

N.A.B.O. Meeting Minutes
July 2, 2016
Chino, California

The President called the meeting to order at 8:20 am.

Welcome by, Mike Aguerre, the President of the Southern California Basque Club. He and the Festival Committee Chairman, Diana Amestoi Pertusatti, welcomed the N.A.B.O. delegates and informed them about the weekend's events.

Introductions and Roll Call

Officers

President – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea
Vice-President – Mary Gaztambide, excused
2nd Vice-President – Pierre Etcharren
Treasurer – Mayie Petracek
Secretary – Marisa Espinal
Facilitator – Kate Camino
Webmaster – Lisa Corcostegui
Euskara Coordinator – Aitor Inarra, excused & Itxaso Cayero, excused

Committee Chairperson

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia, excused
Education – John Ysursa, excused
Euskara – Martin Goicoechea, excused
Udaleku – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea, Kate Camino
Mus – Pierre Etcharren
Junior Mus – Gina Espinal-Aguerre
Music/Dance – Caroline Chiramberro, excused
Pilota – Teresa Iparraguirre
History – Patty Miller, excused & Steve Bass, excused
Txerriki – Gratien Etchebehere, excused
Kantari Eguna – Noel Goyhenetche, excused & Becky Sarratea-Murphy, excused

Club Delegates

Anaitasuna Basque Club (SF)	Gina Espinal Aguerre Marisa Espinal
Basque Educational Organization (BEO)	Marisa Espinal Philippe Acheritogaray
Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Geneva Ayarra (proxies)
Basque Club of Utah	Jean Flesher + proxy
Big Horn Basque Club (Buffalo)	Kate Camino (proxies)
Boise Euzkaldunak, Inc.	Daniel Aizpitarte Geneva Ayarra
Center for Basque Studies, Reno	Kate Camino + proxy

Chino Basque Club
Colorado Euskal Etxea
Kern County Basque Club
Lagunak Las Vegas Basque Club
Los Banos

Marin Sonoma Basque Club
Mendiko Euskalduna (Gardnerville)
New York
Oberena (Los Angeles)
Ontario Basque Club
San Francisco Basque Club
San Francisco Basque Cultural Center

Santa Rosa Basque Club
Southern California Basque Club
Susanville Basque Club
Ventura Basque Club
Washington D.C. Euskal Etxea
Zazpiak Bat Reno Basque Club

Proxies for Quorum only

New Mexico
Zazpiak Bat (Vancouver)

Jeanette Duhart
Mayie Petracek + proxy
Teresa Iparraguirre
Daniel Azpitarte (proxies)
Jim Etchepare
Christine Etchepare
Pierre Etcharren
Gina Espinal (proxies)
Aitzol Azurtza
Jose Louis Urrutia
Lisa Corcostegui
Jean Pierre Elissetche
Pierre Etcharren
Philippe Acheritogaray
Daniel Aizpitarte (proxy)
Mike Aguerre
Enrike Corcostegui (proxy)
Jose Louis Urrutia
Daniel Azpitarte (proxies)
Enrike Corcostegui

Blas Uberuaga
Elena Sommer

Guests

Alain Camou, Chino
Todor Azurtza, Parisko Euskal Etxea

Approval of the February 2016 Minutes

Marisa Espinal submitted the February 2016 minutes. Mayie Petracek made corrections to spelling of Centro Basco, not Vasco under Junior Mus. Also, Pierre Etcharren was present at the meeting, not excused as noted.

- Jean Pierre Elissetche motioned to accept the February meeting minutes with corrections as noted. Teresa Iparraguirre seconded. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: (Mayie Petracek)

Delegates were given the 2016 balance sheet and the profit/loss statements to review. The statements reflect activity through June 2016 only. Please see the Facilitator's packet for full details.

There was a fraud attempt on the NABO checking account at Wells Fargo so all accounts have been closed and re-opened. Delegates were encouraged to have their club's Treasurer carefully review their bank statements.

Finance Committee

Mayie Petracek has formed the Finance Committee. Currently committee members include: the Treasurer, Mayie Petracek, the President, Valerie Arrechea, Peio Urrutia from the Ventura Basque Club, and Victor Olano from the Los Banos Basque Club, If you are interested in being part of the committee it is preferred you have a background in finance.

There were no questions asked by the delegates.

- Jean Flesher motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. 2nded by Jean Pierre Elissetche. Unanimously approved.

Name on Wells Fargo Bank Account

Mayie Petracek reported Wells Fargo has the name of the Education Fund listed incorrectly on the account. The correct name is North American Basque Organization not North American Basque Association. Mayie Petracek, NABO Treasurer, will contact Wells Fargo to have the name on the account corrected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: (Please see submitted reports for full details.)

Euskara: (Martin Goicoechea, excused, Aitor Inarra, excused, & Itxaso Cayero, excused)

Itxaso Cayero has resigned as co-Euskara Coordinator. The president thanked her for all of her good work. The Euskara committee will be looking into whether it is necessary to restructure the Euskara Coordinator position. There were suggestions from the delegates that there be two coordinators, one to work on teaching adults, and the other to focus on children, also Coordinators should have a teaching background.

Aitor Inarra submitted a recorded report. The NABO Euskara teachers' workshop was held in San Francisco in June.

HABE will be using AISA as the new on-line Euskara program and BOGA will be phased out. AISA should be more user friendly.

There are now 20 teachers in 14 schools or clubs. Classes are now being offered in Salt Lake City, UT, Reno, NV, Washington DC, and Los Banos, CA. Christine Etchepare the new Euskara teacher in Los Banos attended the workshop and briefly reported on her efforts teaching the children's group.

Clubs are encouraged to support their Euskara teachers so this important work will continue.

If you are interested in being on the Euskara Committee please contact Martin Goicoechea at bertsolari@nabasque.org or Valerie Arrechea at president@nabasque.org

Calendars: (Mary Lou Urrutia, excused)

Mary Lou Urrutia has had trouble getting the club dates in a timely fashion. A general request to delegates has not produced results. Please let Mary Lou know who would be the best contact person at your club. The 2017 calendar will have the collaboration with UNR to showcase a book a month. 2018 will once again be a collaboration with Elkar showcasing a song of the month. Elkar would like input from the delegates as to which songs they would like to profile. Other suggestions included showcasing films or recipes. Some questions posed by the delegates were: Is a web link on a printed calendar practical? Is the font size working for the calendar audience?

We are looking for members for the Calendar committee. It is too big a job for one person. Mary Lou Urrutia will be resigning as the committee chairman after completing the 2017 calendar.

Please contact Mary Lou for calendars at calendar@nabasque.org and cc treasurer@nabasque.org for billing purposes.

History (Pedro Oiarzabal, excused, Patty Miller, excused, Steve Bass, excused)

Memoria Bizia

Pedro Oiarzabal is out on medical leave. Steve Bass and Patty Miller submitted a report on their efforts in their own communities. NABO is looking for a volunteer project manager to spearhead the Memoria Bizia project and motivate all clubs at the local level to capture the interviews of their members. Interviews need to happen sooner rather than later.

- Gina Espinal made a motion to send out a notice that we are looking to appoint a new Memoria Bizia Committee Chairman. 2nded by Jean Flesher. Unanimously approved.

Please contact Valerie Arrechea at president@nabasque.org or Kate Camino at info@nabasque.org if you are interested in volunteering on this project. They can connect you to those who are already actively interviewing so you can have a better sense of what is involved with conducting interviews at your club. You can send the names of the contact for your club or the interviewees to info@nabasque.org or president@nabasque.org because N.A.B.O. is keeping a spreadsheet of names to be interviewed.

Pilota (Teresa Iparraguirre)

The Pilota committee has been focusing their efforts on showcasing Pilota at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. Teresa Iparraguirre has been working with Xavier Berrueta in this endeavor. There will be 2 – 45 minute pilota sessions each day during the Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

The Pilota committee now has skype meetings. So far it is working well. They are assessing what is working well at local clubs and what help or equipment is needed.

The 2016 Pilota Finals will be held in San Francisco on August 26 - 27. There will be open youth games at that time as well.

The World Pilota Council will host their general meeting via Skype on July 7th.

There will be a Youth Pilota camp in 2018. Udaleku will be in Chino and will have a Pilota instructor. There is a possibility to have the instructor do an additional week in Northern California, Southern California, and Idaho.

Udaleku: (Kate Camino & Valerie Arrechea)**Udaleku 2016**

Udaleku 2016 will be in Salt Lake City, Utah from July 10 – 22, 2016. They will have many local teachers and aides. Scott Berriochoa will teach Mus and Sonia Castignon will teach language. There will be cooking classes for the campers. No pilota because there is no pilota court. There are 81 children participating. No wait list!

The enrollment process is a lot smoother now that people enroll by family rather than by child.

Kate Camino thanked Salt Lake City for hosting Udaleku. They are a small but mighty club. Their dance group represented at New York and now Washington DC.

Udaleku 2017

Udaleku 2017 will be in Chino last week of June and first week of July.

Please contact president@nabasque.org if you would be interested in being part of this committee.

Break 10:00 – 10:15

Mus: (Pierre Etcharren)

There were a total of 1031 mus players in 2017. The Mus finals were held in Rocklin, CA hosted by the Iparreko Ibarra Basque Club on June 11th. The

winners, Alberto Blanco and Pedro Sanz were from the Fresno Basque Club. They won every game they played. They will represent the United States in Donostia at the International Tournament. The Second place team was Pello Urrutia and Miguel Irigoyen representing the Ventura Basque Club.

The 2017 NABO Mus Finals will be held at Campos Farms, in Fresno CA on Saturday, June 10th.

Mike Aguerre asked if any financial assistance was given to clubs who host the finals. In the past only a couple of clubs have asked for financial assistance.

Jean Flesher asked how the NABO Mus rules are changed. NABO Mus rules follow the International Mus rules. If your are dealt 5 cards during the initial deal all cards are collected and re-dealt. If you are given 5 cards after betting has taken place your hand is not counted in the game.

We may need to order more NABO Mus cards.

Junior Mus (Gina Espinal)

The Junior Mus tournament will be held on Saturday, July 2 at 1:30 at the Centro Basco in Chino. Johnny Plaa will be the judge. Only the four teams who have registered as their club's Junior Mus winners may play in the Tournament during the NABO Convention. Shout out to Homedale for their efforts although they won't be able to attend the Junior Mus Finals. The participation in Junior Mus at the local level has been hit or miss.

Future International Mus Dates:

The **2016** International Mus Tournament will be in Donostia, Euskadi, at the Amara Hotel in October. NABO pays the trip for the team representing the US.

The **2017** International Mus Tournament will be in the United States. Plans have not been finalized yet, it may be held in California, possibly a combination of San Francisco & Chino. Start with the Basque Cultural Center Festival in August, play some games in San Francisco and then finish the week in Chino with the Chino picnic. The cost is prohibitive because hotels, transportation, and excursions in CA are expensive. A gift is expected from each country. In the past we gave NABO calendars & watches. Ideas include, watches, mus cards and calendars. Ideas of items small enough to carry in luggage would be greatly appreciated. Mayi Petracek informed the delegates that there are still some watches in the NABO inventory. If you have any questions or would like more information please contact Pierre Etcharren at mus@nabasque.org.

For more information see the www.globalmus.com website. John Ysursa created and updates the website.

- Kate Camino motioned to pay for Jose Louis Urrutia's trip to Donostia as the delegate to the International Mus Tournament. 2nded by Gina Espinal. Unanimously approved.

Music and Dance (Caroline Chirramberro, excused)

No report

Txerriki Sukalde Txapeldun (Gratien Etchebehere, excused)

The 6th annual sausage competition will be held in conjunction with the Southern California Basque Club picnic on Sunday around 4 pm. The club will provide the barbecues, but please bring your own cooking utensils.

Kantari Eguna (Noel Goyhenetche, excused, Becky Sarratea-Murphy, excused)

The president reported it would be held October 8th, in conjunction with the Iparreko Ibarra picnic and the NABO fall meeting.

- Daniel Aizpitarte motioned that NABO will sponsor the airline ticket for one singer from the Basque Country. 2nded by Jean Flesher. Unanimously approved.

Education (John Ysursa, excused)

Please contact education@nabasque.org and NABO will be able to help you with resources for the educational topic that your club is interested in showcasing.

NABO Revolving Loan (Steve Achabal, excused)

The Cultural Aide Revolving Loan is up and running and the application will soon be available on the NABO website.

If you are interested in being on this committee or would like more information please contact the chairman, Steve Achabal, at steveachabal@netzero.com.

Facilitator's Report: (Kate Camino)

Webmaster

Lisa Corcostegi has created a Google calendar so you can upload your club's events. There is a Google calendar on the N.A.B.O. website. Please let Lisa know at webmaster@nabasque.org who will be responsible for updating the NABO calendar with your club's important event dates. All you need to do is send Lisa your email to be added to the list of those who can update the Google calendar. You can also upload photos for submission to the printed NABO calendar.

The NABO website has links to your club's website. If you don't have a website Lisa can send you a template for setting one up from wordpress. Lisa can send you links to Youtube videos on how to set up your website.

Astero

Please send your event information to info@nabasque.org

Basque radio

Jokin Etcheverria, from Radio France has asked for people who emigrated from the Basque Country now living in the United States for a live interview who will then be surprised by having their relatives in the Basque Country call in. Please let Kate know at info@nabasque.org who you think would be a good person to interview.

Basque Government Grants

Please send your information with photos if possible for reporting purposes to justify grants. The due date is usually in June.

Deadline for grant applications is July 23, 2016. Physical copies must be received via postal mail. Please allow enough time for delivery to the Basque Country. You may also mail it to the New York Delegation. Email scanned copies to be sure they arrive before the 23rd.

The President thanked the Facilitator and Webmaster for all of their hard work.

Old Business

Letter from Navarra

In the Facilitator's packet was a copy of the letter sent from the province of Navarre thanking NABO for the kind invitation to the summer convention hosted by the Southern California Basque Club with the new Presidents regrets at being unable to attend.

California Historical Society

An exhibit about the Basques in California was planned for sometime late 2016 or 2017. NABO remains ready to support an exhibit as a consultant. The Basque Government created a website to go with the exhibit and gave the domain ownership to NABO.

The California Historical Society and Basque Government had different visions of how to showcase the history of Basques in California. The California Historical Society exhibit has been put on hold. The Basque Government has asked the Basque Museum and Cultural Center in Boise to put together an exhibit to go with the website. John Ysursa will be involved with this project for the museum. The Basque Government has \$30,000 set aside for this project.

Website

The Basque Government has contracted with Iñaki Bizkarra and other people for the website. There was a miscommunication about who would be responsible for the cost of reimbursing Iñaki Bizkarra. NABO had voted at the fall 2015 meeting

in Denver that we would accept the cost of the domain ownership, but not maintaining the website.

- Pierre Etcharren motioned to give Iñaki Bizkarra \$250.00 in appreciation and gratitude of his efforts on the website. 2nded by Philippe Acheritigaray. Unanimously approved.

Smithsonian Folklife Festival 2016

Basque culture will be highlighted at the 2016 Smithsonian Folk-life Festival with the Sounds of California held 6/26 - 7/4 & 7/7-10. This will include information from all seven provinces of the Basque Country as well as the Diaspora, not just the province of Bizkaia, who signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Smithsonian or the three provinces of the Basque Autonomous Community.

The Aita Tillous scholarship money voted on at the San Francisco meeting will be dispersed as a per diem for each person who performs each day. It comes to about \$30/day. Which is roughly about \$1000 per participating club or group. The committee members deciding this were; Mayie Petracek, Valerie Arrechea, Pello Urrutia, and Victor Olano. The amount voted on was capped at \$20,000.

- Jean Flesher motioned to approve dispersing the money to clubs as decided by the committee. Also putting together a memorial photo of all the groups who participated in the Smithsonian and sending it each club with their club's stipend. The memorial photo will be submitted to the calendar. Kate Camino 2nded. Unanimously approved.

There is a possibility of NABO being the recipient for some of the exhibits created for the Smithsonian Folklife Festival.

- Jean Pierre Elissetche made a motion authorizing the NABO officers to review the exhibits and sign an agreement with the Smithsonian to accept a permanent loan of items created for the Folklife Festival. Aitzol Azurtza 2nded. Unanimously approved.

There is a woman connected to the Sounds of California exhibit who is researching Basque songs recorded in Fresno in the 1930's. She is looking for more information to include in the records that are kept at the Smithsonian for 100 years. The president will give her Jean Flesher's contact information to help gather what she needs for the recordings.

Finance/Investment Committee

Mayie Petracek reported on our savings. We have \$305,000 and the Finance committee is looking to work with a reputable firm that has experience with helping nonprofits grow their resources. If any one is interested in the Finance/Investment Committee please contact Mayie at Treasurer@nabasque.org

Lunch Break 12:00 – 1:30

Bizi Emankorra

This award is to recognize people who have helped promote Basque culture at the NABO level. In the past we have nominated people who live in the geographical area where the Convention will be held so family can be present when they receive their awards.

It is important that Bizi Emankorra nominations be made in writing using the form on the NABO website with the correct spelling of the nominee's name and contact information. A Google doc may be created to make the nomination process easier. If nominations are made on the floor of a meeting the form must be submitted as soon as possible after the nominee has been accepted.

Bernando Yanci & Juan Brana will receive their awards at the Elko festival. **Jean Baptiste Bidegaray** and **Xavier Aphessetche** will receive their awards at the Southern California Picnic.

New Business

Gaztemundu

This is a program designed to bring youth from 18 – 35 years old of the Basque Diaspora together in the Basque Country. Last year's was held in Vitoria-Gasteiz. The 2015 theme was youth leadership. Gaztemundu 2016 will be in September in Donostia. The theme will be gastronomy. If any youth in your club are interested in cooking or restaurants please apply before August 1st. Many of the participants are from Argentina, Uruguay, Mexico, and Columbia. There has been very little participation from the United States. Please encourage your club youth to apply.

Establishing Meeting Protocols for Guests

The delegates were reminded about policies to set limits on guest behavior at meetings. Guests will be required to submit their presentation in advance, be given a time limit, and his/her participation in discussions will be restricted to their presentation, unless his/her opinion is sought by the delegates. Guests must ask for permission from the president and will be asked to leave when appropriate for NABO business discussions at the discretion of the president. There was discussion about how this should be handled when the garrulous guest is a dignitary. Should we ban people from attending NABO meetings as a guest? This will be discussed further at the Fall meeting.

The president thanked the Facilitator, the Webmaster, the Euskara Coordinators, the Officers and Committee Chairmen for all of their time, hard work and dedication.

Elections of Officers

The only nominations received were from the incumbent officers Treasurer, Mayie Petracek and President, Valerie Arrechea. Mayie and Valerie made brief

statements about their positions and their goals for the future. There was discussion about electing a 2nd vice-president to groom as future president.

- Philippe Acheritogaray made a motion that current officers president Valerie Arrechea and Treasurer, Mayie Petrcek remain in their positions, 2nded by Enrique Corcostegui. Unanimously approved.

Questions or Announcements:

A NABO Soka Tira trophy was recently discovered and it will be housed at University of Nevada Reno Library. The dates on the trophy are 1986 – Fresno, 1987 - Boise, 1988 – Buffalo, 1989 – Fresno, 1990 - Boise, 1991- Boise, 1992 – 1993 no contest, 1994 – Fresno, 1995 – no contest, 1996 – San Francisco, 1997 - Chino, 1998 – 2005 – no contest, 2006 – Buffalo, and 2007 - Buffalo.

Future Meeting Schedule:

2016

Fall: Rocklin, October 8, 2016

2017

Winter: Salt Lake City, February 11, 2017

Summer Convention: Buffalo July 21 – 24, 2017

Fall: Montreal & East Coast collaboration

2018

Winter: San Francisco, usually February

Summer Convention: Winnemucca, NV

Fall: Rocklin, usually October

2019

Winter: Salt Lake City, usually February

Summer Convention: Kern Co for their 75th Anniversary

Fall: Mountain Home, Idaho

2020

Winter: San Francisco, usually February

Summer Convention: New England, 10th Anniversary

Fall: Rocklin, usually October

Future Convention Dates:

2021: Buffalo, Wyoming, July

2022: San Francisco

2023: Los Banos or Chino (55th anniversary)

2024: Kern County, 80th Anniversary

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marisa Espinal, N.A.B.O. Secretary.