

**BYGDELAGENES FELLESRAAD**  
Minutes of the 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting – May 5, 2012

The 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad was held May 5, 2012, at Mindekirken in Minneapolis, Minnesota. President Marilyn Somdahl called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and welcomed delegates and guests. She then introduced the Fellesraad Officers.

The Norwegian, Canadian and American National Anthems were sung with Sandy Hendrickson at the piano.

**GREETINGS:** The Honorary Consul General Gary Gandrud brought greetings. Tamra Foster, President of Sunnfjord, had her picture taken with the Honorary Consul General. Sunnfjord lag is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. And they are the 21<sup>st</sup> lag to do so.

**ROLL CALL:** The roll call for each Bygdelaag was read by Sonia Rache, and the delegates answered with their names and the number of members in their lag. They also told about members who had participated in any of the October activities during the visit of the Norwegian Monarchs. The number of delegates is listed following the lag's name:

Gudbrandsdalslag (2); Hadeland Lag (2); Hallinglag (2); Hardanger Lag (1); Landingslag (2); Møre og Romsdal Lag (2); Nordfjordlag (2); Nord Hedmark og Hedmarken Lag (1); Nordhordland/Sunnhordland Lag (1); Nordlandslag (2); Ringerike Drammen Districts Lag (2); Rogaland Lag (2); Romerikslag (2); Sigdalslag (2); Sognalag (2); Sognefjord Lag (1); Solør Lag (2); Sunnfjord Lag (1); Telelag (2); Toten (2); Tronderlag (2); Valdres Samband (2); Vestlandslag (2); and Vosselag (2).

**Memorials:** Old Muskego Church's maintenance Fund will receive a gift in memory of lag leaders or their families whose deaths were reported this year. Lorraine Sloan, Gudbrandsdalslag; George Hawley and DeLos C. Olson, Hadeland; Amanda Tufte, Hallinglag; Everette Herness, Landingslag; Christian K. Skjervold II, Nordlandslag & Fellesraad; Elaine Smiley, Nord Hedmark og Hedmarken; Lena Homme, Ruth Roosa, Lucille Tunheim and Gladys Zeller, Numedalslaagen; John Kuecker, Opdalslag; Marion Hoff and Alice Gronseth, Sigdalslag; Lorinda J. Grefsrud, Romerikslag/Solør Lag; Andrew & Fern Wulff, Sognalag, Robert Christensen, Marv Bergland, John Kirn, Audrey Overland and Charlotte Sersland, Telelag; Alice Brask, Tronderlag; Corella Hamre, Valdres Samband; Jean Legried, Vestlandslag.

Muskego Church will have a service at 3 P.M. May 17 and will serve lefse on the lawn after the service.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** A motion was made seconded and carried to accept the Secretary's Minutes of May 7, 2011, as printed in the newsletter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer's report for April 30, 2012, along with the budget for the year ending April 30, 2012, were presented by R. Lee Brown, Treasurer. The books, records and ledgers for the period May 1, 2011, through April 30, 2012, were audited and found in order by Robert O'Neil.

A motion was made to accept the financial statements and audit as presented. The motion was seconded and carried. (Copy of the financial reports is attached).

**ELECTIONS:** The slate of officers was read by Secretary, Sonia Rache, and placed in nomination for the next year: President, Marilyn Somdahl; Vice President, Marilyn Sorensen; Treasurer, R. Lee Brown; Secretary, Sonia Rache; Webmaster/Director, EuGene Rodi; and Director, Eunice Helgeson. Marilyn Sorensen called for nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made to close nominations and to accept the slate as presented. The motion was seconded and carried with one opposing vote.

**REPORTS:** President Marilyn Somdahl's report was printed in the newsletter. Some requests were outlined in the newsletter so that all delegates get the same information.

Vice President, Marilyn Sorensen, reported that since 2006 we have had a program in conjunction with the Norwegian Lag Week at the Family History Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, which she has attended and helped set up. Next year Norwegian Lag Week will be March 13-19, 2013. An average of 15 people attend each year.

**BROCHURES:** Webmaster EuGene Rodi stated that each lag can print out current brochures in two formats--legal size or 8.5 by 11 paper--from the web site, and send the bill to Fellesraad.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Lags have contributed to print advertising in the Viking Magazine since 2004. A motion was made and seconded to have each lag continue to contribute \$15.00 toward print advertising of the dates and sites of lag stevner for 2013 in the Viking Magazine. A motion was made and seconded to amend the motion to zero dollars per lag contribution, and have the Fellesraad pay the entire sum. Delegates voted for the amendment by standing with 14 votes in favor and 27 votes opposed. The amendment failed. The vote on the original motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Eunice Helgeson reported that 2016 is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fellesraad. The Board has begun planning a two-day celebration in July or August of 2016. The two-day event would feature history on Friday, and look forward to the future of our lags and focus on the younger generation on Saturday. Each lag can be a part of the future plans. Eunice asked delegates to volunteer and define the area of their strongest skills and interest on a sign-up sheet.

**PROGRAM:** Jackie Henry, the administrative director of NAHA, Northfield, MN, spoke. Her topic was "Using the Norwegian-American Historical Association as a Bygdslag Archive".

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The Syttende Mai Banquet is being held May 17 at Minnesota Valley Country Club. Brochures are available with a choice of activities.

**TRIPS and BOOKS:** Halling lag has a July 28-August 11, 2012, trip to Norway. Sigdal has an August 30-September 10, 2012, trip to Norway and a book in production. Gudbrandsdal and Teletag are also planning Norway trips. Both have several books available. Hadeland lag and Solør lag have centennial books. Landingslag now has their book on immigrants available in Wisconsin and Minnesota on inter-library loan.

Gracia Grindal has a new book "Hymns and Spiritual Songs from The North" available for about \$32.00.

Marilyn Somdahl reported that the Fellesraad had helped finance the publication of Odd Lovoll's book, "A Folk Epic: The Bygdelag in America," that Jackie Henry had with her.

The Doxology was sung. The meeting was adjourned at noon. We then enjoyed a delicious lunch.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sonia H. Rache". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Sonia H. Rache, Secretary