

N.A.B.O. Meeting Minutes
San Francisco, California
February 13, 2010

President, Valerie Arrechea opened meeting at 8:10 am

Welcome by Philippe Acheritogaray, President of San Francisco Basque Cultural Center (SFBC). Philippe gave a brief summary of the schedule for the weekend, and a short history of the founding of the San Francisco Basque Club of and the SFBC. He then showed a short promotional clip of the upcoming Bertso Jaialdia to be held at 4:00 pm, on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center. This is one event celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the San Francisco Basque Club which was started because of an interrupted Bertso performance. The N.A.B.O. meeting was co-hosted by both the SFBC and the San Francisco Basque Club.

Introductions and Roll Call

Officers

President – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea
Vice-President – Mary Gaztambide
Treasurer – Grace Mainvil
Secretary – Marisa Espinal
Facilitator – John Ysursa
Euskara Coordinator – Izaskun Kortazar

Committee Chairpersons

Calendars – Mary Lou Urrutia, excused
Video – Jesus Pedroarena
Euskara – Martin Goicoechea, Izaskun Kortazar
Udaleku – Valerie Etcharren Arrechea, Kate Camino
Mus – Pierre Etcharren
Junior Mus – Gina Espinal-Aguerre
Pilota – Evelyne Etcharren
History – Argitxu Camus Etchecopar, excused
Beti Gazte – Vasco Bilbao (excused), Tyler Smith

Club Delegates

Alkartasuna	Martin Goicoechea
Anaitasuna Basque Club	Gina Espinal-Aguerre
	Marisa Espinal
Basque Educational Organization	Yvonne Hauscarriague
	Phillipe Acheritogaray (proxy)
Basque Club of Utah	Mary Gaztambide

Basque Museum & Cultural Center

Big Horn Basque Club

Boise Euskaldanak, Inc.

Cenarrusa Foundation for Basque Culture
Center for Basque Studies

Chino Basque Club

Elko Basque Club

Euskaldunak Quebec

Euskal Lagunak-Mountain Home B. C.

Fresno Basque Club

Gardnerville Mendiko Euskaldun Club

Iparreko Ibarra Basque Club

Kern County Basque Club

Marin Sonoma Basque Association

Oberena Club

Oinkari Dancers

Ontario Basque Club

Reno Zazpiak Basque Club

San Francisco Basque Club

San Francisco Basque Cultural Center

Santa Rosa Basque Club

Seattle Euskal Etxea

Southern California Basque Club

Ventura Basque Club

Winnemucca Basque Club

Nancy Trevino

Patty Miller

Cindy Schaffeld

Alberta Escoz

Jean Escoz

Steve Achabal

Annie Gavica

Gloria Totoricaguena

Lisa Corcostegui(proxy)

Kate Camino

Cathy Biscaichipy

John Ysursa

Teresa Franzoia(proxy)

Anita Anacabe Franzoia(proxy)

Monique Behaxeteguy

Ernest Behaxeteguy

Joe Lasuen

Goisalde Jausoro

Tony Campos

Juliet Campos

Noel Arraiz

Becky Sarratea-Murphy

Mike Uro

Noel Goyhenetche

Louis Iturriria

John Goyenetche

Pierre Etcharren

Evelyne Etcharren (proxy)

Manuel Villanueva

Tyler Smith

Ricardo Yanci (proxy)

Grace Mainvil

Lisa Corcostegui

Manny Villanueva(proxy)

Jean Louis Curutchet

Jean Pierre Elissetche

Arantxa Arriada

Annie Gavica (proxy)

Joe Guerricabeitia

Danielle Bock-Grande

Mike Aguerre + proxy

Jose Louis Urrutia

Brenda Willey

Guests

Enrike Corcostegui, Ontario Basque Club

Benan Oregi, Basque Government

Kinku Zinkunegi, HABE

Jean Gaztambide, Basque Club of Utah

Frances Pedroarena, Gardnerville Mendiko Euskaldun Club

Adelaide Daraspe, Euskaldunak Quebec

Corrections to October 10, 2009 Minutes;

Mary Gaztambide pointed out some misspelled names;

Roger Minhondo, not Jose, under Xiberoa exchange, in the Facilitators report it is Miren Azcarate. Mary reminded everyone the meeting in 2011 will be in Salt Lake City, Utah.

- Moved by Tony Campos of Fresno Basque Club to accept the minutes with corrections. Seconded by Nancy Trevino of Basque Club of Utah. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report (Grace Mainvil)

Grace thanked the Basque Government (BG) for the grant. N.A.B.O. received 86% of the money asked for, all of which is designated for specific N.A.B.O. projects. Grace reviewed the account holdings. The Savings account is earning .05%. See addendum in Facilitator's packet for full details.

Grace reminded those clubs with pelota courts to pay their \$100 dues. Six clubs have pelota courts. It costs \$600 to belong to the Pilota Federation.

The Mus CD's mature in 2011. N.A.B.O. was asked last year to host the 2010 tournament rather than 2011 as originally planned because Uruguay will not be able to do it. There will be a penalty (the loss of six months of interest) for removing the funds before the maturation date. Mus projects have always been self-sufficient. The \$10.00 membership due per person has accumulated over the years to cover the cost of hosting the 2010 International Mus Tournament. Patty Miller asked about the minimum amount due. Each club that holds a tournament must pay a minimum of \$100. The total amount due is the number of players x \$10.00.

The Calendar income is kept in the Educational Fund. Some clubs have still not paid for their calendars. The checking account is in the red, but held in same account as Euskera, so it is not a problem for the bank. The BG grant funds were wired into the general account rather than the Educational Fund. There were two BG grants for the Euskara account, one for Euskara and one for HABE.

Grace reminded everyone about the per member due increase from 50 cents to \$1.00. 25 cents of that goes to the Aita Marcel Tillous Memorial Youth Fund.

The Jean Leon Irribaren Fund is earmarked for pilota. Jean Leon was from the San Francisco clubs. He was president of N.A.B.O. at the time of his death. The IRS# is available if anyone needs it for taxes after a donation.

Valerie thanked Grace for her meticulous work.

Committee Reports (see attached addendum for submitted written reports)

Video (Jesus Pedroarena) - Jesus reported the ETB sometimes has technical difficulties so he emails or Skypes ETB to let them know. ETB Sat and Canal Vasco have switched to Adobe so the quality is better.

He purchased a Panasonic VCR converter in 1992 to convert PAL tapes sent from the Basque Government into VHS. He is storing a lot of outdated, obsolete equipment. Jesus is interested in purchasing certain pieces. Gloria Tortoricaguena suggested sending the outdated equipment to Brazil. Jesus thought that would be too expensive to ship. He suggested giving it to the Library or the Center for Basque Studies at University of Nevada Reno (UNR). Kate Camino said the UNR would only be interested in the tapes, not in equipment. Possibly the equipment could be donated. Jesus has volunteered since 1992 and never charged for storage or his work.

- Martin Goicoechea motioned we donate to Jesus any of the equipment he wants to keep and that he dispose of all outdated equipment. Seconded by Cindy Schaffeld. Unanimously passed.

Calendars (Mary Lou Urrutia) Report submitted by Mary Lou, read by the President. The dates in the calendars are not always accurate. A system is being developed where clubs can go online and be responsible for checking the proofs and verifying dates. The deadline for photos and info for the 2011 calendar is May 31, 2010. The calendars should be ready for Jaialdi.

History (Argitxu Camus Etchecopar) The full report submitted by Argitxu can be found the addendum. Argitxu is still working on the California Basque Heritage Project.

Pilota (Evelyne Etcharren) – Evelyn reported it will be an exciting year for Pilota. The Mundials will be held in Pau, France in October. She has asked all clubs who have players who would like to participate to submit their names and she will forward them to the U.S. Federation. The World Pilota Council will be hosting an International Women's Pilota Goma Tournament the week before Jaialdi, with participation by the Basque Country, Mexico, Argentina, Australia, Venezuela and the United States. Evelyn invited the delegates to watch the pilota games between players from the Basque Country and local players from San Francisco being held that weekend. Evelyn reminded delegates that dues for clubs with Pilota Courts are past due. She thanked the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center for paying their dues on time.

Udaleku (Valerie Arrechea, Kate Camino) – Kate Camino reported Udaleku 2010 will be in Reno, Nevada from June 21st - July 2nd. The meeting date is Sunday, June 20th at Bishop Manogue Catholic High School where the camp will be held. The parents of participants can meet the host families at this time.

Lisa Corcostegui will teach Culture and Dance. Eneko Espino, from the Basque Country, will teach txistu. Jexux Larrea, also from the Basque Country will teach Dance. Izazkun Kortazar will teach the children Basque on BOGA so they can continue to study online after Udaleku and go back and teach others in their community how to use BOGA.

The Zazpiak Bat Basque Club was awarded an \$880.00 grant from the Nevada Humanities Council towards the travel of one of the instructors from the Basque Country. Kate is pursuing another grant from the Nevada Arts Council to help with other travel costs. Gina Espinal Aguerre congratulated Kate on securing funds for Udaleku from sources other than the Basque Government.

Udaleku 2011 will be in San Francisco. It will be in the northern region for 2012.

Beti Gazte (Vasco Bilbao, report by Tyler Smith):

The purpose of this new committee is to involve younger members(15 – 25 yrs.) from various Basque clubs in the event planning process and also to develop friendships. The first annual event is July 3rd in Elko in conjunction with their festival. Elko is centrally located and the date was set before Jaialdi in the hopes that youth would have another opportunity to get together later that month at Jaialdi. The committee has met to organize through conference calls. They are considering making scarves or bracelets for all who participate to commemorate the event and to identify each other at future events. They ask that all clubs promote the event in newsletters throughout the year. The committee is requesting \$1000.00 from NABO as a start-up budget. Goisalde Jausoro asked where the money would come from. Grace would set up a line item in the General Account. They will also be charging for the BBQ. All proceeds will be used for future sustainability. The group will be asking clubs to donate as well. Mike Aguerre is concerned that the Chino dancers will honor their commitment to dance at the SoCal picnic which will be at the same time as the Beti Gazte event. Valerie assured him the Gaden Bat dancers were aware of the date conflict and would be missing the event in Elko.

- Martin Goicoechea motioned to grant the Beti Gazte Youth Committee the \$1000.00 seed money. Joe Lasuen seconded. Unanimously passed.

Mus (Pierre Etcharren): The finals will be in Winemucca on June 12th. Pierre requested that all clubs send a list of winners and if possible photos by June 1st. Pierre reported the International Mus Tournament will hold events over ten days. Activities include: visiting Los Angeles, Hollywood, Mission San Juan Capistrano, Universal Studios, Las Vegas, and the Chino Festival. All information about the International Mus Tournament, including hotels, each day's activities, tours, etc. can be found on the N.A.B.O. website. Click on the Mus link on the homepage. Two U.S. teams, first and second place, will be allowed to play because we are hosting. Pierre thanked John Yursa and the Chino club and asked all Basque clubs in Southern California to help out. The Basque Government will be asked to come and present the plaques.

- Marisa Espinal nominated Pierre Etcharren for International Mus Federation President. Manuel Villanueva 2nded. Unanimously passed.

There are still Mus cards available. The cost per deck is \$4.00. Grace reminded delegates not all clubs have paid for the N.A.B.O. cards. Gina Espinal has the list of who still needs to pay. Some of the larger clubs; Boise, Chino, Reno are storing extra cases of mus cards. You can purchase cards from these clubs as well. Please see Gina if you want cards or need to pay for the cards your club already has. Noel Goyhenetche requested that if cards are re-ordered- they be in a larger font.

Youth Mus (Gina Espinal): Gina encouraged all clubs to hold a Junior Mus Tournament, even if there are only two teams to start. A delegate asked about ages. A junior Mus player must be between 12 – 17 years old and able to count their own points. A participant must be 18 years old to play in the adult N.A.B.O. tournament. Some clubs allow younger players, but only 18 year olds move on to the finals. Gina has the list of who still owes for the mus cards.

Euskara (Martin Goicoechea, Izaskun Kortazar):

A special presentation was given in Basque by Kinku Zinkunegi, HABE.

Izaskun reported on what has been happening in Euskara since Seattle. There are 17 goals for this year. The pen-pal connection between students in the Basque Country and the U.S. using BOGA was not widely used. They are trying a match.com-like exchange in Basque, where students make-up profiles.

Izaskun will be teaching the Udaleku participants using BOGA. She will also be encouraging all of the instructors to speak to each other in Basque to role model for the students how to use Basque in every day communications and to give the workshops in Basque.

There was a training for 11 Euskara teachers over the Martin Luther King holiday weekend on how to include diverse materials to teach Euskara. They are planning to have two trainings rather than only one, one for teachers of children and one for teachers of adult learners.

There are several teachers from the Basque Country who would be willing to give classes during the summer for room and board. This would be a good way for clubs who don't currently have a Basque teacher to start offering lessons.

They would like to create a longer, universal day of Euskara. There were many lunches or dinners hosted where participants spoke Basque. One activity in Boise that is very successful in the promotion of Euskara is the Sunday Gossip Session. No serious topics may be discussed, only gossip.

N.A.B.O. won the 2009 Eusko Ikaskuntza Award for the promotion of the Basque language.

There is a professor in the Basque Country (BC) who would like to send his child to stay for a month in the United States. They would pay or be happy to do an exchange where your child went to the BC for a month. Contact Izaskun for more information.

The Bertso Jaialdia will be March 13, 2010 in San Francisco. It is a big day for women Bertso. The first woman to be the Bertso Champion, Maialen Lujanbio will be performing as well as Andoni Egaña and other U.S. bertsoalris. There will be English translation displayed.

Izaskun would like to have a fundraiser during Jaialdi selling T-Shirts and mugs to raise money for Euskara activities. Please see her if you would like to help sell during Jaialdi.

Valerie thanked Izaskun for all her hard work and the many hours she puts into promoting Euskara.

The delegates took a break from 10:20 – 10:40

A heartfelt thanks goes to Tony and Juliet Campos, who provided delicious roasted and chocolate covered California almonds for the delegates to snack on.

Kantari Eguna (Noel Goyhenetche):

Kantari Eguna would like NABO to consider a budget to help pay for the airfare of singers from the Basque Country. They feel that the additional talent would create more interest and participation in the event. Jesus Pedroarena felt it wasn't necessary to bring singers from the Basque Country because the quality of U.S. singers is equal to them. He doesn't feel the spotlight should be on foreign singers. If help is available it should go toward local singers. Pierre Etcharren respectfully disagreed, based on his experience with the Entertainment Committee here at the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center. It has been his experience that foreigners, especially from the Basque Country, always draw a bigger crowd. The Kantari, while successful, is not progressing as an event. Noel feels it would not take away from local singers if the focus of Kantari is the singing. They want to encourage and attract the youth to participate also. John Ysursa brought up the culture program of the Basque Government. He would like to piggy back on that. The Basque Government pays the flight and the club sponsors the entertainer.

- Pierre Etcharren motioned N.A.B.O. cover the cost of airfare for the singer from the Basque Country. 2nded by Tony Campos. Unanimously passed. We will still apply for a grant from the Basque Government.

Gloria Tortoricaguena asked for clarification. Does the Iparreko Ibarra Basque Club understand they will bear the burden of costs? N.A.B.O. will only pay the airfare of the foreign singer and cost of dinner for all the singers. Noel said, yes they are aware.

Benan Oregi (Basque Government) There is no official report from the Basque Government (BG). As a civil servant Benan made some comments on the BG programs. Tickets were purchased immediately for Guillermo Echenique, the new General

Secretary, to visit the Diaspora after the elections because there were fears ties with the Diaspora would be cut. He was sent to Reno last July. It was beneficial for him to see the reality of the Diaspora and not just something he had read about. All programs will continue.

There will be a 25% cut in Basque Government grants to the Diaspora.

Gaztemundu is for youth between the ages of 18 -30 years old. Applicants must write a 10 page essay on "The Image of the Basque Country Abroad." Gaztemundu, which takes place in July, will be different this year with no seminars. There will be more visiting, traveling the Basque Country, opportunities for contacts and networking.

The cultural grants John mentioned started in 2008. The Diaspora Advisory Board wanted to bring new Basque culture to the Diaspora. There was not much interest, because the Diaspora prefers traditional folkloric events. Xavier Berrueta (U.S.) was in favor of the program, while Carlos Sosa (Argentina) was against as the Basque Government (BG) would only pay airfare, and the Diaspora would be obliged to cover the other costs. These grants were not continued in 2009.

Dave Eiguren contacted Benan that Boise would be interested in that type of cultural grant in 2010 for Jaialdi. They wanted the BG to pay the artist directly for their travel to the U.S. and the Jaialdi committee would cover the rest. Due to the interest, these cultural tour grants will be available this year. The official announcement will come out in a few weeks. Benan reminded everyone the culture grant is only for people from 3 provinces. Erramun Marticorena, the singer for Kantari Eguna is not from one of the 3 provinces. Money from the general grant may be used for the airfare; however most of the 2010 grant money for the U.S. is being used for Jaialdi.

There will be a new process for grants. The Basque Government reviews 10,000 invoices, so they are simplifying the process. Basque clubs would keep the invoices. They would only send a list of expenses with the check number and the date. The Basque Government (BG) will audit once a year.

The BG would like for there to be 600 Diaspora at The World Congress in 2011, not just 3 from each country. They will still only allow 3 people to vote from each country. The criteria for selecting the other 500 have not yet been determined. N.A.B.O. will need to pick who the three representatives from the U.S. will be.

Facilitators Report (John Ysursa)

It was interesting to hear how the Basque Club of San Francisco was started. Many of our clubs have interesting histories. John asked Joe Lasuen to tell the colorful story of how the Mountain Home Basque Club came to be. The Boise Club held dance/fundraisers in Mountain Home. When the locals saw all the money raised leave Mountain Home they said, "This is B@#\$S%&T!" They held a fundraiser and used the proceeds to start the Mountain Home Basque Club fifty years ago.

John quoted Mark Kurlansky, "The singular remarkable fact about the Basques is that they still exist." It is something we will have to address. We have some clubs that are

doing well in bringing in the next generation. Some of the 40 clubs listed on the front of the folder we have not heard from in years. All are invited to join the focus groups. Firefox has a Basque webpage. Adobe Reader is now in Basque. Please share any Basque downloads with John.

Books have been translated from Basque to English. They are available online through the Center for Basque Studies.

Dantza – you can learn traditional dances on line.

Hartza – a hybrid dance group with dancers from all clubs to perform at Jaialdi. The first practice will be in Los Banos in April.

Iparraize II - In 2007 N.A.B.O. received an invitation to send a group of dancers to Semana Vasca in Mar de Plata, Argentina in October 2010. A group is being formed of members of all N.A.B.O. clubs. Participants pay their way. If interested contact John Goyenatche, John Ysursa or Valerie Arrechea. Have musicians lined up and a few dancers. Dancers must be a minimum of 15 or 16 years old. Valerie shared what an amazing experience it was during the exchange that took place 17 years ago in Mar de Plata. There is an application online. There will be a few practices, but participants must learn the dances on-line.

John thanked the San Francisco Basque Cultural Center (SFBC). He mentioned the rededication of the Martin Minaberry Library and the presentation of the book by Pedro J. Oiarzabal, Gardeners of Identity, an oral history of the San Francisco Bay Area Basques. The Urazandi Committee of the Basque Educational Organization and the SFBC has made available the templates used for this oral history project. John encouraged all clubs to record their history before more of our older members are no longer available to interview.

John passed out a flash drive from the Basque Government with information on euskaletxeak.net and with the songbook Hi Kantari in a PowerPoint format each club can use.

Kulturastea -John is requesting that several clubs host a team of young adults for a week each to hold classes and lessons on Basque culture and identity; including, cooking, movies, etc. Please contact John if interested.

Valerie thanked John for all his time and hardwork, not to mention emails in the promotion of "Basqueness".

Valerie Arrechea, President recognized outgoing officers with a plaque; Mary Gaztambide – President 2004 – 2009, Nancy Trevino – Secretary 2004 - 2009, Pierre Etcharren – Vice-President 2004 – 2009. Josephine Arriet, 93 years old – long time Fresno delegate (27 years), was to be presented with a plaque, but she could not attend the meeting. Juliet Campos will take the plaque back to Fresno for Josephine.

Lunch break 11:45 am – 1:30 pm

Gloria Tortoricaguena brought a Thank You card for Josephine Arriet and a Get Well card for Emilia Doyaga for everyone to sign.

Old Business

Euskadi Trip 2011 John Ysursa reported for Anita Franzoia, whose flight was cancelled. Anita Franzoia, from the Elko Euskaldunak Basque Club, is planning a trip to the Basque Country. The trip would be a way for people without connections to family to see the Basque Country. You can open the trip at either end for personal travel. The tour is about two weeks and includes two meals a day and daily outings. John mentioned Anita is a great people person who is able to put others at ease. The information will soon be on the N.A.B.O. website although it is not a N.A.B.O. project.

Flag - No N.A.B.O. flag was created, even though we had voted on this issue in Seattle. Pilota went with the U.S.A. flag to Argentina. It was thought more appropriate after learning the other teams were bringing their country's flag.

Ellis Island Exhibit Patty Miller of the Basque Museum in Boise reported on the grand opening of the Basque exhibit, "Hidden in Plain Sight" at Ellis Island from 2/7/2010 – 5/9/2010. The exhibit was in the making for three years with contributions of photos and other items to the exhibit from many different sources. There were almost 145 people from Idaho at the opening in New York, but Patty felt they represented all Basques from the U.S.A. It is hoped that 3000 people will view the exhibit while it is at Ellis Island. It will travel around the U.S. and a portion of the exhibit should be in Boise for Jaialdi. Chris Bieter said, "Basque people have to put up and take down a certain number of tables and chairs to go to heaven." Patty Miller's take on that is if you have to send and receive so many emails to be a Basque American, Benan Oregi is an honorary Basque American after sending and receiving more than 900 emails over the Ellis Island Project. John Ysursa added that the choir from Boise went to New York and sang a Basque version of "America the Beautiful", he played a clip. Valerie Arrechea stated that Patty deserved a huge round of applause for all of her hard work. The delegates agreed. Valerie added that it was a wonderfully orchestrated weekend. The choir and Oinkari Dancers performed beautifully.

- Tony Campos motioned to approve the president spending over the \$500.00 limit for the \$1000.00 donation to the Ellis Island Exhibit. Joe Lasuen 2nded. Unanimously passed.

Finance Committee

Valerie Arrechea explained her initial idea was for the Finance Committee (FC) to have two primary functions. 1. Help with grants and general funds. 2. Help with long range plans for N.A.B.O. Tony Campos asked if there is an Executive Committee of the officers. There is currently an informal Officers Committee where decisions are made through email. Mike Aguerre commented that is the officer's job. Valerie would like

most of the officers to be on the committee + one other member with a financial background. Cindy Schaffeld thinks it should be delegates and one officer. Mary Gaztambide suggested officers have historical knowledge of where and how money is spent. Gina Espinal reminded everyone the purpose of the Finance Committee is to have officers + one person with a financial background to help make plans since the future of grants was uncertain. Gloria Tortoricaguena suggested the Chairmen of the Committees be on the FC because they should know budgets. She agrees with Cindy that there should be more non-officers on the FC. Pierre Etcharren thinks no new committee is necessary, just better communication between committees and delegates. Tony Campos asked what would be the functions of the FC. Valerie reiterated her intent. Mary Gaztambide wanted more people to help her and John to make decisions when grants from the Basque Government don't cover all that is requested. Joe Lasuen asked what is the purpose of the Dirua focus group of which he is a member. It is purely advisory with no budgeting power. Joe suggested a mission statement for the FC; "The Finance Committee shall annually and as often as requested provide counsel and funding opportunities, prepare an annual budget and submit other recommendations for approval by the delegates, for the orderly allocation, receipts and expenditures of N.A.B.O. and it's various committees and projects." There should be more people making decisions than the facilitator and the president. The FC should be an advisory committee with historical knowledge of N.A.B.O., grants and finance. Ricardo Yanci said all officers advise, the board makes the decisions. Kate Camino said keep in mind grants depend on the location of the event. Think outside the box.

Global Federation Proposal Full report on the meeting in Argentina in October and the proposal submitted by the N.A.B.O. committee is in the addendum. N.A.B.O. rejected the by-laws sent by FEVA at the Seattle meeting. The president, secretary and Gloria Tortoricaguena went to Argentina in October 2009. Valerie Arrechea reported on the outcome of the meeting. She invited Gloria, Marisa and Monique and Ernest Behaxeteguy (who also attended the meeting in Argentina) to add their recollections of the meeting. The meeting included representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela, Uruguay, Mexico, Peru, Montreal and N.A.B.O. It was an all day meeting with discussion on what was the point of a new global federation and what form would it take? Many of the participants were wary of the by-laws sent out by FEVA. Most did not want this organization to be political in any way or to be used to represent the Diaspora. They were also concerned about funding the organization and what dues would be used for. Many seemed happy N.A.B.O. slowed the process down. Only a few from Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay were not happy that the by-laws were not accepted as written. All participants agreed there was interest in continuing the discussion and signed a statement to the effect that those present were in favor of forming an entity that would promote that which is Basque. This was a non-binding agreement. All parties left charged with coming up with a plan for an association they would be willing to

participate in by December 2009 with feedback from four world regions. There could be another meeting in 2010 to continue the discussion.

The proposal submitted by the N.A.B.O. committee for delegate approval has four key points; 1) It would be a social networking group that would further communication and Basque culture, a nonpolitical organization. 2) It would be a loose association that would NOT make statements representing all Diaspora Basques. 3) Leadership would need to be balanced between small and large groups with a six month overlap between incoming and outgoing, and member groups had to be legal Basque entities that were inline with the association. 4) There would be no dues, any projects would be the responsibility of whoever chose to undertake them. Since this association would have different levels of membership, individual clubs and federations, it would not be recognized by the Basque Government. This proposal was put together by the committee in response to the deadline with the understanding that N.A.B.O. would not move forward without delegate approval.

Gloria Tortoricaguena informed us the South Americans see this as a continuation of the organization from the 1950's, CEVA. She thinks they favor this organization being something outside of the influence of the Basque Government (BG). Gloria mentioned that many South Americans do not feel they are well represented by the Assessor, who is from Argentina. She reminded us the idea of not being dependent on the BG has been discussed at N.A.B.O. meetings. Benan Oregi speaking as someone with historical knowledge and not representing the BG, added that although CEVA was an historical organization, the rush to recreate it by certain parties is motivated by a political agenda. In his opinion certain parties are not looking to escape the control of the BG, but to influence political parties. CEVA was created to support the Lehendakari in exile. He is not sure the by-laws make sense now that Law 8 of the BG was passed that establishes a system of representation of the Diaspora without political expression. Gloria, Benan and Mary Gaztambide discussed the history of this attempt to recreate a global federation since the 2007 World Congress.

The consensus of the delegates was mixed, with half in favor of moving forward, half in favor of N.A.B.O. dropping its involvement. Cindy Schaffeld stated we don't need another association, we can use the internet. Kate Camino agrees the infrastructure is already in place and we don't use it. We can use Skype. We need to focus on N.A.B.O. Joe Lasuen thought we could use the internet, but we don't. He thought we should continue the discussion. Goisalde Jausoro thought we can do that with our own federation. Mike Aguerre asked if we need an association to be friends. Manny Villanueva is absolutely against the idea because Argentina is too political. Joe Guerricabeitia thought we might regret not being involved if we are not part of the process. Pierre Etcharren questioned how an entity could exist without money, dues, or power. Gloria Tortoricaguena said that was how N.A.B.O. started, only recently have we had paid positions. It would be N.A.B.O. at an international level. Pierre mentioned that even N.A.B.O. had political ideas in the beginning. It wasn't until the politics were dropped that it became the organization it is today. Benan Oregi explained there are risks and opportunities. The Argentinean organization, FEVA, spearheading this project

has been run by the same political party for 30 years. They narrowly won the last election. He has a hard time imagining Argentina being happy with the simple role of a member of a large association and not trying to control it. There are great cultural and organizational differences between FEVA and N.A.B.O. John Ysursa thinks we were "played". He agrees with Joe Lasuen, stay open, but be wary. Let's tell them "mañana". Lisa Corcostegui thinks the group leading this in Argentina will never go with a loose organization. Kate Camino thought we should only continue this if there were no costs involved for N.A.B.O., no flights, no per diem.

- Joe Lasuen motioned we continue the conversation with all parties with no cost to N.A.B.O. Joe Guericabeitia Seconded. 9 against, 2 abstained, 28 in favor. Motion passed.

New Club Membership There was an application from Miami to become part of N.A.B.O.

- Lisa Corcostegui moved to accept the Euskal Etxea of Miami as the 41st club of N.A.B.O. 2nded by Annie Gavica. Unanimously approved.

Increase President's spending limit Yvonne Hauscarriague asked if there are any limitations on spending. Valerie brought up the original amount was for purchases made in between meetings when the delegates were not available. Mary Gaztambide added there is a checks and balance because checks require both the President and Treasurer's signature. Grace Mainvil has the checkbook, the president would not be able to write checks. Cindy asked how often it's has been necessary to go over the limit. Valerie thought no more than a handful of times a year.

- Patty Miller motioned to increase the President's spending limit from \$500.00 to \$1000.00 with the understanding that the Treasurer will account for every penny. Kate Camino 2nded. 5 against, most in favor, motion carried.

Reduce number of N.A.B.O. meetings from 3 to 2 per year Ricardo Yanci brought up the idea of 2 meetings per year, but is now in favor of remaining with 3 meetings per year. Some were in favor of 2 meetings and a teleconference. Valerie thought to try that with 40 clubs would be difficult. Kate mentioned we are having trouble finding venues for the fall meeting. She suggests dropping it to winter and summer. Pierre Etcharren suggested rotating regions as is done for Udaleku. Valerie reminded the delegates we would need a system of conducting business if we only meet every six months. Juliet Campos reported Fresno thought it should remain at 3 meetings, even if it is necessary for a club delegate to miss one meeting. Jean Louis Curutchet thought two meetings would not be enough time to discuss business. We would need to give the president more authority to make decisions. Montreal would prefer two meetings. Ricardo Yanci asked Valerie to talk about the response time to her emails. About 50% of clubs RSVP'd quickly. Is the delegate list current? Tony Campos thought 3 meetings would be better, it is an opportunity to see everyone. Meetings offer an opportunity to get different points of view. Valerie has been sending out the

agenda before the meetings so clubs can discuss items at the local level. If the delegate is unable to attend they can email their input, although that is not a vote.

- Tyler Smith motioned we keep it to 3 meetings a year. Annie Gavica Seconded. 31 in favor, 15 against. Motion passed with majority.

Bizi Emankorra Nominations A lifetime achievement award given to someone who has done great service for N.A.B.O., not just at the local club level in promoting Basque Culture. The nominees were:

1. Isidro Belzarena Echeto, Winnemucca, a delegate for 17 years
2. Mari Carmen Egurrola Tortoricaguena, Boise
3. Dave Eiguren, Boise, delegate and past president
4. Franxoa Bidaurreta, BEO, the first Pilota Chairman
5. Martin Minaberry, San Francisco, started the N.A.B.O. calendar and Culture Chairman
6. Kate Camino, Reno, Udaleku Co-Chairman
7. Joxe Mallea-Olaetxe, Reno
8. Dr. Emilia Sarriugarte Doyaga, New York, at least 12 years as delegate
9. Josephine Arriet, Fresno, 27 years as delegate

Grace Mainvil says this is the first time there have been so many excellent qualified nominees. She made a motion to have all 9 nominees win, then rescinded her motion. Valerie reminded delegates that anyone not chosen can be nominated next year. Normally winners are presented the award at the convention or at a meeting when all winners will be present. John Ysursa tabulated the votes.

- Cindy Schaffeld motioned we take the top 3 vote getters. Gina Espinal Seconded. Unanimously passed.

The three Bizi Emankorra winners are; Josephine Arriet, Franxoa Bidaurreta, and Dr. Emilia Sarriugarte Doyaga.

Lokarria The BEO asks that N.A.B.O. take on the Lokarria, the newsletter Aita Tillous sent out listing all of the births, deaths and marriages in the Basque Community twice a year. Yvonne Hauscarriague thought it was a nice way of communicating and documenting the history of the Basque community. Kate Camino wondered if it would be part of Hizketa. Joe Lasuen suggested one of the Basque news websites tackle this. Patty Miller thought it would be a huge task. John Ysursa mentioned they tried to do it in Chino, but were forced to stop when people failed to submit the information and were upset when they were left out. After much discussion about privacy, hurt feelings if people were inadvertently left out, it was decided this type of information should be left at local club level to share news.

Future meetings: Fall 2010, Convention 2012 The next meeting will be in Boise on Friday, July 30, 2010. Currently the Fall 2010 location is open, and available for a club to host, possibly Gardnerville will host. It is not necessary for the host club to have any other event planned during the weekend of the N.A.B.O. meeting. Winter 2011 will

be Salt Lake City. The Convention will be in Buffalo, Wyoming in 2011 & in Elko in 2012. New York will host in 2013.

Jaialdi update Jaialdi will be in Boise, Idaho from 7/27 – 8/1/10. Women's World Palo Goma will precede Jaialdi. Sports Night at Qwest Arena will be on July 29th, Capital Blvd. will be closed for the night. Tickets for events at Qwest Arena and Festara are available online, not by phone. The N.A.B.O. meeting will be at the Grove Hotel on the 30th. The Festara at the Morrison Center will also be on July 30th. The code for the group rate at the Grove Hotel is GRPNAB. See www.jaialdi.com for more information. If there are any groups of singers, dancers planning to perform, you will need to RSVP by 2/22/20.

Miscellaneous Items

Juliet Campos announced there were posters advertising the Fresno Picnic being held on May 1, 2010 for clubs or Basque Hotels to post.

The Australian Urazandi volume is available for distribution to clubs and one other Urazandi publication.

Grace Mainvil has N.A.B.O. and Basque items for sale.

Grace is still looking for a Treasurer trainee with an accounting background.

The Secretary of the Valle de Erro, Navarra, has the valley's oral history on a CD. He will send it to any club interested. Please see Gina for more information.

N.A.B.O. will be sending out a survey. Please take a moment to fill it out.

Valerie Arrechea adjourned the meeting at 3:52 pm.