

Palomar Smooth Dancers
Meeting Minutes 14 April 2026

Attendees: 19

Call to Order: 7:02 pm. The pledge was led by President Penny.

President's Report: President Penny thanked all of those who attended the Bakersfield Coronation and Boards. Mark won first place awards in both Waltz and Cha Cha and Penny won second place in Cha Cha. Penny also thanked Marvin Todd for providing music at the last minute for our social when our DJ cancelled.

Secretary's Report: **M/S Letitia/Fred that we approve the March Secretary's minutes as presented. Approved.**

Treasurer's Report: Peter reported income of \$2,392 in March, with expenses of \$3,127 and a net reduction in operating cash of \$735, partly due to our reimbursement of Queen's expenses for attending two coronations. Dance classes have brought in \$5,895 year to date. After expenses of \$4,640, the net gain from classes was \$1,255. This month we met our goal of not making any money on our dance socials.

Membership: Bill presented the application of Lori Barry. **M/S Kelly/Carol that we accept her application. Approved.** Peter believes our membership is now at approximately 92.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Chris reported the following birthdays for April: Tom, Melvin, Renee, Antonia, Marvin Wheeler, Alex, Joan, Charlene, George, and Elliott and we sang.

Queen's Report: Queen Penny shared her gifts and reported on the election of Stacey Loubey in Bakersfield with a theme of "A Royal Night to Remember".

Convention/Coronation:

A new State Queen, Oralia Fowler of Fresno, will be crowned in September. The next Coronation will be held this weekend for the Golden Gate Chapter. The theme is "Ignite the Night". The Coronation following that will be May 16th when Laura Encinas is crowned in Visalia.

Coronation 2026: Alicia Sanchez will be crowned on Saturday, October 10th. Carol reported that after looking at many other venues, the Committee felt Escondido's California Center for the Arts was the most promising place to hold Alicia's Coronation. It has a 1600 square foot dance floor and plenty of room for tables. City Hall has a parking lot next door with 50 to 60 spaces. They provide tablecloths, dishes, catering, and do the setup and cleanup. A buffet would be offered with chicken and beef entrees and they can accommodate allergies as needed. Space is available for our hospitality in the afternoon. We would provide the food for this and the centerpieces for the Coronation. Total cost is estimated at \$8,436, with probably another \$1,000 for extras not related to the venue. If 80 attendees were charged \$85/person, the club would be short about \$2,600 on covering expenses. There are two hotels in the immediate area. **M/S Peter/Fred that we allow the Committee to move forward with a commitment at the California Center for the Arts subject to approval of the contract and budget. Approved.**

Conventions:

4/14/2026

The Bakersfield Midyear had 170 in attendance.

The 2026 Fresno Convention is September 4 – 7 at the DoubleTree by Hilton hotel in downtown Fresno. The theme is “Around the World in Four Days”. Package plans are \$270 and include 4 dance seminars as well as several dance parties. See Kelly for a Convention Package. Hotel group rates run \$193/night. There will be competition opportunities and a formation team performance.

Future Conventions are San Fernando Valley in 2027, San Diego in 2028, Visalia in 2029, and Palomar in 2030 (to be confirmed in September).

San Diego is considering convention sites in Irvine, San Diego, Palm Springs and Santa Barbara.

Director’s Report: Kelly reported that our chapter is the largest in the State. Bakersfield purchased a dance floor that other chapters can rent. To borrow it, Penny reported that we would need a rental truck and driver, and a \$3,000 deposit. It requires 4 to 6 men about 4 hours to assemble it. The men might need a hotel stay with food allowance. The cost should decrease after Bakersfield’s \$25,000 investment is recovered. Bakersfield owns a trailer and Ben Wilson is storing the dance floor. At our other conventions, we negotiated a dance floor into our contract.

NSD would like to create a Resource guide for chapters and would like us to upload our contracts. Our membership applications include a liability waiver and photo use consent.

Dance Rules: Bill F reported that no chapters have submitted requested changes. He explained that Level 1 competitions are for new dancers and that levels go up to level 4 for the very experienced. He encouraged all members to consider competing. John Gutierrez of Visalia is continuing as Chair for another year. Linda Gutierrez is Deputy Chair.

Social Chair – Mario was not present to report. Kelly presented membership badges to Scott and Candy Cooper and Steve Ron. Mario has chosen an Easter theme for the April Social and suggests dressing in bright spring colors. There will be a photo booth and raffle prizes. He needs set up help at 6 pm and wants us to do a group photo.

Peter stated that he is willing to create a directory of members for us that would not contain photos.

Ways and Means – Peggy has offered to take over this responsibility.

Dance Classes: This month we are offering beginning Cha Cha and intermediate Foxtrot. In May, we will offer beginning Salsa and intermediate Cha Cha. The schedule of classes for the year is posted on our website.

Publicity/Webmaster: Kelly reported several updates have been made to the website. We are still selling Groupons which bump up our visibility in searches.

Dance Whispers: Letitia reported that the new edition should be out this week. Our member spotlight story will be on Marion Semler. Ann will be back on Monday and able to receive photos and videos for possible inclusion in future editions.

Old Business:

Second Dance Social: Reid and Renee had asked about the club's interest in sponsoring a second social each month. For health reasons, they will not be pursuing this at this time.

Carrie's Salary: After discussion, we agreed to revisit this in November.

New Business:

PSD Jacket: Kelly is investigating current costs so that we can make the jackets available for purchase again. He needs to know who might be interested in purchasing one.

50th Wedding Anniversary Invitation: Kelly needs an RSVP ASAP if you plan to attend.

Women's Resource Center in Oceanside: after discussion, we decided their request was not something that was feasible for us.

The Rockbox winner was Peggy Lee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Jackson, Recording Secretary