

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Cincinnati Contra Dance Board 07-15-21, 8:05 PM, via Zoom**

Attendance: Board members - Debra Barrett, John McCain, Larry Lankford, Bonnie Carpenter, Mary Rekers, Patricia Gorman, Kurt Grannan, Charles Wallner, and Frank Buschermann.

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

### **WFAC updates-**

In the future, dancers and everyone except the openers need to enter through the back door of the ballroom. The front door should remain locked. Dancers may use the water fountain and restrooms, but should not roam around.

There are screens in the ballroom windows. We may leave them in place or take them out. The windows lock now. We should ensure that they are locked when we leave.

The WFAC covid protocols call for masks in the hallway when students are present. By the time the dancers take a break around 9:00, all of the students should be gone. When we get supplies out of our closet around 7:00, a mask is required.

### **Speaker repair-**

Julie (the director of the WFAC) said that the speaker will be sent to a local repair shop for evaluation. Mary informed Julie that the speakers should be turned off after each use.

### **Sound team updates-**

Michael Rondstadt has volunteered to join the sound team.

When we restart dancing, we will be using the old mixer for a while since it is simpler to use. Larry is storing the new mixer until needed, to reduce the chance of theft of the mixer from the WFAC.

### **Band and caller situation-**

At this time we have willing callers (Darlene Underwood and Frank Buschermann) and bands (Full Moon Country Orchestra, Rosenthorns, Laughing Lizards, and Serendipity. Steve Tossey may join the callers later. The Open Band may join the bands in September. There are some additional "maybes".

### **Caller language-**

-How long should we continue callers' choice? Are we going to finish process E?

Discussion:

-If we continue process E, do the surveys continue?

-We would need to find someone else to process the surveys.

-What if we just adopt a policy that every third Monday of the month is callers' choice, and the remaining Mondays be gendered language, until we get a report from the committee working on caller language.

-If we have callers' choice, will there be a variety of terms used?

-We have decided that gender-free terms will be limited to Larks and Robins.

**Motion:** Shall we allow the callers to choose gendered terms (Ladies and Gents or Men and Women) or gender-free terms (Larks and Robins) since we only have a few callers at this time, then revisit the issue monthly until the calling language committee comes up with a proposal for the voting members to vote on?

Discussion:

-I think we should switch to Larks and Robins. It's not just a trend. It does not offend

people, whereas the gendered calling does. What if we say that until the calling language committee comes up with a solution, we will be calling Larks and Robins. I doubt that we will lose members if we call Larks and Robins. I imagine we will lose many more members if we call gendered.

-I cannot agree. There are plenty of people in the group that prefer gendered calling.

-Most of the callers that will be starting soon call gendered. They may not wish to re-train to call Larks and Robins. We may have to train a new set of callers to be able to have gender-free all of the time.

-I think we will lose a lot of the people. I think we will keep a lot of the people. Some will leave because they are tired of the arguing. It is not our fault, but it is our responsibility as the board.

-I think some people think a new set of terms is being forced down their throats. It is not a welcome change. I think a mix of gendered and non-gendered language would be good.

-It would be good to just get past this. It has been going on so long. But we have to let the community figure it out. Going with callers' choice is the least divisive.

**Motion (revised):** Shall we restart dancing with callers' choice (gendered terms of Ladies and Gents or Men and Women, or gender-free terms of Larks and Robins), with at least one week notice of the terms to be used, revisiting the issue monthly until the calling language committee presents a possible solution for the voting members to vote on? The ultimate decision will be made by the voting membership. **Vote: 9/0/0**

### **Vaccination required for entry?**

**Motion:** Shall we require proof of vaccination for entry into the dance hall? **Vote: 8/1/0**

-We should have a cancellation policy if anyone that is at one of our dancers comes down with covid.

### **Greeter Duties-**

There was some discussion of the need to have a greeter who will check people off a vaccination list, not just accept money. Charles and Kurt agreed to write a protocol for what the greeter might be expected to do in different situations.

### **Volunteers-**

We have three people on the opening team with Karen Keaton coordinating the team. Karen cannot do the opening. We only have two people on the list for closing (crew boss), Tricia and Bonnie. But Bonnie is also on the sound team, so she would be doing that task and not be able to close.

-The closing people will learn quickly. They will enlist others to help. We will play it by ear.

-Once we restart dancing, I think we can recruit people to fill some of these positions.

### **Review of donations and pay schedules for bands, callers, and sound person-**

Suggested donation for the dance is \$2 for students and \$5 for everyone else.

The caller and sound person receive \$20 each. Bands receive \$20 for each member up to five members. If after paying the band, caller, and sound person, there is more than \$130 left, the excess over \$130 is divided among the caller, the sound person, and each band member. \$100 is to pay for the hall rental and \$30 is added to the general funds.

### **Ventilation-**

-The air conditioner is not working at this time, but should be repaired soon.

-Since the AC is very loud, we should start cooling to 65F when the sound person gets there and then turn it off right before the dance, then open windows as necessary.

- The large blower type fans that we have used for the last 30 or more years no longer work.
- Bonnie and Mary will look for replacement fans and blowers and report to the board.

### **Scheduling-**

The person who has done our scheduling of bands, callers, and other volunteers, will not be getting vaccinated and will not be participating in the dance, but will work with someone to help set up the September through December schedules.

### **Sinclair College dance for incoming freshmen-**

The Dayton group will not restart until January and cannot participate. If the dance happens, Judy and Warren Waldron will play and call square dances. Deb will send the info to our group.

### **Other comments-**

- There has been a preliminary meeting of the bylaw revision committee.
- On the advice of a former treasurer: If the treasurer is going to be required to produce monthly reports, we would need to hire a bookkeeper.
- Bookkeepers are expensive.
- That is not feasible for our group.
- Maybe there should be some regular oversight of the treasurer.
- We should have a double entry system.
- When we talk about handling a lot of money, we are not talking about the weekly dances.
- The major amount of money is with Pigtown Fling. Maybe we need oversight mostly on Pigtown Fling. Maybe for the weekly dances we could have quarterly or semi-annual reports. We could even have a separate treasurer for Pigtown, which might make things easier.

Meeting ajourned at 10:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Larry Lankford, secretary.