



The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes – Los Banos, California
Saturday, October 20th, 2018

President Philippe Acheritogaray called the meeting to order. Philippe then thanked everyone for their RSVPs and expressed a huge thank you to Los Banos for hosting the meeting. He then introduced Michael Etchepare, Los Banos president who then welcomed the group and informed every one of the day's activities and schedule.

There was then a moment of silence for Jean Gaztambide.

In attendance were:

NABO Officers

President – Philippe Acheritogaray
Vice-President – Annie Gavica
Treasurer – Mayi Petracek
Secretary – Kate Camino

NABO Administrators

Euskara Coordinator – Aitor Inarra
Facilitator – Kate Camino
Webmaster – Lisa Corcostegui

Program Directors & Committee Chairpersons

Finance Committee – Mayi Petracek
Investment Committee – Mayi Petracek
Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia, *excused*
Education – John Ysursa
Euskara – Martin Goicoechea
History & Memoria Bizia – Patty Miller
Mus – Pierre Etcharren
Pilota – *Vacant*
Txerriki Contest – *Vacant*
Udaleku – Valerie Arrechea & Kate Camino
Bylaws Review Special Committee – Frank Yraguen, *excused*
Euskal Kantari Eguna – Anita Izoco & Noel Goyhenetche

Board of Directors (delegates) Representing 39 NABO Member Organizations

Note: The "(2)" next to a name indicates the person represents both voting representatives of that NABO member organization.

British Columbia

Zazpiak Bat: Vancouver Kate Camino proxy (2)

Quebec

Euskaldunak: Quebec Valerie Arrechea proxy (2)

California

Bakersfield
Kern County Basque Club Louis Iturriria Maria Toretta

Chino
Chino Basque Club Marianna Etcheverria (2)

Fresno
Fresno Basque Club Jean Pierre Etchechury Tony Campos

Los Angeles
Oberena Kate Camino proxy (2)



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Los Banos Los Banos Basque Club	Chuck Erreca	Andree Soares
Marin-Sonoma Marin-Sonoma Basque Association	Valerie Arrechea	Pierre Etcharren
Ontario Southern California Basque Club	Anne Marie Gariador	Delora Gariador proxy
Rocklin Iparreko Ibarra/ Northern Valley Basque Club	Noel Goyhenetche	Noel Goyhenetche proxy
San Francisco Anaitasuna Basque Club	Marisa Espinal	Marisa Espinal proxy
San Francisco Basque Club	JP Elissetche	JP Elissetche proxy
Basque Educational Organization	Marisa Espinal	Marisa Espinal proxy
San Francisco Basque Cultural Center	Valerie Arrechea	Pierre Etcharren
Susanville Susanville Eskualdun Inc.	Michelle Zubillaga (2)	
Ventura County Ventura County Basque Club	Kate Camino (2)	
Colorado Denver Euskal Etxea	Mayi Petracek (2)	
Idaho Boise Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Annie Gavica	Patty Miller
Basque Studies at Boise State University	John Ysursa	
Cenarrusa Foundation	Annie Gavica proxy (2)	
Euzkaldunak: Boise Basque Center	Argia Beristain	Ricardo Yanci
Oinkari Basque Dancers	Annie Gavica proxy (2)	
Gooding Gooding Basque Association	Annie Gavica proxy (2)	
Homedale Txoko Ona Basque Club	Annie Gavica proxy (2)	



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Mountain Home Euskal Lagunak	Annie Gavica proxy (2)	
Nevada		
Battle Mountain Battle Mountain Oberenak	Absent	
Elko Elko Euzkaldunak Club	Mercedes Mendive (2)	
Gardnerville Mendiko Euskaldun Cluba	Annie Guecamburu	Anita Izoco
Las Vegas Lagun Onak	Argia Beristain proxy (2)	
Paradise Valley Santa Rosa Basque Club	Annie Gavica proxy (2)	
Reno Center for Basque Studies	Kate Camino (2)	
Zazpiak Bat Reno Basque Club	Dominica Zubillaga	Mateo Franzoia proxy
Winnemucca Euskaldunak Danak Bat	Absent	
New Mexico		
New Mexico Euskal Etxea	Lisa Corcostegui proxy (2)	
New York		
Euzko Etxea	Absent	
Oregon		
Ontario, Oregon Basque Club	Lisa Corcostegui	Lisa Corcostegui proxy
Rhode Island		
Portsmouth New England Basque Club	Kate Camino proxy (2)	
Utah		
Basque Club of Utah	Jean Flesher	Jean Flesher proxy
District of Columbia		
Washington D.C. Euskal Etxea	Argia Beristain proxy (2) (voting abstention from the bylaw question)	
Washington		
Seattle Euskal Etxea	Ricardo Yanci proxy (2)	
Wyoming		
Big Horn Basque Club	Kate Camino proxy (2)	
Alkartasuna Basque Club	Martin Goicoechea (2)	

Clubs not attending – Battle Mountain Oberenak, Winnemucca Euskaldunak Danak Bat, Euzko Etxea of New York



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Guests -Iñaki Arrieta, Basque Studies Librarian; Iñigo Medina, Basque Government Intern; Joey Iturriria guest.

In the spirit of Euskal Kantari Eguna, which would be celebrated later in the day, Philippe Acheritogaray invited the board of directors to sing "Txoria Txori" while Kate Camino processed the roll call.

Quorum

Philippe Acheritogaray asked Kate Camino for the quorum assessment for the meeting and for the transaction of business.

The quorum to have a meeting is the majority of the NABO member organizations. Since there are 42 active NABO member organizations in good standing the quorum to have a meeting is 22. Kate Camino reported that 39 NABO member organizations were present at the meeting including via proxy. Quorum to have the meeting has been met.

The quorum to transact business in the meeting is a majority of the Board of Directors (delegates). Since there are 42 active organizations in good standing (84 directors/delegates) the quorum to transact business is 43. Kate Camino reported that there were 78 members of the Board of Directors (delegates) present including via proxy. Quorum to transact business in today's meeting has been met.

Since there will be a vote to amend the bylaws later in the meeting, which requires two-thirds approval, Philippe Acheritogaray asked Kate Camino for the voting thresholds. Kate Camino reported that the threshold for a motion to pass with a simple majority would be at least 40 yes votes and that the threshold for amending the bylaws would be at least 52 yes votes.

Philippe Acheritogaray asked the board of directors if there were any questions on the quorum assessment reported by Kate Camino and there were none.

Minutes

The minutes from the June 8th meeting in Winnemucca were reviewed and Mayi Petracek motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Jean Flesher seconded the motion with all in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Mayi then gave the treasurer's report where she thanked Kate for taking care of the NABO Basque Government grants and also thanked Bob Etcheverria for promoting the *Amerikanuak* books.

Mayi Petracek explained the notation used in the financial reports. An "N" next to the account number, such as "1001N Checking" means this account is part of the NABO corporation which has 501(c)(4) tax exempt status. An "E" next to the account number, such as "1001E Aita T Fund" means this account is part of the NABO Educational Fund which has 501(c)(3) tax exempt status, which means donations to the Educational Fund can be tax deductible.

Mayi also reported that there is a CD that is maturing on November 4th and so we needed to decide what to do with it, either letting it mature, or renew it. She suggested that we could use these funds to increase the investment fund but that could be decided on at the winter meeting. JP Elissetche moved to move the monies into the checking account once it matures which was seconded by John Ysursa. The motion passed unanimously.

Bylaw Amendment Vote

At the winter meeting earlier this year, the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center (SFBC) had submitted an amendment to the bylaws describing Committees, which had been tabled to the summer meeting in Winnemucca. The Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture (Cenarrusa) submitted an alternate amendment to the bylaws describing Committees as well at the Winnemucca summer meeting and both amendment proposals were tabled for the fall meeting in Los Banos.

Philippe Acheritogaray described the process that would be used to determine which of the amendment proposals would be voted on to amend the bylaws. First, via a ballot vote, the board of directors will vote on which of the two



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above amendment proposals they prefer to consider amending the bylaws with. Whichever proposal receives the most votes will then be put to a second vote for amending the bylaws, which will require two-thirds approval. Philippe Acheritogaray asked the board of directors if there were any questions on the process described and there were none.

Before voting on the two by-law amendments, Valerie Arrechea summarized the proposal by the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center, while Annie Gavica (proxy for Cenarrusa) summarized the proposal by the Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture.

Ballots to select which amendment to consider for amending the bylaws were distributed and collected by Annie Gavica and Mayi Petracek. The voting results were 47 votes for the SFBCC proposal and 26 votes for the Cenarrusa proposal with the Washington DC club abstaining from the vote. The SFBCC proposal will be considered for amending the bylaws.

A second ballot vote then took place to decide whether to amend the bylaws with the SFBCC proposal. The result of this vote was 60 yes and 11 no votes, again with two abstentions. The vote achieved the two-thirds threshold (52 yes votes) and the SFBCC proposal to amend the bylaws has been accepted by the board of directors (delegates).

Facilitator/Euskara Coordinator Applications

Philippe then reported that the only applications received for both the Facilitator and Euskara Coordinator positions were from the incumbents. Jean Flesher moved to accept these applications and Jean Pierre Elissetche seconded. The vote was unanimous and so, Aitor Inarra will continue as Euskara Chair for the coming year with Kate Camino and Lisa Corcostegui continuing as Facilitator/Webmaster respectively.

Program and Committee Reports

[Please refer to committee reports submitted for the Los Banos meeting for complete information]

Calendar Report – Marylou Urrutia sent three boxes of calendars to the meeting and so some clubs could pick them up there and pay Mayi directly or choose to be invoiced for them.

Education Report - John Ysursa talked about the Soka Dantza Exhibit and encouraged everyone to reach out for help with ideas for upcoming events in their clubs. He also presented a workshop idea in collaboration with Meggan Laxalt. These workshops would focus on each province beginning with Iparralde for example. The goal is “to better inform our Basque community about their neighbors.” If your club is interested, please email: education@nabasque.eus.

Euskara Report – Aitor Inarra reported that many classes are taking place in personal residences or via Zoom where facilities are not available. He also encouraged clubs who may have individuals interested in learning Basque, to let them know that Zoom is an option which allows students to participate from home. You can always send these individuals to Aitor too so that he can connect them to classes, and/or answer questions.

Mayi explained that instructors receive \$425 for each class taught and that these funds come from HABA. Membership is not a requirement to take Basque, but a minimum of seven students must be enrolled in order to receive payment for the class. Martin Goicoechea clarified that our funding from HABA would also increase as student numbers increase, and that ultimately it was up to each club to determine where these funds go.

Aitor then reported on the new Visiting Basque Teacher Program. He explained that in Bakersfield the program would begin in January with NABO paying the instructor's airfare with the hosting club providing her housing. He explained that Chino decided that there was not enough interest in the club to participate in this program.

Aitor also explained that Winnemucca had a long list of potential students and so he is working on an instructor for them as well.

Barnetegi

The 2019 Barnetegi will take place in Boise in the spring and that there may be another one in the fall. Kinku has indicated that he would like these to take place in the fall and so would result in two in 2019. Aitor has requested that



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the new curriculum be translated into English and that he needs to find ways to motivate teachers and keep them happy.

Martin reported that the grant justification had been completed and that from now on monies would be coming from the Etxepare Basque Institute, and not HABE. The same funding has been promised as last year, and the goal remains to create more classes in more communities. Martin also thanked Aitor for doing such a great job.

Facilitator Report – Kate reported her activities since the Winnemucca meeting and also reported that she was successful in writing a Nevada Humanities Grant for 2018 Udaleku. Lisa also reported on her activity (outlined in the committee report) and both encouraged clubs to continue to provide information to Astero, but also to Lisa for inclusion on the website. This information is not only necessary to keep our website updated, but also important to include in our annual Basque Government Grant.

Euskal Kantari Eguna – Anita Izoco did a brief report on Kantari 2017 that enjoyed the participation of a choir from the Basque Country. She also reported that Kantari 2019 would take place on August 10, 2019 and that it is included in the NABO Calendar.

History Report – Patty Miller reported on activity taking place in various communities to preserve their history including Chino Basque Club's website and its 50th Anniversary book.

She also reported on work done for *Memoria Bizia* at the Basque Museum and Cultural Center using an interview with Grace Mainvil, longtime NABO treasurer, as an example. She also reported that the exhibit on Basque women "Inner Strength" would be displayed in Boise for one year with hopes of then traveling to the Basque Country and Navarre.

Mus Report – Before Pierre Etcharren delivered the Mus report, Kate Camino read a thank you note sent to N.A.B.O. from Jeanette and Tiburcio Sarratea thanking Pierre Etcharren for all of his hard work and help on their recent trip to Macachin, Argentina for the International Mus Finals. Frank Vargas and Tibericio Sarratea represented N.A.B.O. and the U.S. at the International Mus Tournament. Pierre Etcharren gave a summary of how current tournaments are run, and also indicated that Gina is working hard on Jr. Mus but needs help. He again plead with clubs to let him know who is in charge of mus in each community.

International Mus

Pierre reported that the last International Mus Tournament held in Macachin Argentina was probably the best that he had ever seen. It also resulted in the first-ever female winner in the history of this tournament with 1st place going to Navarre, and 2nd to the team from Barcelona representing Spain. The US team placed 5th. Pierre also said that the International Mus Meeting also went well. The goal is to keep Mus as a cultural activity and not limit it to only those who can afford to participate. All information is available on [Global Mus](#).

Mus Rules

Pierre Etcharren reported that the NABO rules should mirror the international rules (bottom of page 12 in the committee reports). He went on to explain that at the international meeting everyone indicated that they use the same rules, except for Barcelona. It was asked that clubs come to Los Banos ready to vote on rule changes, but this has been extended to the Winter meeting in Salt Lake.

Discussion then ensued regarding dealing of 5 cards during a game that may not be discovered until points are being counted. Since there were so many points of view on the subject, Philippe suggested that a side-bar meeting take place, maybe via Zoom to allow everyone interested the opportunity to participated. Pierre said he would let everyone know when this meeting would take place. Pierre also reminded everyone that the NABO mus rules only apply to the NABO national tournament and international play, but otherwise clubs are free to run their tournaments as they please.



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NABO National Tournament

Pierre then reported that Santa Rosa club, host of the 2019 National NABO Tournament, would like to hold the tournament on June 1, 2019. The concern with this date is that it backs up to NABO Convention in Bakersfield the weekend before and so the Mus Committee is concerned that attendance will be reduced. It also conflicts with the San Francisco Basque Club picnic. Holding the tournament in conjunction with the Winnemucca Basque Festival was suggested, however this is not a possibility for Santa Rosa as many of the club members will be in the Basque Country by this time. The Saturday before Father's Day was also suggested but that won't work either this year since there is a community wide celebration for Father's day which ties up venues and folks the day before. It was left to Santa Rosa and the NABO Mus Tournament Team to decide the best resolution of this year's date conflict.

It was then proposed that NABO set a permanent date for its National Tournament with the Saturday before Father's Day or the second Saturday in July being possibilities, as those are the only dates on the NABO calendar that don't have festivals on them. This also sparked much discussion. Valerie Arrechea asked for a show of hands to see if the preference would be for Saturday before Father's Day or the second Saturday in July. The show of hands indicated that Saturday before Father's day would be the preference of those in attendance. Again, after much discussion, Martin Goicoechea moved to choose the Saturday before Father's Day for the NABO Mus Tournament beginning in 2020 and beyond, and Tony Campos seconded. A formal vote was held with 37 voting yes and 25 no; the motion passed. Therefore, the NABO National Tournament will take place on the Saturday before Father's Day beginning in 2020.

Pierre announced that this year's International Mus Tournament would be in Bayonne October 12-19, 2019 and 2020 would be in Uruguay.

Pilota Report – Philippe let us know that the report on Pilota activity was in the committee reports and also that Xabier Berrueta and Tony Huarte did a wonderful job with NABO pilota finals in San Francisco. He also reported that the results are available on the NABO website.

Txerriki Contest – Valerie Arrechea reported on Txerriki results from Winnemucca, and suggested that maybe pâté be included again in Bakersfield to see how it goes.

Udaleku Report – Valerie began the report by explaining the structure of the Udaleku team that is comprised of herself, Kate and the hosting club. She went on to thank the Reno Basque Club for hosting 2018 camp and then gave the floor to Kate Camino. Lisa Corcostegui presented a PowerPoint presentation on Reno camp as well as shared other items used at camp, culture workbook as well as crafts. Kate reported that Udaleku in Reno was a success however; accommodating 100 kids did make it more difficult than in years past. She also encouraged hosting clubs to communicate about kid's behavior so as to avoid problems from one camp to the next. She thanked her entire team in Reno as well as clubs and individuals who made cash donations to support the program. These donations as well as a grant from the Nevada Humanities and camp tuition allowed camp to stay in the black without having to tap into NABO Udaleku funds.

Valerie then reported that Udaleku 2019 would be held June 16-28, 2019 at the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center and that registration would be on March 1st at 6pm PST as always. They are planning on 110 kids and the focus will be on Iparralde with an emphasis on Klika. Valerie made a motion to make 2019 Udaleku tuition \$400 that was seconded by Ricardo Yanci. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayi Petracek then recommended that \$10 be added to each transaction in order to cover the PayPal fee. Valerie moved that each transaction include a line item to cover the PayPal fee, Jean Flesher seconded and this motion also passed unanimously.

Mayi then clarified that the difference in income reported by Kate and Lisa on Udaleku 2018 do not jive with Mayi's numbers because they do not reflect the fees charged. Mayi only reports the money that actually comes into the account.



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Valerie also reported on the process to apply for the Grace Mainvil Scholarship. That information will also be provided to qualified applicants after the intent to participate is received.

2020 Udaleku will be hosted by the Basque Club of Utah.

Bylaw Special Committee Report – In the absence of the committee chair, Frank Yraguen, the committee secretary, Valerie Arrechea, reported on what the Bylaw Special committee had done since Winnemucca. The report provided includes the original wording, proposed changes and rationale for those changes. Most changes include updating to reflect technology and gender neutral language. The document will be provided online too as the printed report is in very small print.

NABO is obligated to have a physical office in Nevada as NABO is incorporated in the state of Nevada. Currently, Bob Goicoechea in Elko is our agent. As he is getting older and may no longer be interested in doing this for us, maybe we should consider finding another office in Nevada.

She requested that everyone take these for review and send her questions as they come up. The hope is to address these again at the Salt Lake City Winter meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Basques in California Project - Patty Miller reported on the Basques in California project. She reported that this project was renewed in hopes of having it ready for the World Congress fall of 2019. She explained that the exhibit is free form and that Annie Gavica would be in charge of making the website available, and that additional materials regarding the Basques today will be included as well. Patty reported that Iñigo Medina is also working with them compiling Basque names in California. It was suggested to Patty that she reach out to Joseba Etxarri who may have already done similar research.

Patty explained that the exhibit at the World Congress would be mainly digital as it only lasts for 2 days. The goal would be to first exhibit in California in 3-4 venues, and then bring it to Boise for Jaialdi 2020. She also requested that CA delegates stay after the meeting to talk about an outline from 2014 to see what interest there may be.

Ardi Baltza Application – Ardi Baltza's NABO membership application was originally presented in Winnemucca but it was incomplete. They have added some of the missing requirements and Philippe Acheritogaray had asked the special committee that reviewed the application in Winnemucca to review it again today (Noel Goyhenetche, Mercedes Mendive, Cristina Sangroniz & Annie Gavica). Annie Gavica confirmed that the Ardi Baltza application was complete except for the Basque Government registration. She said the committee's recommendation was to accept them with the caveat that they apply for Basque Government registration after their annual meeting on January 31st by the end of the first quarter of 2019. Philippe Acheritogaray mentioned that accepting an organization's application that was missing the Basque Government registration had been afforded other organizations in the past and that could be done in this case as well.

Philippe asked the delegates if they would approve their membership with the caveat of Ardi Baltza having completed the Basque Government registration by the Bakersfield meeting in May. Discussion then ensued with Chuck Erreca moving to accept them today with Mateo Franzoia seconding the motion. More discussion ensued and so Mateo withdrew his second.

Gloria Totoricagüena, who joined the meeting after lunch, pointed out that it is not a good idea to accept clubs in NABO without fully following the rules. There was then a concern whether kids from their club could attend Udaleku. Valerie made a motion to accept kids from their club at Udaleku seconded by Marisa Espinal. The motion did not carry and it was decided to not accept Ardi Baltza until their application was complete.

Basque Library – Iñaki Arrieta, head librarian at the Jon Bilbao Basque Library at the University of Nevada, Reno, presented an update on what had been done in the archival collection since Winnemucca. He reminded everyone that the archive is open to the public on the website. He also reported that several new donations have been received from Anita Anacabe, the Cengotitabengoa family, Linda Dufurrena, Teresa Poco Teague, Joan Errea papers



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as well as Frank Bergon's collection. He also highlighted new features like being able to download high-quality files that need to be cited if used, but that you no longer have to contact the library for.

Iñaki would also be interested in knowing what documents, photos, publications each club hosts, to combine in a report. He is also open to accept materials to add to the collection at the library. He also let us know that there are still some duplicate books available, so please let Iñaki know if your club would be interested in them.

Soka Dantza Exhibit - Noel Fagoaga, via telephone, summarized the Quebec Soka Dantza exhibition. They have worked on this exhibit for 6 months. The idea is to get some multi-media, interactive experience for everyone going through the exhibit. The exhibit includes 3 areas – dance, history and social reality. Quebec wants to host it, but they have technical challenges. They have been working for 6 months with the EKE, the Basque Cultural Institute in Ustaritz, to make it low tech and to lower the cost to bring it to Quebec and eventually to other places in North America, in four languages.

The exhibit presents several challenges due to its size and the cost of transporting it. He would like to know if other clubs would be in favor of supporting the exhibit. Provisional budget numbers range from \$20,000-\$30,000 for the exhibit with an additional \$8,000 to move it. Of course, Quebec can't do this alone and the more clubs that get involved the cheaper it would be. They are requesting a letter of intent from NABO and other organizations in order to apply for funding. JP Elissetche moved to provide them with a letter of support to seek funding, seconded by Jean Flesher and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

World Congress 2019 – NABO needs to choose 3 individuals to represent NABO at the Congress. This will most likely be done at the May 24th NABO meeting in Bakersfield.

Bizi Emankorra - Please bring Bizi Emankorra nominations to the winter meeting in Salt Lake.

Jone Brunelle – Jone Brunelle is requesting access to meeting recording for her research. Mayi Petracek vouched for Jone and Patty Miller then moved to grant her access seconded by Ricardo Yanci. Motion passed.

Ateak Ireki – A presentation was shown on Ateak Ireki an initiative to host people from the Diaspora in homes in the Basque Country for 8 month-long stays beginning in July to discover the Basque Country. Gloria Toticagüena said she would follow up with Iñaki and share what she learns with the clubs.

Future Meetings

Convention meeting will be in Bakersfield on Friday May 24th.

Fall Meeting will be in Mountain Home on October 12th.

Convention 2020 will be in New London.

San Francisco would like the winter meetings in 2023 and 2025 and would like to release the winter meeting in 2022 since San Francisco will be hosting the NABO convention in 2022.

Colorado would like to host Fall meeting of 2021.

The board of directors (delegates) discussed these requests and did not have any issue with them.

Adjournment

JP Elissetche moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mayi Petracek. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 3:23pm.