

**Minutes– Cincinnati Contra Board Meeting –
February 4, 2024,7:00 pm DRAFT**

Present: Valerie Allendorf, Charles Wallner (joined at 7:30), Myra Mitchell, Josh Telescan, Philip Ogston, Audrey Eyman, Steve Edwards, Cori Yaeger, Deven Corzine, Bonnie Carpenter (left at 7:30).

Absent: Larry Lankford

Meeting began at 7: 05

Introduction

Meeting Minutes from 01/07/2024 Approved.

Treasurer’s Report for January partial presented. Larry will complete the last week’s data when he is back in town.

Secretary’s report – dues and fees meeting not needed.

WFAC report – Charles/Myra/Steve - waiting for new hire, Doug, to be contact person. Ramona reported that the speakers have been repaired, but have not yet been returned to WFAC.

Social Secretary Report – card send to Tricia who was hospitalized.

John McCain had an injury over the weekend. Cori will take a card to contra Monday evening (2/5) for folks to sign.

Scheduling Report - updated schedule with specific calling language notated was sent to Deven/ Val for the website and FB – Deven says he’s not had time to update calling language.

Request from NICK WEILAND for the Hollertones Band to play on first SAT in OCT. Told him Board had not decided on SAT dates yet but we will definitely consider him for that date. We have time to look into booking this later.

Myra has been CC'd on emails and aware of their request.

Old Business

Pigtown update – Valerie

211 registrations so far.

Sherry working on work-trade.

Deven working on housing.

Robin working on food

Cori and Larry working on registration and Cori will work registration onsite.

Canceled HUUC since we’re not using it.

Discussion about a la carte options. The committee has not yet decided whether to offer – and whether to offer to everyone, or to our local dancers. Offering a nights only option was supported by several board members.

The committee will decide soon what our maximum number of dancers can be.

WFAC – should we book for 2025 March weekend. Discussion tabled.

Waltz nights – scheduled for June 29 and August 31.

Saturday Dance – January 13 (\$200 surplus with donations, 44 dancers.) and March 2, 2024.

Shall we schedule out for further 2nd Saturdays? Yes – Myra was work on booking WFAC – Deven will work on April band and caller (since Bonnie is out of the country.) Josh will do sound if we have a gendered caller. Steve available.

Calling Language Posting – words to use? (non-gendered has negative connotation) –We will use gents/ladies, larks/robins, or positional as applicable.

March 2 \$10 fee. Myra will check to see if Wendy might wish to teach a class before the dance.

New Business

First dance free only for Monday dances. If someone comes first time on Saturday night, we could tell them they can come back on Monday for free.

Is there student discount for Saturday dances? \$5 consensus. Monday dance for students still \$2.

Callers etiquette? Is there a document already? Do we need one? Steve thought Frank was working on this and will contact Frank for the current status. A range of categories were discussed: effective teaching for basics or flourish, appropriate leadership help from the floor, how to give helpful feedback. Specific Issues discussed: not calling individuals out from stage, maintaining professionalism either sitting or standing, unify approach to lessons, or change the lesson each time with common thread, caller over-teaching experienced dancers. How to advise experienced callers?

Myra pointed out that Louisville does the beginner teaching, not the callers. That might be more consistent? All dancers need to be reminded that they need to be respectful of callers and quiet when callers are talking. Maybe work on policing ourselves and modeling the appropriate behaviors (esp about chatter when caller is doing instruction/walk-through). Sound crew can boost caller clarity. Callers instruct how to give weight and not grip too tightly. In past there was a caller subcommittee. Cary Ravitz has a guide for callers.

Talk about safety policy at next meeting. CDSS guidelines?

Website – postponed.

Communications – postponed

Amendment to disciplinary policy - postponed

Next meeting: March 3, 2024, 7:00 pm zoom
