

## BYGDELAGENES FELLESRAAD Minutes of May 3, 2014 Annual Meeting

The 98th Annual Meeting of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad was held May 3, 2014 at Mindekirken in Minneapolis, Minnesota. President Marilyn Somdahl called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and welcomed delegates and guests. She called for a special order to the agenda for the elections and to discuss Norway House plans.

The Norwegian, Canadian and American National Anthems were sung with Elaine Nordlie of Telelag at the piano. President Marilyn introduced the members of the Executive Board.

Gary Gandrud, Honorary Norwegian Consulate General brought greetings.

ROLL CALL: The roll call for each Bygdelag was read by Secretary Mary Gross, and the delegates answered with their names and a report of their lag's interest in Norway House. A clip board was circulated with a list by lag to sign up lag volunteers for the centennial celebration committees in 2016.

Gudbrandsdalslag (2)  
Hadeland Lag (2)  
Hallinglag (2)  
Hardanger Lag (2)  
Landingslag (2) 182 members  
More Og Romsdal Lag (2)  
Nordfjordlag (2)  
Nord Hedmark Og Hedmarken Lag (2)  
Nordhordland/Sunnhordland Lag (1) 75 members  
Nordlandslag (2)  
Numedalslaagen Lag (2)  
Ringerike Drammen Districts Lag (2)  
Rogaland Lag (1)  
Romerikslag (2) 130 members  
Sigdalslag (2)  
Sognalag (2) 183 members  
Solorglag (2)  
Sunnfjord Lag (1)  
Telelag (2) 448 members  
Toten Lag (2) 230 members  
Tronderlag (2)  
Valdres Samband (2)  
Vestlandslag (1)  
Vosselag (1)

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A motion was made to accept the Secretary's Minutes of May 4, 2013, as printed in the newsletter. Motion was seconded and passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's Report for April 30, 2014, along with the budget for the year ending April 30, 2014, was presented by R. Lee Brown, Treasurer. The books, records, and ledgers for the period May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014, were audited and found in order by Robert O'Neil. Treasurer Lee moved to accept the financial statements and the audit as presented. The motion was seconded and carried. (Copy of the financial reports and audit letter is attached.)

**ELECTIONS:** The slate of officers was read by President Marilyn and placed in nominations for next year: President Marilyn Somdahl, Vice President Marilyn Sorensen, Treasurer R. Lee Brown, Secretary Mary Gross, Webmaster/Director EuGene Rodi, Director Eunice Helgeson, and Director Don Teigen. Nominations for an additional director were requested from the floor but there were none offered. A motion to close nominations was made, seconded, and passed. A motion was then made to accept the slate as presented was seconded and carried.

**SPECIAL ORDER:** President Marilyn called on John Haugo, delegate from Telelag, who is also on the Norway House Board, to come forward to accept the donation of \$2500.00 to Norway House. Delegates had voted to add this additional donation to Norway House at last year's meeting but it was not budgeted for last year, so the donation was made at this time. John then gave an explanation of what was needed from lags and individual donors for completion of the Norway House project. So far 2 million dollars have been committed to the project by donors, including \$5000.00 from Fellesraad.

Secretary Mary read the motion made at the February 28, 2014 Fellesraad Board meeting that as an incentive to lags to donate to Norway House, Fellesraad will match each lag donation up to \$100.00 per lag during the period from May 3, 2014 to April 30, 2014. If all lags make at least a \$100.00 donation, Fellesraad would then donate an additional \$2700.00 during that period.

Marilyn offered brochures and other informative pamphlets available about Norway House for lags to take to their respective boards and stevner for discussion. It was noted that several lags and individual lag members have already donated to Norway House. Other lags haven't had the opportunity to present it to their members.

**REPORTS:** President Marilyn Somdahl's report was printed in the newsletter. She requested names of lag treasurers from each lag to improve communication. The newsletter was sent out electronically to lag presidents but there seemed to be difficulty with responses to registration and payment for the annual meeting.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Marilyn Sorensen reported that 20 people attended Norwegian Lag Week in Salt Lake City, Utah this year. Roots Tech will be held February 12-14 and Norwegian Lag Week February 15-21, 2015.

**WEBMASTER:** EuGene Rodi explained that he changed our Internet Service Provider (ISP) and has rewritten the entire web page. He welcomes lag updates for the web site

as changes occur. Much lag information seems to be out of date. He would like emails of lag treasurers to be placed on the site in a secure area.

NEW BUSINESS: Jean Knaak, 2016 Fellesraad Centennial Chair, gave a report on the plans made so far for the May 6-7 Centennial Celebration and Annual Meeting. Jean received the list of volunteers that had been circulated among the lag delegates. Two to four people per lag are needed.

The Centennial will be held at the Earle Brown Center in Brooklyn Center, MN.

May 6: Pre-conferences, conference reception.

May 7: Celebration Day, Banquet

Crowne Plaza (to be Minneapolis Boulevard Hotel) will be utilized for pre-conference.

Other hotels available nearby.

CULTURAL PROGRAM: Dr. Byron Nordstrom gave a presentation "Destined to Fail?" about the unique Norwegian/Swedish union of 1809-1814, ending with the Norwegian Constitution of 1814 signed in Eidsvoll.

The meeting was adjourned at noon, and we enjoyed a delicious lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Gross  
Secretary