

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Cincinnati Contra Dance Board
11-30-20, 8PM, via Zoom**

Attendance: Board members - Debra Barrett, John McCain, Frank Buschelmann, Larry Lankford, Charles Wallner, Bonnie Carpenter, Kurt Grannan, Mary Rekers, Patricia Gorman. Recent Board member Ashley Greathouse also attended at the invitation of the Board to consult on Bylaw issues since she participated as a Board member in the Bylaw workshop on 03-01-20. Ashley was not eligible to vote on any motions.

Note: Due to technical or other issues, not all Board members were able to vote on every motion. Inability to vote was not recorded as an abstention.

Note: Votes taken are listed as Yes/No/Abstain, e.g. 7/1/1.

Officers-

The following people accepted these positions and were approved by the Board.

Facilitator: Debra Barrett Co-facilitator: Kurt Grannan

Treasurer: Frank Buschelmann Secretary: Larry Lankford

Two Members at large: Tricia Gorman and Charles Wallner

Treasurer's report-

Frank: No significant changes from the 10-26-20 report at the annual voting membership meeting. We still have \$53 on hand from the anonymous donor who funded member renewals before the Annual Member Meeting. Those funds are still available for membership renewals.

What days are best for Board meetings-

After much discussion, it was decided to schedule Board meetings for either Sundays at 7 PM or Mondays 8 PM, maybe alternating depending on individuals' schedules.

When should we resume dancing-

We need to tell the WFAC when we will restart dancing so the WFAC can rent the space until we are ready to restart.

Discussion: The WFAC is getting requests for wedding bookings in the spring. We should concentrate on Monday dances and not schedule Saturday dances yet. We typically lose money on Saturday dances and we might lose even more as we try to restart dancing. This leaves Saturdays for the WFAC to rent for events.

Motion: To notify the WFAC that we will not be dancing on Saturdays until at least September 2020. **Vote: 9/0/0**

Motion: To notify the WFAC that our goal is to restart dancing on Mondays in April 2020 depending on government guidelines. **Vote: 2/7/0**

Motion: To notify the WFAC that we will decide in April whether to restart dancing on Mondays in June, depending on government guidelines. **Vote: 9/0/0**

Cincinnati Zoom contra-

The next Zoom contra will be on Sunday December 27 from 2 PM to 3:30 PM.

This was not scheduled for New Year's Eve because there are already Zoom contra/music events scheduled for then. Sunday afternoons are best for the band.

Mary needs funds to upgrade the service that she uses to setup the Zoom invitations for the Zoom contras. This is \$10 per month.

Motion: Should the CCD provide \$60 (to cover the next six months) to Mary for this purpose?
Vote: 9/0/0

Frank volunteered to post news about the Zoom contra to Facebook.

Bylaws-

Five voting members (Ryan Smith, Rebecca Pace, Eve Mountainsmith, Liz Burkhart, and Sally Christopher) offered comments and recommendations for our proposed Bylaw changes.

Discussion: It was suggested that the comments from those five voting members about the proposed Bylaws be evaluated and a committee be formed to do the study. Perhaps the committee should be primarily Board members. Invite the people who made comments to offer their reasoning but not be committee members.

Comment: We should not invite the whole world to be voting members. For example, people who only dance with us at Pigtown Fling should not be making the decisions for the CCD.

Motion: Should the Bylaw committee be limited to current Board members and those previous Board members who were involved in the 03-01-20 Bylaw workshop? **Vote: 6/2/1**

Motion: Should the committee make recommendations to the Board about the Bylaws instead of producing the final draft to be voted on by the membership? **Vote 9/0/0**

Ashley, Charles, John, and Larry are willing to serve on the committee. The committee will make their report to the Board in about a month.

Should we, as the Board, stop working on grant information?

Motion: Does Bonnie have approval from the Board to do research on, but not apply for, grants with the Ohio Arts Council? **Vote: at least 6 yes**, but I was unable to discern from the recording about the remaining members.

General announcements-

Friendship letter with the WFAC- Letter- Regarding the newest change that WFAC Board has requested [copy at end of minutes], 5 Board members replied by 11/25, all approving everything as proposed in email 2020-11-23 @ 5:38 pm. So Deb will sign the letter and send to WFAC Board for their final approval and signature.

Liz Burkhart will connect with Dorcas Hand, as Dorcas requested, to offer an additional perspective re advisable methods of deciding about gendered vs gender-free calling

Erich Gansmuller has indicated interest in joining the Sound Team. He used to dance with us a lot and is thinking of resuming.

Selling the old sound system-

Kurt: Do I have permission from the Board to lower the price considerably on the old sound system? I started at \$1000. I propose \$600 or best offer.

Comment: I think if we can get any money out of it, it would be good.

Comment: We have had this equipment since 1993.

Comment: There is no value in storing it.

Comment: Everyone who wants to buy sound equipment wants powered speakers, not old heavy passive speakers and very heavy power amplifiers [the equipment that we are trying to sell].

Comment: I have friends who are unable to sell their old passive speakers and heavy power amplifiers.

Motion: Should Kurt lower the price to \$600 or best offer? **Vote: 8/0/0**

Meeting adjourned at 9:45

Respectfully submitted by Larry Lankford, secretary

Letter of Friendship and Understanding
Between
The Wyoming Fine Arts Center & The Cincinnati Contra Dance

Whereas, the CCD community and the WFAC have had a 17 year relationship which has been a mutually beneficial one,

Whereas, the CCD community has been a good steward of and renter in the Center during this time period,

Whereas, the CCD community has now contributed 4 speakers to be installed in the Paul J. Bartel Ballroom for the benefit of our group and the Center,

Whereas, the CCD relies on a good sound system due to the live music provided at every dance and in this contribution makes itself reliant on the goodwill of the WFAC,

We would like to establish with the Center a more formal friendship agreement:

1.) The sound system's wiring and speakers will become the responsibility and property of the Center, and that should the system need repair, the WFAC Executive Director or Board will see to its timely repair and will be financially responsible for that.

2.) WFAC will guarantee CCD the availability of the ballroom to rent on Monday evenings and second Saturdays of the month for 7 years from the time of installment, at a rental amount the same or comparable to their previous long-term rental fee.

3.) CCD agrees to rent the ballroom on those evenings for 7 years, subject to a 60-day advance notice from CCD if they decide not to use their assigned time slot. If CCD needs to cancel a pre-planned rental date and is unable to provide 60 days notice, they will be prepared to pay the CCD existing standard rental fee for the missed date.

If either party should have a grievance, we understand that these will continue to be addressed informally through the Executive Director or the WFAC Board President and the CCD Board Facilitator or other CCD personnel based on the nature of the grievance to be addressed.

We are looking forward to a continued beneficial friendship with the Wyoming Fine Arts Center!

We thank you for supporting CCD, for supporting the arts, for supporting us in our mission to provide contra dancing to the community!

Signature of WFAC Board President Date

Signature of WFAC Executive Director Date

Signature of CCD Board Facilitator Date

Installation Date