

Bygdelagenes Fellesraad  
**Minutes of the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
May 7, 2005

The Annual Meeting of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad was held May 7, 2005, at Mindekirken in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

President Marilyn Somdahl called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and welcomed everyone to the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad.

The National Anthems of both the United States and Norway were sung, accompanied by Diane Lerohl.

Pastor Jens Dale of Mindekirken welcomed everyone to the church. He stated that Mindekirken is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Pastor Dale also said his family is returning to Norway this summer after three years in Minnesota. He invited everyone to attend the worship service June 7, 2005 to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Norway's independence from Sweden. He also invited everyone to attend various concerts coming to Mindekirken in May and June.

Roll Call

Secretary Sonia Rache called the roll for each bygdelag. The following lags had delegates (number listed following the name): Gudbrandsdal (2), Hadeland (2), Hallinglag (2), Hardanger (1), Landingslag (2), Møre og Romsdal (1), Nordfjord (2), North Hedmark og Hedemarken (2), Nordhordland (1), Nordlandslag (2), Ringerike-Drammen (2), Rogaland (2), Romerikslag (2), Sigdalslag (2), Sognalag (2), Solør Lag (1), Sunnfjord (2), Sunnhordland (1), Telemag (2), Toten (1), Trønderlag (2), Valdres Samband (2), and Vestlandslag (1).

The delegates were asked to introduce themselves and tell of any special anniversary plans or planned trips to Norway. (List attached)

Secretary's Report

A motion was made and seconded and carried to accept the Secretary's report of the May 1, 2004, meeting as printed in Bygdelagenes Fellesraad's *BULLETIN*.

Treasurer's Report

The audited Treasurer's report for April 30, 2005, was presented by R. Lee Brown, treasurer, along with a copy of the budget for the year 5/1/04 to 4/30/05. The Treasurer's report of April 30, 2005, shows a checking account balance of \$ 3, 067.45 and total assets of \$71, 305.31. The audit was prepared by Leland Randall. A motion was made to accept the financial reports as presented.

The motion was seconded and carried. (Copy of financial report, budget and audit are attached).

#### Elections

The following slate of officers was read by Sonia Rache, secretary, and placed in nomination for the next year:

President, Marilyn Søndahl  
Vice President, Marilyn Sorensen  
Treasurer, R. Lee Brown  
Secretary, Sonia Rache  
Webmaster/Director, Eugene Rodi  
Director, Bruce Boyce

Vice President Marilyn Sorensen called for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made to close nominations and accept the slate as presented. The motion was seconded and carried.

#### Reports

Webmaster Gene Rodi reported the web site has new features. A PDF file is now available. He stated that the most recent brochure is downloadable online. There are also other forms available for use online. He requested that all information and changes to sites be sent to him so the sites can be kept up to date. You can get to all other lag sites from the [www.fellesraad.com](http://www.fellesraad.com) site.

Vice President Marilyn Sorensen spoke briefly on genealogy. She stated that genealogy really keeps us connected to Norway. She asked delegates to check with their lag genealogists to see if they would like to get together to discuss needs, training or other Fellesraad assistance. If so, please contact Marilyn Sorensen.

Marilyn Søndahl, president, said her report was printed in the April 2005 newsletter, which was sent to all lags. Marilyn reminded everyone to let her know if lag officers (past or present) pass away during the year so we can send the family a memorial. Norway House continues to raise money from large contributors for a proposed house in Minneapolis. She also said *Norway: Portrait of a Nation*, which retails for \$129 plus tax, is available to each *bygdelag* and delegates for \$99 plus tax (\$103.95). She reminded each lag to keep the Fellesraad president informed of activities and contacts so the brochure and advertising information can be kept up to date.

Old Business: None

#### New Business:

A review of the ad in Viking Magazine was conducted. The negatives were misspellings in the headings, but they multiply when the ad is copied. Also, is the ad cost productive?

The positives are that the ad is copied and used by other groups. It may also be good for small lags to get their names out that don't have a big marketing budget. All lag information was correct.

A motion was made to proceed with the same ad for next year and charge \$15.00 per lag. January 15<sup>th</sup> is the date for information to be submitted. The motion was seconded and carried.

It was recommended that all lags poll their membership to see if they think the Sons of Norway ad is productive.

There was no further business.

#### Announcements

Bob O'Neil, president of the Norwegian American Genealogy Association, invited everyone to attend their meetings the last Wednesday evening of each month at their Golden Valley location.

Mary Jo Thorsheim invited everyone to view the 1905 posters she has on display.

#### Lag Anniversaries and Trips

Hadeland, Land, Møre og Romsdal, Rogaland, Solør and Toten are celebrating their 95<sup>th</sup> anniversaries this year. Romerikslag and North Hedmark og Hedemarken are each celebrating 10<sup>th</sup> anniversaries.

Gudbrandsdal, Hadeland, Land, Nordfjord and Nordfjord-WI, Trønderlag, Voss and Sognefjord are planning 2005 trips to Norway.

The business meeting was adjourned at 11 AM.

#### Program

Marilyn Somdahl read a poem, "Is There a Woman," to introduce the speaker. Trude Dale, wife of Pastor Jens Dale, presented the cultural program. She is a career Norwegian journalist and presented a program entitled, "Reflections on Three Years in Minnesota," using visual aids and slides.

A delicious lunch was served at noon by several Mindekirken women.

Respectfully submitted,



Sonia H. Rache, Secretary

May 7, 2005