Sokol Spirit Executive Board Meeting Minutes – August 5, 2026

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Sis. Kathy Barcal, President. Sis. Lauren Wilt is excused. Moment of silence to remember Bro. Chuck Rocush, Sis. Joanne Bazata, Bro. Frank Michalek, and Sis. Candy Short (member of Sokol Tabor) who passed away recently.

Correspondence:

- Sokol Spirit received a thank you from Hope Spatzek for our support so she was able to compete in the Wheels competition in Germany this summer.
- Motion made by Bro. Howie Maskill to place a half page ad in the 2026 Moravian Day Festival for $50. Second by Sis. Vera Wilt. Approved.
- Volunteers are needed for the Sokol Spirit tent at the Block Party on Grand Blvd on August 28 and September 25, 2026.
- We received an invitation to participate in the St. Jude walk at the Brookfield Zoo on September 26, 2026. This item will be added to the September 2026 Unit meeting agenda.
- We received an invitation to participate in a Senior Health and Wellness Fair on October 28, 2026. This will be further discussed at the September 2026 Unit meeting.
- An American Sokol Executive Board Meet and Greet will be held on September 20 by Zoom.
- Sokol USA Slet will be held June 23-27, 2027, in Novi, Michigan.
- The Czech Consulate announced Czech Heritage Week September 19-27, 2026.
- Cedar Rapids Brew Fest is scheduled for September 18, 2026.

Approval of Bills:

- Sis. Kathy Barcal requests reimbursement for AED parts replacement ($525.96) and vacuum belt ($6.99)
- Sis. Kathe Heetel requests reimbursement for cost of printing the June 2026 newsletter: $97.20

Motion to pay bills by Sis. Vera W, second by Sis. Dorothy Becker. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Sis. Jenn Rutkowski.
July 2026 is not reconciled yet but will be by the next Unit meeting. She announced a $50,000 donation from the estate of the late Bro. Elmer Kulousek, a $500 matching donation from Sis. Peggy Ulrich, and a $2,347.09 grant from the Czech Consulate.

Building Management Committee Report: Submitted by Bro. Adam Wilt.

- The boiler project is nearly done.
- The gym floor is in progress of being done. There will be no more basketball lines, and markers will be spaced 6 feet apart.
- BMC will meet again in August.

Board of Instructors Report: Submitted by Sis. Tricia Rini

- Registration opened today. 10 participants were registered at the time of the board meeting.
- Class schedule changes include Juniors on Wednesdays, and a Girls' competitive full-year class on Mondays.
- Coaches have been found for all classes, and two girls will assist with the girls' classes. Sis. Lauren Wilt will be reaching out to them.
- Mat washing will be held on August 25, pending completion of the gym floor repairs.
- Classes begin September 14.

Executive Board Reports & Upcoming Events

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Financial Secretary Sis. Dorothy Becker reported there are 3 new members so dues of $78.75 will be paid to American Sokol, and $312.50 to Central District. We have 250 members at this time.

PR/Marketing Director Sis. Alix Fron is working on pushing out registration information, a golf outing flyer and a Vendor Fair save the date.

Education Director Sis. Vera Wilt reports the Czech classes are scheduled and the registration form is on the website. There will be six sessions. The Friday Film series movies have been decided and the flyer is ready. Special interest classes are still to be determined.

Membership Director Bro. Howie Maskill reported that 2026-2027 Spirit Bucks will be added to the August 2026 Spirit News.

Bylaws Director Bro. Adam Wilt provided some bylaws updates from the 2026 Convention.

- The ability for dual members to have a vote for each unit was passed. Sis. Becker made a motion to allow dual members at Sokol Spirit to have a vote. Second by Bro. Maskill. Approved.
- A minimum number of unit officers must be determined.
- Unit term limits are set at the unit level.
- There is a need for a Database Manager (currently, our Financial Secretary maintains the database for Spirit).
- Changes to unit leadership needs to be updated with American Sokol.

Events

- Oktoberfest is scheduled for September 12 from 3-10pm. The shopping list is being worked on. Sis. Cassie Croft asked about identifying a band for the event. Please contact her with any leads. Sis. Kathe Heetel will reach out to one band to check on availability and cost. Volunteer SignUpGenius will be available at sokolspirit.org.
- Golf outing: September 19, 9am. Sign up on the website will be set up soon and marketed. Registration deadline will be September 9.
- Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for November 7, 4:30-7:30pm.
- Vendor Fair is scheduled for November 11 from 9am-3pm.
- Winter Show is scheduled for December 18.
- World Beer Club: Next event is September 18 and will be hosted by the BOI. Women's class will host October WBC. Bro. Matt Carlozzi is running WBC this year.
- Spring events include:
    - Trivia Night – February 20
    - Pancake Breakfast/Flapjack – February 28

New Business:

- President's Award nominees are due by September 18. More discussion and a vote will take place at the September Unit meeting.
- We will be applying for grants in 2026/2027.
- There is interest in getting a Sokol Spirit sign to hang on the front of the podium.

Unfinished Business: Convention recap.

- Bylaws are completed and will be presented at the Town Hall meeting the last week of September.
- Development Conference will be held October 3-4, 2026, in Cleveland. Conversation took place about Spirit being a future host of this event.
- Next convention will be in 2030.

For the good of the order: Next Unit Meeting – September 2, 2026. Social 7pm, meeting 7:30pm.

Adjournment by Sis. Kathy Barcal at 8:34pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sis. Kathe Heetel – Secretary