

United Portuguese S.E.S. Inc.
Minutes of
Annual Meeting January 29, 2023

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the United Portuguese S.E.S. Inc. was held on the premises of the U.P.S.E.S. Hall on January 29, 2023. At 6:00 pm.

President Daniel Silva called the Annual Meeting to order at 6:00 pm. and asked for a moment of silence for the deceased and sick members of the community. And especially for Norberto Dutra, father of 2022 Festa President Brian Dutra.

Vice President Karinna Feliciano read the Mission Statement.

Secretary Korinne Monroig read the Opening Prayer

Treasurer Natalie A. Virissimo led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Portuguese flag.

Roll- Call- Secretary Korinne Monroig called the Roll of the 2022 Board of Directors

Present: President-Daniel Silva, Vice President Karinna Feliciano, Secretary Korinne Madruga-Monroig, Treasurer Natalie A. Virissimo, Marissa Bagaso, Annette Balelo, Ashley Barandiaran, Sean Cerny, Chris DaRosa, Cici Drummond, Brian Dutra, Deborah Dutra, Therese Garces, Tyler Goulart, Rod Guidi, Barbara Hosaka, Grace Limon, Bridgette Mack, Jaqueline Rivera, Yvonne Siragusa, Dinisa Valadao, Teri Vanoni and MaryJane Warren.

Manager Andrea DaLuz.

Absent: Deo Holmquist, Jaquelyn Neves

General Members Attendance: There were fifty-five (55) General Members in attendance.

UPSES Presidents Report: Daniel Silva-

Daniel addressed the assembly, The overall dedication and hard work of our community and board of directors who have adapted so tremendously to the post pandemic world, is truly remarkable. To establish different sources of income for our hall, including the Portuguese Market that creates weekly meals and monthly dinners all in effort to keep up with our operating costs. We continue to have many changes with the cost of living in San Diego and the Festa Fundraisers Especially with our "All you Can Eat Crab Feast" which had to be changed due to the high price of crab. Festa Presidents Ted and Cici Drummond adapted with a Crab Boil. The event was a huge success due to the hard work of Sean Cerny, and the committee.

Bingo was another one of our main fundraisers for the hall. The committee - Rod Guidi, MaryJane Silva and Maureen OConnor did an excellent job this past year along with all the volunteers who donated their time to make sure Bingo was open to our community and continued to be a huge money maker.

Heartfelt Thanks were given to all of the hall committees which included the Bar which made over 50,000 dollars this year. Marketing and Community Functions- creating a new and exciting way to manage our events and social media and of course the Chapel which celebrated 100 years.

The Executive Board and the Board of Directors had a difficult year but continued to volunteer their time to work for the betterment of the UPSES hall and the community.

Daniel Thanked the UPSES office staff, Manager Andrea Da Luz and Financial Secretary Diana Balelo and the hard working Portuguese Market employees.

Special Thanks to the 2023 Festa Presidents Ted and Cici Drummond for stepping up and taking on the responsibility of Festa 2023. You have done a great job so far and will put on a beautiful Festa.

Daniel spoke of the ligation that began with our 2021 board of directors, and continued this past year with the 2022 board of directors. Daniel informed the general assembly that the ligation has been settled and we are unable to discuss the settlement.

The hall had many great moments this past year as an organization, but one really stands out. We had the honor and pleasure of having the President of the Republic of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa visit San Diego and The United Portuguese SES Hall. This was truly a humbling moment. Having the President recognize us as a community for continuing the culture and traditions for our ancestors, should make us

feel accomplished and realize that this is why we dedicate so much of our lives to this hall. We are being noticed for our hard work and should all be proud of that.

With our strong passionate community great things are ahead for 2023.

Litigation Questions- Attorney Matthew Learned

President Daniel Silva introduced our attorney Matthew Learned who will answer any questions the assembly may have regarding the litigation, keeping in mind he can only provide the information he is allowed.

A lengthy discussion was held. Questions were asked and answered as allowed.

2022 Festa Report- Brian and Deborah Dutra

President Daniel Silva introduced the 2022 Festa Presidents to address the assembly.

Brian Dutra gave the following Report-

Good evening, Boa Noite,

It has been an incredible three years in the making. Deborah and I could have never done this without the continued support of our community. San Diego's oldest ethnic Festival returned with all its bells and whistles and our family couldn't be prouder to reunite us all back together to celebrate our time honored traditions.

Our family dedicated the 112th Festa to all its volunteers, donors, and generous sponsors who give of their time and talents without asking for anything in return to preserve what our ancestors passed down to us. This hall is only a building but its Festa is its people. There are no words to express our gratitude for all the love and support we received over the last several years and for that, we will forever be grateful. Without you our Festa would never have been a success.

To our loving daughter, you have made our family, the UPSES and our community proud and represented this all with dignity and grace.

We would like to thank the UPSES, its executive board and board of directors for having faith in our family and granting us the opportunity to serve our community and host the 112th Festa. Your continued support of our family spoke louder than words. A special Thank you to Daniel Silva, UPSES President, Therese Garces and Cici Drummond, our

Festa coordinators for helping us manage and keep our Festa on track but still manage to insure our Festa was everything we had imagined and more.

Our Festa didn't go without its challenges, with different variants of COVID still lingering, new protocols put in place to insure our communities safety and the ongoing supply and demand issues with increasing costs of goods, our Festa was still able to overcome these and we are very proud to present the UPSES Inc. \$159, 757.00.

Congratulations to Ted and Cici Drummond and Queen Ava for receiving the 2023 Festa and becoming the 113th Festa Presidents. We know you will do a great job and have already shown how much you love our community and the importance of carrying on and preserving our history. You have our families' full support.

This evening our family has donated bifanas and chips for your enjoyment at intermission in memory of our fathers, Manuel F. Soares, who passed away in October and my father Norberto Dutra, who passed away this past Tuesday. We know they are both looking down on us today and are proud of our accomplishments. Thank you to our right hand Dinisa Valadao, her family and the entire kitchen crew Donald Valadao, Manuel Leal and Nazare Goulart. for taking time out of your busy lives to prepare the food tonight.

Deborah and I along with our children and family have truly been honored representing the UPSES and our Portuguese Community as your Festa Family.

May the Holy Spirit bless you all.

2023 Festa Presidents: Ted and Cici Drummond

President Daniel Silva introduced the 2023 Festa Presidents to address the assembly.

Ted Drummond introduced his Festa Queen Ava Rosa. His perception of the Hall and Festa and all that it stands for has changed, in a short period of time he has learned so much. Working with President Daniel Silva and the board of directors and volunteers is what keeps this hall going. Kudos to Brian and Deborah Dutra for keeping to your vision and dream. I commend you and Congratulate you on your four years of dedication to the hall and Festa.

Traditions are the soul of this hall and what it means to be Portuguese and even though things change and events change the soul of that remains the same.

My two goals for this year were to adapt to the chaos of being a Festa President and be efficient and those things apply to what this board has done, is trying to do and what they will do. I feel very honored to have their support. In what we are trying to do with the vision my wife and I have.

Last but not least, my wife is amazing, she is passionate and always right. She showed me there's a lot more I could be doing. I am standing here today and very excited for the remainder of our Festa year and being a member on the board for the next calendar year. Thank you.

Reading of the minutes of the last Annual Meeting:

Annual Meeting Minutes- January 30, 2022: Korinne Monroig

Past President Evelyn Feliciano made a motion seconded by Diana Balelo to dispense with the reading of the Annual Meeting Minutes of January 30, 2022.

Motion Carried

Board of Director Teri Vanoni made a motion seconded by Grace Limon to accept the minutes of the Annual Meeting on January 30, 2022.

As corrected- Joe da Rosa is not a Past Festa President.

Discussion was held.

Motion Carried

Unfinished Business:

Chris Da Rosa and Tyler Goulart before the General Assembly which was unanimously approved by the past board last February, but unfortunately has not been implemented to date. While the UPSES provided the venue for our community to gather, with the exception of the Festa do Espirito Santo, it is the clubs which continue many of the Portuguese traditions. The annual meeting is often inadequate to address issues throughout the year.

Chris Da Rosa made a motion seconded by Tyler Goulart To create a permanent community liaison subcommittee of the UPSES board consisting of: The Hall Manager, a number of directors of the UPSES board to be determined by the

board, the current Festa Presidents and the Presidents and Vice Presidents from each of the clubs and UPSES subsidiaries or interested parties deemed desirable by the board. The purpose of the committee is to better coordinate events , resolve scheduling conflicts or other issues, and generally improve relations among the Portuguese community. Issues and recommendations will then be reported to the UPSES board for resolution. The committee shall meet no less than quarterly, or as deemed necessary by the board.

A lengthy discussion was held.

Motion Carried

New Business:

Questions were asked in regard to Board of Directors qualifications.

Five Year Plaque Awards: President Daniel Silva

Daniel Congratulated and presented Korinne Madruga-Monroig with her plaque for completing 5 years as a board of director and three years as secretary.

Daniel Congratulated our Bingo King Rod Guidi for his hard work at Bingo and presented him with his plaque for 5 consecutive years of service on the board of directors.

Scholarship Presentation: Chairperson-Marissa Bagaso

President Daniel Silva introduced Scholarship Chairperson Marissa Bagaso.

On behalf of the scholarship committee, we would like to congratulate the following recipients who have contributed to our hall and community for several years, along with remarkably keeping up with academics as well as extracurricular activities.

It is with great pleasure that tonight we will award three fantastic recipients of the UPSES Inc. scholarship with a \$1000 check to honor them for their outstanding accomplishments throughout their high school term.

Nick Schroder
Victoria Jorge
Gavin Freitas

In order to recognize the accomplishments of the current generation of Portuguese scholars and graduates, Kenny Alameda has committed to awarding \$1500.00 per year to a graduate of a Catholic San Diego High School or Point Loma High School.

In addition to Kenny's annual scholarship commitment, we have received a \$5000.00 anonymous donation to add to the Kenny Alameda Scholarship and further award the winners in their academic endeavors.

After reviewing this year's applicants, Kenny has decided to award both recipients with \$2500.00 for their hard work, outstanding accomplishments, dedication to community service, and involvement in the Portuguese Community of San Diego.

Congratulations to Avani Ryan and Victoria Jorge as recipients of the 2022 Kenny Alameda Scholarship.

A special thanks to all of the applicants who took the time to apply for our scholarships. We would also like to thank Kenny and Kathy Alameda for their continued support and generous donation as well as those that have contributed. We look forward to working closely with everyone on these scholarships in the upcoming New Year.

Thank you.

Treasurer's Report- Treasurer Natalie Virissimo

The 2022 Treasurer's Report was read to the assembly. A copy of the report is provided in the Annual Report Packet distributed at the Annual Meeting.

Past President Diana Balelo made a motion, seconded by Gayle Frank to accept the 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented.

Discussion was held, Questions were asked and answered in regards to the treasurer's report.

Motion Carried.

Manager's Report- Andrea Da Luz

Andrea Da Luz read her Annual Report to the assembly. A copy of the report is provided in the Annual Report Packet distributed at the Annual Meeting.

****Note the income was up over \$38,243.00 from 2021.****

Approval of UPSES New Members: President Daniel Silva asked for any new members to sign the membership book. There was one new member who signed the book.

- Sean Crockette

Past President Evelyn Feliciano made a motion seconded by Past President Julieana Piatek to approve the members who signed the membership book.

Motion Carried

Presentation of the Nominees for 2023 Board -Vice President-Karinna Feliciano

There are 19 returning directors, 8 new applicants and 1 automatic seat for a total of 28.

Marissa Bagaso
Annette Balelo
Ashley Barandiaran
Sean Cerny
Christian DaRosa
Marisea "Cici" Drummond
Karinna Feliciano
Therese Garces
Tyler Goulart
Deo Holmquist
Barbara Hosaka
Grace Limon
Bridgette Mack
Jaquelyn Neves

Daniel Silva
Yvonne Siragusa
Dinisa Valadao
Natalie A. Virissimo
Mary Jane Warren
Ted Drummond
Juliette Turner
Sean Crockett
Jenna LoCocco
Bridgette Schoefel
Erik DeMello
Kelly Madruga
Ricardo da Rosa
Babita Souza

President Daniel Silva opened nominations from the general assembly.

Qualifications for the UPSES director were read by Vice President Karinna Feliciano.

Past President Evelyn Feliciano nominated Tamy Brandstetter. Tamy Accepted.

Past Festa President Kelly Madruga nominated Christina Virissimo. Chrstina Declined.

Having no further nominations, Nominations were closed for the 2023 Board of Directors.

There are 29 board of directors for the current term of 2023-2024

Marissa Bagaso
Annette Balelo
Ashley Barandiaran
Tamy Brandstetter
Sean Cerny
Sean Crockett
Christian DaRosa
Ricardo da Rosa
Erik DeMello
Marisea "Cici" Drummond

Ted Drummond
Karinna Feliciano
Therese Garces
Tyler Goulart
Deo Holmquist
Barbara Hosaka
Jenna LoCocco
Bridgette Mack
Kelly Madruga
Jaquelyn Neves
Grace Rosa
Bridgette Schoefel
Daniel Silva
Yvonne Siragusa
Babita Souza
Juliette Turner
Dinisa Valadao
Natalie A. Virissimo
Mary Jane Warren

Past President Evelyn Feliciano made a motion seconded by Past President Diana Balelo to accept the 2023-2024 slate officers as presented.

Motion Carried

At 7:32 pm President Daniel Silva called for a twenty minute intermission to enjoy the Bifanas that were donated by the 2022 Festa Presidents.

At 8:03 pm President Daniel Silva called the Annual Meeting back to order.

Past President Evelyn Felciaion made a motion seconded by Director Grace Rosa to dispense with the reading of the committee reports as everyone as a copy included in the Annual Report Packet distributed at the meeting.

Motion Carried

Committee Reports:

Dinisa Valadao stated she would like the Bingo Report Read to the general assembly.
President Daniel Silva read the Bingo Report.

Questions were asked in regards to the ban of a member.

Annette Gafa made a motion seconded by Evelyn Feliciano to remove the ban of member Margaret Virissimo.

A lengthy discussion was held.

Therese Garces made a motion seconded by Bridgette Mack to have a silent vote on the motion to remove the ban.

Motion defeated

The original motion made by Annette Gafa and seconded by Evelyn Feliciano will now be voted on.

Motion defeated

Committee Reports: Open for discussion- Members were encouraged to ask questions regarding the committee reports:

Dinisa Valadao stated she would like the Bingo Report Read to the general assembly.
President Daniel Silva read the Bingo Report.

Acquisition

Bar

Bingo

Board of Governors

Chapel

Community Functions/Marketing

Festa Coordinating

Finance and Long Term Planning

Maintenance

Portuguese Market

Property Management

Scholarship

Weekly Coronation

Several questions were asked by the assembly in regards to the Bar, Market and Bingo Reports.

Affiliate Reports: A copy The 2022 Affiliate Reports were provided in the Annual Report Packet.

Filarmônica- Natalie Virissimo

Portuguese American Dancers- Therese Garces

Trinity Sunday- Elizabeth Bogosian

Honorary Consul of Portugal- Idalmiro manuel da Rosa

President Daniel Silva Congratulated the new 2023-2024 board and asked them to meet in the club room for the organizational meeting.

Having No further business to transact, President Daniel Silva adjourned the 2022 Annual Meeting at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Korinne Madruga-Monroig

2022 Executive Secretary