Minutes of the 2010 Election Committee of the Michigan Argentine Tango Club

Meeting: 11-11:50pm, Wednesday, November 18, 2010, Basement Angell Hall. EC Members present: Kate Mitroka, Elizabeth Garcia (Liz), Chandan Bhambhani (Chair). Through email correspondence prior to this meeting Chandan was elected Chair. This meeting was designated a closed session pursuant to By-law 1(a)(2) of the assembled By-law document pending Board review.

A. Chandan appointed Liz parliamentarian and Kate secretary.

B. Call for Agenda

Agenda

a. Operation Guidelines
b. Dates for Election Process
c. Rules for Candidate Campaign Materials
d. Decisions and Actions for Communication with the Club and the Board to Promote Candidates
e. Review Candidate Applications
f. Review of Candidates for Eligibility
g. Recap of Actions and Decisions

Liz moved to approve agenda, Kate 2nd: Passed 2-0

C. Motion to acknowledge and approve EC operational guidelines as set forth in the Constitution V. 1-f and the By-laws document 1(a).

Liz moved to approve guidelines, Kate 2nd: Passed 2-0

D. Motion to approve following timeline of election process
   a. Oct 6 – Call for candidates from Board; Election date set for Dec. 1st 2010
   b. Oct 31 – Deadline for receiving applications
   c. NOTE: The EC did not receive at least one application per position by the appointed deadline. The EC informally discussed extending the deadline. It was extended to Nov. 7th 2010 - open only to new applications for Treasurer and Registration Officer. At the passing of that deadline and without an applicant list to discuss, the EC met informally to discuss its options. The MATC Constitution did not address what to do in the event an insufficient number of candidatures were received. The EC contacted the drafter of the Constitution for advice on how to proceed. On the basis of that advice, and after discussing possible constitutional readings, the EC ultimately decided to re-open the call for applications for any position. The final deadline was Nov. 14th 2010. In neither informal discussion was election substance addressed. Application procedure was the only issue. By Nov. 14th a sufficient number of applications had been received. The EC will be including recommendations for Constitutional modification to
rectify this situation upon or shortly after presenting the 2011 election results.
d. Nov 17 – First official meeting of EC.
e. Nov 19 – List of eligible candidates made available to the Board for good standing verification. This list – deemed “tentative” – made public via Membership email and MATC website. Present-discussed timeline also provided to the Board.
f. Nov 19 (midnight) – Deadline for candidates to contest or withdraw candidacy
g. Nov 20 – Final list of candidates announced on MATC website and via membership email.
h. Nov 24 - Open candidate forum: 9:30 pm
i. Nov 24 – Next EC Meeting
j. Dec 1 – Elections: 9:45pm during GMM.

Liz moved to approve timeline, Kate 2nd: Passed 2-0

E. Rules for Candidate Campaign Materials
   a. All printed materials and publications (i.e. flyers) must be approved by the EC prior to distribution. Intended campaign materials should be emailed to the EC Chair.

Liz moved to approve agenda, Kate 2nd: Passed 2-0

   b. These rules will me made known to applicants in the email notifying the Membership of the tentative list as well as in the email notifying the membership of the confirmed list of applicants. They will also be available on the MATC website.

F. Decisions and Actions for Communication with the Club and the Board to Promote Candidates:
   a. Kate notes the importance of meeting quorum to take a vote. She stresses the importance in campaigning and encouraging members to show up to vote. This is the responsibility of the Board, therefore Chandan will request the Board include this encouragement in their weekly emails. Chandan will also include this information in membership emails. Finally, this information will be announced during the 24 Nov 2010 practica.
   b. Chandan will request from the Board a list of the current MATC members, so that the EC can calculate quorum.
   c. Chandan will also request from the applicants a statement of interest indicating each applicant’s motivation/qualification/interest in running. This information will be made available on the day of elections and also via the MATC website following the announcement of the final list of applicants.
   d. Communication with 2010 MATC Board will be made via Club President (Gloria Murillo)
G. Review Candidate Applications

List of Applicants:

a. President: Vijay Ramprasad
b. Vice President:
   i. Ceyda Bilgir
   ii. Rawan Abdel Khalek
c. Treasurer: Hadi Katebi
d. Director of Operations: Yusuf Murgha
e. Registration Officer
   i. Sukanya Punthambaker
   ii. Shima Abadi

H. Review of Candidates for Eligibility

a. No candidates provided any information of concern to the EC.
b. The EC considers all candidates suitable for election pending Board confirmation of Good Standing

Kate moved to approve eligibility, Liz 2nd: Passed 2-0

I. Recap of Decisions and Actions

a. Chandan will email the Board a list of eligible candidates and request their confirmation of good standing. Chandan will request that the Board update the website with this list of tentative candidates and to include campaigning rules. The email will also include the timeline decided upon at this meeting. The email will request that the Board highlight the importance of coming to vote in, at least, its weekly emails.
b. Chandan will send the general membership an email listing the tentative candidates and explaining: campaigning procedures, the timeline moving forward, and the importance of coming to the general membership meeting. The email will also advise the applicants of the deadline to withdraw or contest candidacy.
c. Upon receiving the Boards confirmation as to the good standing of the applicants and after the deadline to contest/withdraw candidacy has passed, Chandan will send out the same email – this time indicating that the list is final. He will also request the Board update the MATC website to reflect that the list is final.
d. Chandan will email the final list of candidates reiterating the information and requesting “interest paragraphs”.
e. Upon receiving the information, Chandan will request the Board post these paragraphs on the MATC website.
f. The Parliamentarian will ensure that these paragraphs are made available during the election.
g. Chandan will request a budget of 75 USD from the Board to be used to provide pizza for GMM/Election participants.

h. Chandan will ask the Board to confirm that it will reimburse the Parliamentarian for costs associated with printing ballots.

i. An EC representative will announce the final list of candidates at the 24 Nov 2010 practica.

j. Upon the completion of these minutes, Chandan will request the Board upload them to the MATC website.

Meeting adjourned 11:50pm.