



SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH, INC.

Teacher Committee Meeting Notes September, 2025 Draft A

1. Meeting

1a Time/Place

2:00 PM, Zoom

1b Attendees

Armin Busse, Chair
Tom Ward, Secretary
Sara Gratiot
Alan Twigg,
Kathy Jorgenson
Don MacQueen
Juliet Davoren
Paula Jacobson
Trina Merriman
Robert Sargent

1c Regrets

Kathy Allen
Linda Henderson
Kristi Closser
Geoffrey Wood
Bruce Herbold
Laura Cooper
Sandra Schultz
Bradley Hobbs
Fred DeMarse
Tim Wilson
Dwayne McQuilliams
Mary McQuilliams

2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Armin Busse, Chair

3. Review and Adjust Agenda

Tom added “Games Party Programming” to New Business

4. Old Business

4a. Review and Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting

No modifications were noted to the Draft B document.

Motion, Alan: That we approve the prior minutes.

Passed: Without objection

4b. Party Program Committee Reports

Programs for the Kim McGarrity Ball, October MP, November MP, and Valentines Ball are all complete. March & April MP Programs will be prepared by Bruce and Kathy J by December 1. May & June programs will be done by February 1.

4c Party Programming Guidelines

Bruce & Sara reported on the “*one last round*” draft document distributed in July.

Two new paragraphs were added at the beginning showing the history of development and contributions to the new document.

There was a discussion about whether half of Ball program dances should come from the Branch repertoire, as that might be too constraining. Geoffrey has been doing this, but it doesn’t seem to be a hard historic pattern.

There was a discussion about whether the history of the core dances was significant and perhaps should be kept separate.

Final edits were made during the meeting, with the finished document to be distributed to Teachers and posted with the Branch website Resources.

Motion: To approve the document as edited

Moved: Tom

Seconded: Alan

Passed without objection

4d Teacher’s Workshop

Ron Wallace’s presentation on music for programs has been put onto the TAC website. **<I need the address from Alan / Trina>.**

5. New Business

5a Liaison with Branch Committee

Don MacQueen reported that the BC had not met since June. The Branch Committee has decided to make no more major investments in maintenance or repair of the High Stage for the Games. We are asking the Fairgrounds to store the unit indoors. If the High Stage becomes unusable, alternatives for scheduling dances and adjudications may need to be developed.

5b *Liaison with Teachers Association of Canada*

Trina Merriman reporting.

Summer School attendance was reduced, and the number of Teachers was reduced from four to three. The high quality of the event was maintained and it went well. The 2026 date has been set, but not the location.

Management subgroups have been working hard on different strategic plan elements and are making progress. Kathy J is serving on two committees. Don has volunteered to support redevelopment of the TAC website. There has been a change in leadership of subcommittees for Sound and Candidates. Sound retailing has been shifted to Canada. New US tariffs will impact pricing.

5c *North American Dance Competition*

The Branch is supporting preparations for teams wishing to attend the competition. Practice / teaching sessions have been arranged under the direction of Ron Wallace, Linda Henderson, Mary MacQuilliams and others.

5d *Games Party Programming*

Tom asked that the programming for the Games Party be done by a programming committee so that it can be compliant with the new programming guidelines and with guidelines specific to the event.

6. Additional Items

6a *Zooming*

Armin is seeking a permanent standing Zoom link for the TC meetings, making it easier to administer scheduling and execution.

6b *New Teacher*

Congratulations to Michael Gregg, who completed his Teaching Certificate. Armin to add Michael to the Teachers' reflector email list.

6c *May Party and Catalina Workshop*

The May Monthly Party and Annual General Meeting have been shifted from May 2 to May 9 to avoid conflict with the Catalina Workshop.

7. Wrap-up

7a *Next Meetings*

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026.

Subsequent meetings are scheduled for:

Saturday, May 30, 2026 (weekend after Memorial Day)

Saturday, September 26, 2026

7b Call for Adjournment

Motion, Sara: That the meeting adjourn.

Seconded Alan:

Passed: Without objection

Meeting was adjourned at 4:33 PM.