



# **The North American Basque Organizations, Inc.**

A Nevada Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - **DRAFT** – Virtual Meeting

November 13, 2021

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The meeting began at 8:30am. Philippe asks to take a moment to remember Mary Gaztambide, and a moment of silence was observed. Philippe then said a few words about Mary. Mary was the president when he started in NABO, and she always took time to explain things to him and always carried herself with great integrity and class. He always had great admiration for her. Philippe then asked if anyone else would like to share their thoughts. He added that he enjoyed the World Congresses with her. Lisa said what a wonderful example she was for everyone especially for the women in NABO. Wonderful person and so generous. Philippe concluded that in her later years, she always made a special effort to show up for Udaleku or NABO events. She still wanted to connect with everybody.

## **ROLL CALL**

### **NABO Officers**

President – Philippe Acheritogaray

Vice-President – Annie Gavica

Treasurer – Mayi Petracek (excused)

Secretary – Kate Camino

### **NABO Administrators**

Euskara Coordinator – Sonia Castañon

Facilitator – Kate Camino

Webmaster – Lisa Corcostegui

### **Program Directors & Committee Chairpersons**

Finance Committee – Mayi Petracek

Investment Committee – Mayi Petracek

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia

Education – John Ysursa

Euskara – Martin Goicoechea

Mus – Pierre Etcharren

Pilota – Tony Huarte

Txerriki Contest Organizer – Valerie Arrechea

Udaleku – Valerie Arrechea & Kate Camino

Euskal Kantari Eguna – Anita Izoco & Noel Goyhenetche



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## Board of Directors (delegates) Representing 42 NABO Member Organizations

### British Columbia

Zazpiak Bat: Vancouver                      Absent

### Quebec

Euskaldunak: Quebec                      Absent

### California

Bakersfield

Kern County Basque Club                      Bernadette Iturriria proxy    Bernadette Iturriria proxy

Chino

Chino Basque Club                      Anna Marie Etcheverria      Anna Marie Etcheverria proxy

Fresno

Fresno Basque Club                      JP Etchechury                      JP Etchechury proxy

Los Angeles

Oberena                      Pello Urrutia                      Pello Urrutia proxy

Los Banos

Los Banos Basque Club                      Christopher Bengochea      Jean Arambel

Marin-Sonoma

Marin-Sonoma

Basque Association                      Valerie Arrechea                      Pierre Etcharren

Ontario

Southern California

Basque Club                      Mike Aguerre                      Mike Aguerre proxy

Rocklin

Iparreko Ibarra/

Northern Valley Basque Club                      Mike Uro                      Mike Uro proxy



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San Francisco Anaitasuna Basque Club	Gina Espinal Aguerre	Marisa Espinal
San Francisco Basque Club	Valerie Arrechea proxy	Valerie Arrechea proxy
Basque Educational Organization	Anna Marie Etcheverria	Marisa Espinal
San Francisco Basque Cultural Center	Valerie Arrechea	Pierre Etcharren
Susanville Susanville Eskualdun Inc.	Dominica Zubillaga	Dominica Zubillaga proxy
Ventura County Ventura County Basque Club	Pello Urrutia	Pello Urrutia proxy
<b>Colorado</b>		
Denver Euskal Etxea	Jone Brunelle	Jone Brunelle proxy
<b>Saint Pierre et Miquelon</b>		
Euskal Etxea SPM	Absent	
<b>Idaho</b>		
Boise Basque Museum & Cultural Center	Annie Gavica	Cindy Schaffeld
Basque Studies at Boise State University	John Ysursa	Nere Lete
Cenarrusa Foundation	Absent	
Euzkaldunak: Boise Basque Center	Ricardo Yanci	Ricardo Yanci proxy



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Oinkari Basque Dancers	Michael Lejardi	Ruth Manthey-Wray
Gooding		
Gooding Basque Association	Sonia Castañon proxy	Sonia Castañon proxy
Homedale		
Txoko Ona Basque Club	Annie Gavica proxy	Annie Gavica proxy
Mountain Home		
Euskal Lagunak	Absent	
<b>Nevada</b>		
Battle Mountain		
Battle Mountain Oberenak	Annie Gavica proxy	Cindy Schaffeld proxy
Elko		
Elko Euzkaldunak Club	Mercedes Mendive	Kate Camino proxy
Gardnerville		
Mendiko Euskaldun Cluba	Noel Arraiz	Noel Arraiz proxy
Las Vegas		
Lagun Onak	Ricardo Yanci proxy	Ricardo Yanci proxy
Paradise Valley		
Santa Rosa Basque Club	Annie Gavica	Annie Gavica proxy
Reno		
Center for Basque Studies	Kate Camino	Kate Camino proxy
Zazpiak Bat		
Reno Basque Club	Enrike Corcostegui	Dominica Zubillaga
Winnemucca		
Euskaldunak Danak Bat	Absent	





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## Basque Government Report

Benan talks a little bit about how we connect differently due to the Pandemic. With the grants, everyone received monies at the beginning thinking they would still be able to hold events, but were not. Many activities weren't completed due to the pandemic, so grants are being reduced due to that. He knows NABO decided not to apply but other clubs have decided to apply. From now on, everything will be done electronically. There was a process to verify identities and the number of applications received is much lower than usual, and activities still haven't rebounded. Because there are fewer applications, they can't spend all of their monies, and so they are going to have 25,000 not allotted to anyone. They are going to offer the same amount as every year next year, and are hoping that all of the monies will be allocated from now on. For the first time ever, the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) in collaboration with their office launched the Masters in the Basque Diaspora. It has been very successful and enrollment is high. It began in October and will run through June. There are about 25 people involved from all over the world, all folks specialized in Basque Diaspora. It addresses 8 aspects of the Basque Diaspora. He feels that it is very complete, and some of the lessons are taught in English.

Philippe asks if clubs will lose points for not applying.

Benan doesn't think so as long as you still have remained active.

Philippe thanks Benan for joining and thanks Eusko Jaurlaritza for all of the support provided us through the years.

**Minute Approval** - Move to approve minutes from San Francisco – Pierre moves to approve minutes seconded by Lisa C. – All in favor – Passes unanimously

**Treasurer's report** – Mayi is excused. Philippe reviews her report, if there are questions we can't answer he'll ask her and respond later. Refer to her report.

**Committee Reports** – Please refer to committee reports included in meeting documents

**Pilota**- Tony Huarte – Organized games for SF besta and NABO meeting and after that some players competed in Chino at their picnic. 2021 finals didn't take place but those games did. Next week there is a World Pilota Council meeting they really help pilota worldwide. He will have an update from that meeting at February's meeting. He would like to mention that the Trinquet in Chino has sold and so the Trinquet will be removed. Since this was one



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of the spots they used at least once a year, he felt it was important to let us know. Next year hoping to have 2022 NABO finals in New England or maybe in Boise at Jaialdi – or maybe split it up? Hoping for as many events as possible next year.

Ander wants to talk about having pilota in NEBC convention. There are frontons there too. Philippe thanks Tony for working hard on pilota and always bringing the enthusiasm.

**Euskara** – Sonia begins. Always want more teachers/students and classes and would like to have a central enrollment. Have started talking about this at the last meeting. Still meeting with teachers regularly. No workshop this year, but hope to do so next year. Most classes are virtual – Aisa is no longer being used but there is a free self-guided class online. Fall classes from September –December. May be at risk of losing grant monies due to either low student or class numbers. Reached out to those who signed up in San Francisco who may be interested in creating more classes. Boise Summer course was a wild success. Same number of classes since August, but numbers of students have dropped a bit. May increase in January in Boise. Monthly meetings held with Nere and Ziortza. Their Irakasle Txokoa (Teachers' Corner) is awesome many thanks to thme for their time and expertise. Hoping for more teacher enthusiasm. Still looking at a standardized North American curriculum specific for both teachers and students. Would love to collaborate with universities and even other independent course creators.

Annie includes that Susana is creating that for the Museum. First level- first semester is being concluded. Have gotten a lot of great feedback from others. In the fall will have level 1,2,3 hoping to have 6 years of language classes. Hits all goals and points that are required. Mike Uro shares the news about Aprender Euskera available on YouTube for Spanish Speakers. There are all kinds of lessons he thinks it is a good resource.

Martin – Euskara Munduan online has replaced Aisa. He submitted justification but hasn't yet submitted the grant. The grant deadline is Monday he now has numbers to submit. If you are planning to teach in January, let him know by Monday. Out of 80 Euskal Etxeas the US is the only one that says Euskara Munduan doesn't work. They offer it free and give us grants, and have spent thousands of dollars to help us. Two years ago, we had 16 classes and 160 students.

Sonia provided numbers a couple of weeks ago.

Nere is happy to provide the class for as long as it is needed. Happy to help instructors individually as well. She teaches how to envision a class and how to have clear goals. The second meeting talked about remote instruction challenges, where she shared some online tools. She has also shared some tools that Izaskun Kortazar had created. Will send their stuff to Sonia and she can forward it on to her instructors. She will send an invite for the



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beginning of December. They are open to get questions during the month so they can be addressed at the meetings. Nere wants everything to always go through Sonia.

Sonia thanks Nere for her resources.

Annie – Museum contracts require a minimum of 7 students, and teachers also have to attend one of Nere and Ziortza's classes. Once you attend one you'll want to continue.

Annie will be talking to Kinku because she knows Kinku is talking to Susana to see what can be done on their end. In regards to curriculum, if students don't like it, and it can't be adjusted then students aren't passionate about Euskara Munduan.

Martin – Kinku says 16 hours isn't enough. Hardly no activity in Euskara Munduan. Nobody is researching what Euskara Munduan is. If we abandon Etxepare programs don't expect any grants.

Mini courses are not within of the parameters of Euskara Munduan, but are just fun extra activities. As such, they will no longer count those among their numbers.

Kinku is willing to purchase the new program to make it part of the Euskara Munduan. The goal is to make the Euskara program better.

Sonia – the hope was not to replace Euskara Munduan but to incorporate it in a meaningful way for our students here. Make it more useful for us.

## **COFFEE BREAK 9:55AM – RESUME AT 10:05AM**

**Finance & Investment** covered earlier. Questions can be sent to Mayi directly.

**Calendar report** – Calendars are moving and calendars are selling.

Jean Arambel – what is the last date to submit calendar information before printing.

Marylou likes all information in by June 15<sup>th</sup> to have it done by end of July

Philippe – will 2023 follow the 2022 format? Yes it will. Mary Lou thanks clubs for participating.

**Education Report** – The BEO and Museum have natural education components and he encourages regular clubs to also incorporate education in their events. One recommendation is to piggyback on Day of the Basque Diaspora instead of creating a new event. BSU put together an event on that day on Zoom and the first event went well. The event was 3 hours long focusing on Graduate student activities. John has many resources for clubs who would like to do something different.

Facilitator Report – We will receive the remainder of the 2020 grant for sure. Lisa will include earlier versions of Kantari Eguna on our YouTube channel.



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## **Euskal Kantari Eguna** – October 28, 2022 in Rocklin

**Mus** – Pierre is very happy with how mus is going this year. Hard to get it going but ended up with 28 clubs participating, so we are back to the same numbers we saw in 2019. Created five regions this year with 5 coordinators to run those tournaments. Split CA because 50% of the players are in California. Some non-Basque players made it to the finals this year. Idaho regional today in Boise, NABO finals also next weekend in Boise. Thanks everyone who hosted a regional tournament. We are hoping to go back to normal next year with finals on the Saturday before Father's Day. International Mus will be in Boise October 9-15<sup>th</sup>. Have shared that news with others in International Mus. This year's NABO champions will go to Chile in April for the MercoMus Tournament.

Financially not worried about how we will make it because dues continue to come in. Pierre asks everyone to please teach their kids how to play mus. Thanks all regional coordinators and clubs for their efforts this year.

Philippe – impressive that everyone got their tournaments in with a shortened calendar. Pierre - Coordinators went after clubs in each region to participate. Nice to see father/son and father/daughter teams in the finals. – 10 teams in the finals 2 per region all will play 9 games. Many clubs are talking about combining Mus and Picnics so encourages everyone to support other clubs.

**Txerriki** – Valerie – We hope to hold it in 2022, stay tuned.

**Udaleku** – Valerie – This year's camp will be in Bakersfield potentially on June 12-25<sup>th</sup>. Have had some really good conversations with them. Refer to report. Not quite sure what camp will look like. We will be following OSHA regulations. Majority of classes held outside. One week or 2 week? Changing the age to accommodate kids who missed last 2 years? Require vaccinations? Would like to hear from everyone regarding ideas on Udaleku, but final decision is up to Kern County and the NABO committee.

**Music Report** – Please refer to her report and contact her directly with any questions.

**Ateak Ireki** – Please refer to her report and contact her directly with any questions. June 27<sup>th</sup>-July 17<sup>th</sup> Vaccines required and those who applied 2 years ago get preference.



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**Basque Library Updates** – Iñaki Arrieta – Wanted to share some news, we are almost back to normal, and since July 1 we are open to the public. All online services provided during the pandemic are still in place as well if you prefer to visit remotely.

Iñaki has tried to document the effect of the pandemic on clubs and other organizations. The goal is to maintain an archive for the future. They will keep that archive open until next year. Thanks Joana Arrechea for her help.

Raymond Uhalde contacted Iñaki to share family stories with the library. Iñaki created a digital collection of family stories to make them easy to access. He also agreed to share them publically so anyone can access them for their research. That collection is already available on the website.

Eneko Bidegain has been there for a couple of months as the Jon Bilbao Fellow for 2021 and he has visited several Basque communities.

Please reach out to him with any questions, or suggestions, or reach out to Kate.

## **Old Business** –

Is there any word on Jaialdi? Ricardo said the final decision will be made at a meeting in December. Idaho hospitals are still in critical care mode.

**Bertsolari Special Tribute** - March 12, 2022 – all the same people who were going to participate in 2020 will be part of the event in 2022. There are many collaborators, and NABO will only be on the hook for about \$1,000.

Jean spoke on behalf of the Gaztambide family and expressed their thanks to NABO.

**New Business** – Thierry Arsaut – Fonts page – Can fonts be restored if computer has been changed? Philippe is asking for the ok to renew the agreement with fonts, and now we would provide the license etc. and maybe call them Thierry Arsaut fonts since they are his interpretation. Jean moves to go forward with this. Valerie seconds.

Mary Lou uses these in the calendar.

Valerie – if we are not charging for the fonts can we make them downloadable on the website?

Philippe thinks there has to be some kind of control that we still have to license them even if there is no cost.

Jean Arambel – who do they talk to, to get the fonts?

Philippe, Kate or Lisa

All in favor – passes unanimously.



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**NABO Facilitator and Euskara Coordinator** – Kate and Sonia have agreed to continue for another year. Valerie moves to rehire them, and Chris Bengochea seconds. All in favor – passes unanimously.

**Future Meetings** - refer to agenda

SFBCC on February 19, 2022

New London Convention – Ander – new dates August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> to coincide with their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Originally wanted to collaborate with Jaialdi, but now will try to coordinate with SPM to share entertainment and so the date change. Will make the final decision in the next week and will let us know.

Valerie – SPM is the 20<sup>th</sup>? – Falls on SFBCC besta and they have the Klika from Iholdi coming.

Ander – Yes, SPM begins on the 19<sup>th</sup> and runs through the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

2023 marks NABO's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will be in Chino or Los Banos – Los Banos would like to host convention that year. Hope to be back on track by then. Traditionally held the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May. Dinner on Saturday night and picnic on Sunday.

Philippe said Chino is ok with Los Banos hosting 2023 convention. Worth creating a special committee to work with Los Banos to incorporate anything special in that celebration on the NABO perspective.

Jean Pierre moves to create this special committee – Marisa seconds. All in favor – passes unanimously.

Chris, Kate, Philippe, Valerie, Annie Gavica, Iñaki Arrieta, Ander – Kate Chair of the special committee.

Motion to make Kate committee chair – Chris moves, and Mercedes seconds – all in favor – passes unanimously.

Philippe thanks everyone for joining today and thanks all chairs and everyone. That's how NABO works, members make NABO happen. Thanks for proxies so we can meet quorum. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you all in February at SFBCC for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Meeting adjourns at 11:30am.