizi Emankorra awards will be presented tonight at UC Bakersfield, and on Saturday there will be Mus, pilota, txerriki etc. and dance performances including groups from other clubs.

Maria Toretta - has some swag bags for everyone that include items that are representative of Kern County.



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Jean thanks the Kern County Basque Club - Jean then introduces special friends from the Basque Country – Director of the Basque Community Abroad, Gorka Alvarez, and Benan Oregi, Unai Telleria and Nerea Arrieta from the Delegation of Euskadi to the US, and Arantxa Anitua and Asier Iriberry from FEVA, President and Vice President respectively. Arantxa has also served as the assesore for South America. Asier is the recently elected president of FEVA but has known Jean for about 32 years.

Minutes - Mayi moves and Philippe seconds to approve the minutes - all in favor - passes unanimously.

Treasurer's report - please refer to report in packet. Since the last meeting we did receive the balance of our 2023 Basque Government grant. Pilota activity is really ramping up thanks to Tony's enthusiasm, and we will now pay for players to go to Saint Pierre et Miquelon. We also paid for one trip to Grand Junction last weekend, when Plaza Urrutia was dedicated as a historical site. Mayi needs the delegates' help to get dues on time and in the right amount. Also, many claim that they do not know Mayi's address. We will be paying for airfare and insurance for two Ateak Ireki participants only after they pay \$500 towards the program. They won't receive reimbursement until they return. There was also one request from Aita Tillous fund for one Udaleku participant.

Finance committee report –The committee adopted a new policy on how to liquidate gifts of stock. We had received 81 shares of Apple Stock to split between three programs and during the time we waited, it decreased in value. They have now adopted the policy to immediately liquidate such gifts. Donors can share where to put money but not how to liquidate it.

Mayi is also working on a new report that reflects budget vs actuals.

Bob moves to approve the treasurer's report and JP Etchechury seconds passes unanimously.

Basque Government- Gorka thanks us for all of the work we are doing. It is apparent to them that we are strong, and they see all the work we are doing well. He presents everyone who is with him - Unai, Nerea, Benan - also very important that the FEVA reps are here too since NABO and FEVA are the two largest federations in the world. Together we are stronger.

Gorka shares a PPT. The most important thing that happened over there since our last meeting was the elections. PNV won but tied in seats with EH Bildu and so now they are negotiating how to



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build the government. The new lehendakari will be named by June 22 and so Gorka is not sure if he will continue in his current position. A very small number of votes came from the Diaspora. This would be a good opportunity to collaborate with the country but of course it is a volunteer act. If it goes as thought - Imanol Pradales will be the Lehendakari. He's from Santurtzi and is a professor at Deusto.

2023 Basque Government Grants - They. received 50 applications from 62 countries. Argentina received the most grants, and then us.

In 2024, the grant budget was increased to 980,000 Euros in two categories. There were seventy-one requests, eight of which were from the US. The first payment will come after the evaluation of the applications expected to pay the first 25% in July or early August. March 21, 2025, is last day to Justify the 2024 grants.

Gaztemundu - will take place September 15-29 and this year's theme is Dantza. This is open to individuals between the ages of 18-35. Gorka encourages US youth to participate in this program since it is a great opportunity to get to know the Basque Country

Basque Diaspora Archive - growing all the time.

Diaspora Eguna - over 100 activities took place around the world. It is important to show the world how we are doing. Video showing what happened in Gernika.

In 2024 Diaspora Eguna will be in Oñate - 2023 featured Australia and this year will celebrate the anniversary of the Oñate exchange program. We are all invited to come to Oñate this year on September 8th. There will be an exhibit on the exchange program as well as the presentation of the book written about it by Iñaki Galdos. Please let them know about any activity that is planned in our clubs.

The World Congress – was a very good experience, especially since we learned a lot about each other. We also created a 4-year plan.

Gorka turns the floor to Benan to talk about the new project next year. They are working with Jaialdi and creating an exhibit on Ellis Island. They are working on a new exhibit that they wanted to have ready for 2025 for Jaialdi but can't carry it out now because of construction on Ellis Island and the work won't be done in time. They are now redistributing their space and so the



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temporary exhibit hall won't be ready until 2026. They are interested, for sure, but won't be able to do it until 2026. They have already met with the team like ten times and are working on a big project, but New Yorkers say 2026 will be good too because that will coincide with sports events in NY then. It is also good because the temporary exhibit room will now be on the 1st floor instead of the 3rd. It is estimated that four million visitors will go through there. The Basque Government set the condition that the exhibit is held during the summertime so viewed by the most people possible. They would like dancers every day to rotate to attract visitors. This will be during the summer of 2026, but exact dates aren't ready yet.

Unai -second visit to Bakersfield was here to open a chair with Etxepare.

Edurne – expresses concern about voting process. Ballots were not included and the consulates were not acting quickly. She appreciated Benan's help.

Gorka - you can download the ballot and send it that way.

Edurne - instructions would be helpful.

Gorka - will try to do something to streamline the process.

Asier Iriberry and Arantxa Anitua -

Gloria Lejardi - add Txoko ona to roll

Asier presents FEVA – FEVA is currently comprised of 98 clubs. He shares a PPT that features their strongest programs

Argentinian Euskaraz - supported by Aurten Bai and HABE and now by Etxepare. They have 96 teachers and 1310 students. They are very proud of that program. He shares photos of teacher training.

They carry out many workshops and cultural exchanges as part of their educational programs. Started creating virtual talks and workshops during the pandemic which was very positive because it allows many to participate. Not only for people in Argentina, but also in Chile and Uruguay.



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Details various programs, dance mus etc. cooking in Basque centers for people in need. Meetings and talks,

FEVA board meets monthly and once annually at Semana Vasca - many holidays celebrated from the Basque Country as well as Argentine holidays.

Semana Vasca, Buenos Aires Celebrates, Txiki meetings etc.

Semana Vasca is held annually, usually in November and includes participants from all over the world, as well as various activities.

Arantxa also says a few words - They are very happy to be here to share their work and love for the Baque culture. We are all invited to Semana Vasca in November in Bahia Blanca and it would be great if there were a group of US Basques there as well. They will also have a group from the Basque Government, as well as Korrontzi on its 20th tour. Mila esker!

Asier spoke and then Benan translated that he is very excited to be back. He came 30 years ago, 1994, and was hosted by the Etchemendy family and he tells us about this first experience here. He's very grateful for this invitation. The experience was, for the whole group, a once in a lifetime one. He also sends regards from others that were part of that group.

Jean – Thanks Arantxa and Asier and points out that they have similar programs. They are a lot like us, they are larger and have older institutions but have similar goals, Mus, youth programs etc. We will continue to talk about Euskara exchange programs etc. Maybe pilota exchanges and maybe dancers again. Thank you for coming.

Committee Reports – Please refer to the committee reports

WWII Committee – Mayi reports that she will demonstrate how the searchable database works. They have also put together a packet for each club so that you can have a better idea of what is going on. Philippe pulls up the database. Each of these individuals' research and stories have been completed. Since it is Memorial Day – She asks for a moment of silence to honor everyone who has served.

Slide show on committee members - Mark Etcheverry from the Fresno Basque Club is a new committee member. We have updated the website to include Pedro's presentation in San Francsico is now available there. We have collected about \$12K and maybe most importantly have



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composed our mission statement. Mayi reads the mission statement “Our mission is to honor the valor, sacrifice, and enduring legacy of Basque WWII veterans who served with the United States Armed Forces, including the Merchant Marine, recognizing their profound contributions to freedom and democracy. Through commemoration, education, and advocacy, we pledge to ensure their stories are remembered, their sacrifices acknowledged, and their courage celebrated for generations to come.” Mayi thanks Chris Bengoecha for putting that together. Club packages will be passed out, as well as emailed. We have begun placing ads in various booklets and hope to have the display at Jaialdi as well as a page in the NABO calendar. Future steps.

Mayi then demonstrates how the database works - the link will be sent to everyone as well. She demonstrates a positive and a negative search.

Sonia - Searches are hard so how robust if Aguerre is Aguirre etc.

Pedro - The search is done for the person that you know with known spelling of the names. Search goes with the names in enlistment records. You will have to know the name you are looking for. Otherwise, email Pedro and they can direct you.

Jean - concerns about names from last meeting. You'll need to know what official names are. You can start a search and if it's not found, you email Pedro. Thank you for your hard work.

Thank you, Pedro, for all your efforts to create the searchable database.

Calendar - read from packet - June 1st date deadline for submitting pictures and dates. Please check that your information is correct in the calendar. Make sure you get your dates in.

Education Report – Reported by John Ysursa - The Oñate program is in your packet – At the last meeting we agreed to rotate this chair. Boise State University is hosting it because of the Oñati anniversary. Diaspora Eguna in Oñati they hope to livestream the event as well. John Talks about Jaialdi schedule of events. Symposium etc. more information will be made available via Astero etc.

There are various organizations that provide scholarships to Basque students like UNR, BSU, BEO, and Chino Basque club too. Encourage students to take advantage of those programs. Next convention will be Jaialdi and that is when the next host will take over and will start rotating.



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Great to hear about the New York project, the one before was great and very well received. Shout out to FEVA friends. John was also part of the dance program that went there. Look for updates on all these events soon.

Jean - Arik Loinaz will also talk about the Soka Exhibit - trying to sell it and share it. Jean will approach clubs directly.

Arik - If you are interested in this great exhibit, please don't hesitate to reach out to him or to Valerie and he can share more details about it.

Ana Maria Echeverria - what is the exhibit?

It is on Soka Dantza features Basque dance - featured in 2022 with Etxepare it is in English Basque and French. An interactive exhibit.

Valerie - one thing that is holding clubs back is that no one club wants to be responsible for it. Maybe NABO could purchase the exhibit for 2026, at Ellis Island and shares it among clubs afterwards.

Jean - I'll do more research and we can talk more in Grand Junction.

Euskara Report - Ziortza everything is going well, and so she is very happy about that. Had to cancel the Topaketa but will try again in the fall. The relationship with Etxepare is great and all parties involved are very happy.

Eduarne - refer to report in packet - majority of classes are beginning classes and highlights projects done by classes. Kids book, Agate Eguna etc. This year was a Korrika year, celebrated in Salt Lake City, Montreal, New York, Reno and San Francisco with txikis. Shows video of her group in San Francisco at txiki dance practice

Summer classes have begun with 30 students total.

Summer activities - Etengabeko Irakurketa - Bilbao-New York-Bilbao - Kirmen Uribe

Some of our students are participating in it - shows a video of that reading. Will read two passages from that book.

Benan - This year's writer is Kirmen Uribe and Nerea is his wife.



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Edurne - really cool! Edurne is also participating.

Roy in New Jersey raised 941 Euros, \$1,022 to send to Korrika on his own accord.

Fall 2024 tell membership this is the only opportunity to start at complete beginners in the fall. \$125 for 12 weeks of class.

She is looking for a new fall date to reschedule the Topaketa. They were expecting participation from Quebec, and many online etc. and are hoping to redo it in the fall. Very important to keep teachers motivated.

Ingura Euskera.eus - free program for individual learning. Big step up from Aiza.

Patti Aramburu- Edurne is our most amazing cheerleader! Great asset for Seattle club and for Euskara.

Jean thanks Ziortza and Edurne

Facilitator report - Since February, Kate has justified the 2023 Basque Government grant, and now we have received that payment in full. We had received \$7,219.00 or the first 25% of the grant prior to the San Francisco meeting, and more recently received the balance due or \$22,137.10, for a total of \$29,356.10. This year Kate had several meetings with Jean and Mayi and so we are hoping to be more successful this year. She also wrote and submitted NABO's 2024 Basque Government grant.

Lisa continues to investigate the best way forward for our NABO emails and website, but please ask everyone to make sure your information is correct on the website.

Break - till 10:25am

Mus Report – Pierre reports - all tournaments have now concluded. Thirty clubs hosted tournaments and 1,060 players participated. Mus is going well and there are many cash tournaments in conjunction with festivals. NABO Finals will be in Gardnerville on June 15th. There will be 41 teams competing there, and the winners will go to Cusco, Peru in October, where nine countries are expected to participate.

Created Mus regions about five years ago and it seems to be working well, individual chairs are doing a great job. They are also in charge of teaching the juniors.



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Valerie - wanted to talk about modifying one rule. #23 it is mandatory that each player displays cards face up - we would like to add that a player can only touch their own cards, and not those of any other player. Valerie moves to modify that particular rule to include no touching. Second by Denis Petrissans - discussion? All in favor - motion passes.

Second thing - administrative for the committee - Mayi would like to step down from Mus committee representing Wyoming, Colorado and Utah and so she nominates Tony Barajas to take her place - Motions for Tony to take her place. All in favor approved.

Pierre - great to have Mus dates on tournament dates on the calendar. Many travel to all tournaments. The Cusco program is in the report as well and everybody is invited to go as Mus groupies.

Jean - do we have all names for players and dues?

Yes, all good

Pilota report - Tony refer to report – They have been planning a lot of events as well as playing a number of matches. Excited that these world class players are also attending practices which is motivating for our youth.

Fresno Basque Club - thank you to Tony for allowing us to play on your court.

Big Grand Junction pilota event. He wants to talk more about this in Grand Junction

Bakersfield - NABO pala finals starting at 10am - thanks Basque Club for organizing games.

Goes over agenda.

Pilota in Elko and Southern California picnic. End of July with female pilotaris and there is a pilota camp in Boise.

Saint Pierre et Miquelon - four players - 2 women and 2 men pala players - first time participating in SPM, and he has been working on this for at least 2 years. SPM stepped up, they told us, "You get here and we'll take care of everything else." This could be the beginning of awesome things!

Jean - they have a new president and board that want to be more involved and asked about a dance teacher and Quebec helped them out with that too.

Tony - top players at San Francisco Besta and at Chino

Second event in Grand Junction - picnic and NABO meeting September 21st.



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Two organizations that help us a lot and can't thank them enough for their support. Looking for individuals to help NABO pilota. There is a QR code that can be used for donations.

World Pilota News - and the rest of the schedule.

Arantxa Anitua - we are developing adapted pilota for handicapped persons.

Tony - we haven't done anything with this to date, maybe we should consider how to do it.

Arantxa - they are just starting to develop in Rosario Basque clubs, and it is enjoying great success.

If you'd like to collaborate maybe we can work together on that.

Mayi - we approved a \$1,000 donation to the World Federation of Pilota - Personal thanks from Mayi for bringing players to Grand Junction event. Without your dedication we wouldn't be able to do what we did

Jean - thanks Tony for bringing it back. There will be a pilota camp and information will be provided to everyone soon.

Txerriki and Gateau Basque contests - Txerriki on Saturday and Gateau on Sunday - 2pm outside BBQ start at 3pm. If you want to be a judge, see Valerie.

Sunday after mass - can't be a professional baker is the only rule - Dominique Etchechury won last year, and so will judge this year. Drop off cakes after mass.

Udaleku - June 16-28, 2024, in San Francisco - Late applications this year due to difficulty in finding enough housing. Ninety-five kids will be housed with local families. Iparralde is the theme, and the Larraldes are the instructors from Donibane. There will also be a pilotari from Uztaritze and two from Boise camp. Encouraging everyone to bring instruments to put together a Banda. There won't be a specific Euskera class, but it will be incorporated in all activities. Trying to make it more practical.

There have been a couple of changes in the application. Valerie created a NABO DocuSign so made it easier for parents. Aita Tillous and Grace Mainvil applications have also been embedded in the actual application. Parents, please indicate last year of child's participation. Grace Mainvil will be awarded even if no one applies with instructors choosing the recipient in the latter case.

Carina Barajas created this year's logo - sea lions playing mus, accordion etc. You can purchase t-shirts, sweatshirts etc. to support Udaleku.



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Denis - where is the next Udaleku?

2022, Bakersfield

2023 Boise

2024 San Francisco

2025 Nevada - Reno or Elko

2026 Southern California- Chino flip flop between Kern County and Chino

2027 Boise - Wyoming - Utah

Denis - 2026 Chino and 2027 Salt Lake City is interested. Nevada TBD Bob will ask the board will be confirmed in the fall.

Bakersfield and Boise held first post-COVID camps but in San Francisco we are moving back to two weeks.

Music Report - refer to report in the packet. A song from Esti Markez is included in the latest playlist. Foku Musica is on the website and the Spotify links are also there.

Dues Discussion -

Jean received a lot of feedback on the subject and so he feels it warrants more discussion. Please raise your hand so we aren't talking over each other - Jean reads his email message.

Now base would be \$342/club and \$3 per member or should be \$143/\$1.43 per member.

Proposal - tiered dues system 1-49 members - \$150 and retain all rights and access - 50 + \$100 base and \$3 per member - would hopefully offset some of the inflation. Also reinstate .25 the Aita Tillous portion from dues.

Valerie – took a deep dive into Udaleku – She proposed \$500 and 10% sibling discount expecting this amount to cover camp. The true cost of camp, food alone however, 110 people at \$50 day for 14 days that is \$77,000 in food cost alone - instructor stipend is \$15,000, airline tickets for instructors not counting World Pilota council travel and materials - \$6,000. These categories total \$100,000 not including supplies and excursions and if that was divided by 95 kids, tuition would be over \$1,000 per child. That is why she pushes to increase tuition by inflation annually. In terms of what the expense are, there are a lot of expenses behind the scenes that are not being accounted for.



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Marianna Echeverria - wants to share what Chino's board discusses. Agree on an increase and agree that it should be regularly increased, maybe every other year. All committees should have a budget and follow that budget. All programs should be thinking out of the box, not just expecting NABO to cover expenses.

Becky - how many are over and under 50?

Jean 12-13 over 50

Becky – feels pass through is important and feels like smaller clubs would be penalized and if we increase dues, she feels like everyone should have the same increase.

Jean - maybe we can come up with a different formula. Most smaller clubs are our institutions Cenarrusa, CBS etc.

Jean Pierre Etchechury - clubs should create an event to raise money and dues could be raised easily. Events that expose non-Basques to our culture and bring our clubs together.

Patti - have you ever asked for frequent flier mile donations?

Valerie - we make a concerted effort for donations for Udaleku. We got donations, but then we were dinged for not having enough expense for the Basque Government grant. We will continue to run the program with donations, and that is what we have to be focusing on. This is why we invested some of our savings to grow funds to support programs in the future.

Jean - may be a good idea for officer travel.

Teresa Iturriria - we have 700 members - Kern County Basque Club - tried to come up with different ways. Maybe larger clubs would have more delegates if paying more?

Jean that was discussed, but that was not allowed and went on the house model to allow two votes per club so that it is fairer.

Valerie - that was discussed many times, but that is more of a proxy discussion.



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Teresa Cox - We need to consider that we have so many programs that are like Udaleku that are significantly funded by the clubs. They are free because someone else is paying for it. Kantari, NABO Mus etc. are being funded by clubs. I'm not even aware all the time of what is available to individual members and clubs. Dues are very minimal. We have to justify to every person when increases are made.

Mayi - we have quite a few clubs whose sole purpose is Mus. They only have a Mus tournament, and they are already paying \$15 per player and if we increase their dues, what is that going to do to them since they exist only for Mus?

Jean - other comments

Gloria Lejardi - She is opposed to increasing dues, but we are not addressing reducing costs.

Valerie - Udaleku tries hard to stay on budget.

Jean - Gloria feels that it doesn't make sense to go into the red to qualify for grant monies.

Valerie - many costs that are absorbed by clubs. Luckily clubs that host those programs are able to make those costs.

Mayi - we do have to take a look at expenses, and we know that expenses are rising and I am sensitive that raising dues could be detrimental to some clubs. She insisted on budgets in Boise and the next part of that is holding chairs to their budgets. Pilota is a great example, so far, we only have \$800 for pilota but we are spending more than that. We need to get creative in order to fund Pilota. She is aware of looking at both sides of the equation.

Gloria - thanks Mayi

Bob - how much money are we looking for? How much do we have to raise dues?

Jean - We just started at raising \$3 per member as a starting point with a \$100 base. Feels that it warranted more discussion.

Valerie - Mayi, if we were to increase by \$2



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Mayi - that makes an additional \$12,000 income.

Marianna - 6,000 members creates \$12,000 chairs really need to rethink what they are doing. I think our biggest hit is our Mus when we host International Mus, because we tour people everywhere. We have also lost countries in international Mus because they can't afford to host.

Jean - we are hoping to save Mus dues so that we have enough to host it.

Kate – reminds everyone that the Basque Government grant is a fixed amount.

Gloria T – she suggests presenting budget one or two in advance. Have we ever presented what we budget, and know what NABO's part is then? Have we ever gone that way? Forget about the Basque Government grant, think about other grant opportunities.

Mayi - we have not considered that approach, it's embarrassing but we are in the infant stage of insisting on budgets and managing budgets even after 50 years.

Gloria T. - if we are in the red, we need to use that new approach.

Mayi - Udaleku is not in the red, but it's numbers help in determining how much grant money we get. Our biggest deficit is our G&A costs - 3 salaries and officer travel and I'm volunteering my time. I'm the most expense person on the board and she is conscious of that.

Most programs are still in the black and in September we'll have a better idea with most costs are in.

Gloria T - is this raising dues in order to pay for the salary and board travel - legal fees.

Mayi - yes under G&A in financials

Gina E. - We need to look at fees in general. We don't need to be so specific about how we are going to spend it. It is generally to build the funds, that is why we should raise the dues for whatever we need it to be. Ten years ago, Pilota wasn't on anyone's radar and now it is.

Jean - our G&A is way above our income. Using grants etc. to make up the difference is not keeping up with inflation.



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Teresa Cox - How much would the \$12k close the gap?

Jean - we have other ways of making money and that would help, but we would still have a gap.

Teresa Cox - we are getting into the weeds and not concentrating on specifics.

Jean - salaries - if we need to hire folks to write grants etc. and to run the website it would be more expensive.

Mayi - she puts in at least 20 hours a week and it would be a lot of money to pay a bookkeeper. We small clubs we could apply for a grant, but we would never qualify for a Basque Government grant and so we need to turn to NABO to function. NABO paying for pilota etc. We need help.

Benan - addresses the grant system and that it goes through a vast line of scoring systems. It works on various criteria, nearly 20 criteria lines they have to score so that small clubs can get grants as well. After 40 years they have worked on this program, and they have not had an increase in over 20 years and so they are working on that too. Only a small number of clubs write applications from the US. Most of the clubs that apply are small. The limit for clubs is 30,000 Euros and the federation's limit is 50,000 Euros. A small club could get 10-12,000 Euros. Can't say in advance because it is a contest among 71 clubs from 10 countries and we can't foresee what the multiple realities are. Don't be afraid to apply.

Becky - Dues seems like more members are attracted by Mus, would \$2 keep you away from different tournaments? The answer is no.

It is a pass through, and the feeling is that this would not dissuade folks

Jean - thank you everyone, please send him your thoughts.

Valerie - if we were to raise it by \$5 what would that be?

Mayi - \$5 per member would be too difficult for smaller clubs. Harder for them to take advantage of NABO programs in remote areas.



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Jean - go back and talk to your clubs. He'll try to put together a consensus and we will have to vote at that meeting.

Lunch break - noon

Meeting resumes after lunch at 2:33pm

Committee Reports continued

Dantza - Jaclyn Lasuen - Refer to report in the packet. Thanks for sharing her information and now they also have an online presence. She is also able to advertise various picnics via email as well as on social media.

Replacement for the New England festival found a dance group to fill that hole.

Jexux - funding not yet a thing - cultural tours. Maybe create a program to bring dance masters to the US at some point.

Mayi - This is a perfect example of a program that could use NABO funding. The fact that we could have brought Jexux here but didn't due to lack of funding.

Valerie - also one of those events to see if it is important enough to clubs to contribute to these expenses.

Jaclyn - might not be aware of communication that has happened in the past, but she feels more connected. Especially prior to Jaialdi. Please send folks to Dantzariak page as well if they want to be part of the private Facebook page. Or message Jaclyn directly.

Kantari Eguna - Katalin Etchamendy - Noel and Chris B have been planning it and being very intentional about Kantari Eguna. They will share this ASAP to encourage more participation and provide enough time to prepare songs. Also thinking about providing songs to prepare on your own, and everyone singing together. Kantari Eguna is important for our culture and asks for more local talent, as well as to reach out to get more people to come.

Chris B. - engage everyone together and bringing back the engagement that we used to enjoy. Trying to push forward with the budget provided. Still thinking about bringing talent from the



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Basque Country eventually to raise awareness but still ok for this year. It's important to maintain this tradition.

Kantari Eguna in conjunction with the Iparreko Ibarra picnic on the second Saturday of October, October 12, 2024. Not revealing local talent that will be participating yet.

Jean - we will be waiting for news from Iparreko Ibarra.

Bertsolaritza - Todor - Refer to report in the packet - This started two years ago, and he really appreciates everyone who has supported this event. We can create a bertso school, we can teach bertsolaritza. We can do it. Oier Pastor just won an award on his bertsos. They need more students to get involved. He also wants more events. This is the only way to spread the tradition and create a new generation of bertsolaris.

Congratulate ourselves in believing that we can do this.

Philippe - the bertsolaris invited by NABO to perform in March created a private video for the delegates as a thanks to us and to Mike Bidart to express their gratitude.

Video shown

Pilota Camp - Annie - received funding from the John Kirtland Foundation and his family's wishes were to create a pilota program. Ages 8-11 and 12-16 July 22-25th week before San Inazio. Will share more information as it comes. They will also work to house people from outside of Boise. There are only 12 spaces per camp and hoping to expand as they go. Fund has allowed to provide a donation to pilota for NABO too.

Ateak Ireki - refer to report in packet. Thirty-three participants are ready to go, and they worked hard with Gina Aguerre to put together cheaper group insurance for participants. Could maybe use this in the future for NABO activities as well. Participants come from everywhere and are now all club members. Two are being funded by the Aita Tillous fund. There will be meetings with participants prior to leaving to make sure they understand what is expected of them.

End of Committee Reports –

Old Business -

Teresa Cox - application for Gaztemundu yet?



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Gorka not open yet.

Mayi - thank you to Woolgrowers and Basque club for amazing lunch

Old business and future meetings - Pilotaris came to Colorado for designation of State Historical Site - Plaque will be unveiled at the fall NABO meeting on September 21st - also Grand Junction Wine festival. Working with Double Tree to get rates for the weekend. Meet and Greet there on Friday September 20th. The meeting will be from 8am-1pm so packets need to be presented ahead of time. Time will include breakfast and a box lunch for a working lunch. At 1:30pm the festivities will take place. Aita Antton will do mass, or at least bless the fronton. Hoping to have eight dancers from the Oinkaris to perform. Tony has organized pilotaris and hoping Amerikanuak will play. Mayi has lamb donated and she is hoping to make this a special occasion for the local Basque community and so this would be special for the Basque people there.

Show of hands of how many people would be willing to come to Grand Junction so she can negotiate with the hotel. The hotel is near the airport, and they have a free shuttle.

If you are a 501c3 and you have an event and you need rooms, or supplies, if you show them the 501c3 certificate sales tax will be waived.

Also wondering if she should also host the NABO qualifying tournament on Sunday the 22nd.

Jean - More information will come as available.

Teresa Cox - could the minutes come a little earlier?

Jean - yes will do better next time.

New Business -

Benan - Gorka has mentioned that there may be a webinar with small clubs that want to apply for grants to explain how the scoring process goes and so you know how to do it and the process you'd be participating in.

Valerie - Sister City Project - She is the secretary of the South San Francisco Sister City association. They are sister cities with Donibane. The Japanese Sister Cities are very organized. The first one



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was Honolulu and Hiroshima. They want to do the same thing with other cities partnered with cities in the Basque Country. Hopefully this can go through NABO to promote this and have a conversation.

Jean - trying to expand exposure on social media and so he opened new pages to do so. Please share anything you'd like shared by sending it to Jean or share it and tag him.

Mike Aguerre - posters of So. Cal picnic this summer 70th anniversary picnic, along with Reno picnic posters too.

Anne Marie Echeverria - Idea that she talked to Katalin about, fundraiser that is a singing contest that would also engage the audience. The idea is to have people vote by paying money into a box to support a singer. Could be an element of Kantari Eguna.

Elections - Nobody has presented - Philippe moves to accept Jean and Mayi seconded by Jean Pierre Etchechury - all in favor both were reelected

Valerie when will we talk about proxies? Jean – Salt Lake City meeting

Mick Camino - Would it be possible for Etxepare or Euskaltzaindia to pay for the salary for Euskara Coordinator to free up some of our monies?

Kate will be secretary for another year - but would love to have someone else take over.

Move to adjourn - Bob moves to adjourn, Mayi seconds meeting over 3:30pm.