

Minutes: Cincinnati Contra Board Meeting – December 4, 2022 7:30 pm

Meeting began at 7:34 pm

Members present: Steve Edwards, Patricia Gorman, Bonnie Carpenter, Valerie Allendorf, Charles Wallner, Deven Corzine, Darlene Underwood, Larry Lankford, Cori Yaeger, Myra Mitchell. **Absent:** Mary Rekers, John Brockman

Meeting Minutes from 09/19/2022 and 11/06/22

Approval of minutes from both meetings.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of report year to date. Checking account balance as of 01.01.22 was \$17,609.93, and as of 12.01.22 is \$14,470.12

A budget for 2023 was presented and reviewed. In order to cover all costs we need 60-67 paying persons per dance depending on whether we have 52 or 26 dances per year. Our current attendance is less than half of that so we have to get those numbers up. This will be discussed further via email and at the January meeting.

It was noted that CCD had been spending down its large balances in previous years. CCD had made donations to some causes, including WFAC floor refinishing, sidewalk repair, door repair and sound speaker installation.

Discussion continued about the community's current status. A concern was noted about not posting the caller language on the website. A suggestion that we test posting caller language for a couple of months to see if there is a noticeable difference. This will be discussed next month after Steve has gotten the dancing data from John McCain who has tracked attendance by calling language.

Dance Attendance Numbers Report

11/7	24
11/14	27
11/21	27
11/28	24

Since 3/14/22 we have had 20 dances with an average of 35 dancers each – March's two dances and Halloween were largest numbers, with 56, 50, and 50 respectively

Old Business

Scheduling Reports

Bonnie and Deven reported that we have plenty of callers, bands, openers and sound folks for the next several months. Bonnie will send out schedule in the next day or so. We decided not to include caller language on the schedule until it is discussed further.

Cori noted that she has updated the openers checklist and that she and Myra sorted through the box that we use for supplies and reduced the amount of stuff in the boxes. She suggested that the box be kept by the registration table and that buttons be put on that table by the masks, so that another table at the front of the room is not needed.

Pigtown Report –per Tricia, the deadline for getting a venue is Jan 31, 2023 and to fill volunteer positions filled by that time (esp registration and volunteer coordinator). She also indicated that all talent would need to have a cancellation clause in the contracts.

Darlene said that if we wait till Jan 31, we may not get the talent we want – she is booking as a caller into October 2023 now.

Charles asserted that if we don't have a place, we can't have an event. Do we have a smaller event? What are the financial implications? Venue ~~is has been~~ where we have to start.

New Business

Switch dance to 7:30-9:30 instead of 8-10pm? Hall is available earlier now. Darlene thinks it won't work if we change time.

Survey: Cori suggested that we may wish to send a survey out to individuals (past and current dancers) that would cover several of our pressing issues: vaccination and masks, dance start time, caller language – to see if we can get an idea of why folks aren't coming to the dances. She indicated that we are dealing with Covid, our mask, vax and booster requirements, and caller language. We also recognize that some folks are no longer dancing because of age or scheduling other activities on Monday nights.

Steve asked that both Facebook and website have Covid Policy “banner” that is at the top of each page (for webpage using home page, schedule, and other pages as needed. We also need to have updated photos on the webpage which show dancers in masks. Cori is going to update some of the webpage descriptions and send them to Deven for posting.

Valerie offered to include her text phone number in communications in case someone has specific questions about a dance or our policies.

We decided that we should post a schedule of board dates on the webpage, including a statement that voting members are welcome to attend if they email the secretary no later than the Saturday morning before the meeting (in order to get the zoom link). A short statement about voting members being welcome at the meeting, being non-voters, and may discuss items if they request time in advance. Other participation is at the discretion of the facilitator. This information should be included in an update of our webpage.

Future board meeting dates: January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Myra will update Facebook page as needed (in coordination with Cori and Valerie).

Cori reported that she will send one more email out to former members who have not yet renewed for 2023. Two emails have already been sent with moderate response rates. As of today we have 55 voting members.

Cori reported that John Brockman has been purging the master email list when emails are bouncing back.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Next meeting January 8, 2023 at 7:30 pm.