

Cincinnati Contra Dancers Board Meeting 11/21/2016

Board Members present: Kristen Planeaux, facilitator, Shelly Zeiser, secretary, Frank Buschermann, treasurer, Tricia Gorman, Greg Wenker, Charles Wallner, Chuck Reidmiller, Mary Reidmiller, Darlene Underwood, Christie Armstrong, John McCain, Larry Lankford

- Treasurers Report
 - See attached report for details and breakdown of each evening (Mondays, Saturdays, Waltzes, Pigtown)
 - “Miscellaneous” costs include taking Pigtown bands out to dinner, repairs to sound equipment, buttons, t-shirts
 - Pigtown dip in income from 2015-2016: may come from t-shirts (purchased too many), change in weekend (due to Easter), new sound guy (more expensive but worth it), new balloon decorations
 - Only have two years of data because the price increased in 2015
 - Future costs: new caller’s microphone, new sound system, October-December Hall rental
 - Discussion: should we charge dancers for the first dance and give a coupon for second dance free?
 - May necessitate someone standing at door taking money
 - We are not worried about retention so it may not be necessary
 - If people pay, they may feel more invested. They could write name/email on coupon and place in box so we get contact email.
 - Caller will distribute them during break
 - Mary Reidmiller will create coupon, Chuck will change on the website
 - **Change will be implemented at the new year**
- Officer Elections, including Members at Large
 - Kristen Planeaux- re-elected facilitator
 - Ashley Greathouse- re-elected co-facilitator
 - Shelly Zeiser- re-elected secretary
 - Frank Buschermann- re-elected treasurer
 - Members at Large: have additional responsibilities, are also a part of the executive committee for smaller issues (i.e. behaviors)
 - Chuck Reidmiller
 - John McCain
- Formalizing the addition of bands and callers to the Monday rotation
 - Developing a process for adding new bands and callers to the rotation
 - Want proficient callers/bands who are good representations of our community
 - Process:
 - If a new caller:
 - Have a guest spot on another caller’s Monday night (one dance)
 - Have a Monday half night
 - These two callers should be different people who are willing to provide feedback
 - Have one full Monday evening

- Upon approval from board, will join rotation
 - If a returning caller:
 - Board will determine process
 - If long interval since last called, full trial evening or half trial evening will be recommended
 - If a new band:
 - Discussion will be tabled and continued by email when a new band arises
- Policy for Cincy callers and Saturday night dances
 - Frank will forward calling standards to board via Google Drive
 - Discussion will be tabled regarding development of a Saturday committee or feedback cards
 - Currently, only two slots can be taken by Cincinnati bands/callers per six month scheduling rotation
 - **Board would like to officially remove that policy**
 - Saturday dances will go to “best available talent” as opposed to forced non-local talent who may not be the best fit
 - Removal of policy will increase flexibility of scheduling
 - **In order to increase pool of available callers/talent, via email list serve, an email soliciting feedback for preferred callers/talent will be sent out once a year**
 - Kristen is working with Debbie and Terri regarding Saturday night caller booking
 - Feedback from some out of town callers/bands has not been as positive as we would like
 - When hearing feedback regarding Saturday dancers, board members can send an email to Debbie and Terri
- Discussion on paying Monday night performers
 - Discussion will be tabled but idea thrown out to be continued via email: increasing Monday night pay out to all talent
 - In 1993, all talent for Pigtown was volunteer because we were broke- need to ensure that we are not broke in the future
 - Local regional communities will give more in comparison (\$40 Indianapolis- Tuesday, \$50 Indianapolis- Sunday)
 - Admission is slightly increased (\$8, \$7 for members)
 - Can be dependent on other additional costs- taking care of floor (about \$4,000), A/C, sound equipment
 - If any one individual makes over \$600 in a year, we need to fill out a tax form for them
 - Board will explore how to raise amount of money to provide to performers without a specific cap
 - Using waltz evening as a potential model for expenses/payment breakdown
 - Potentially increasing price of Saturday dances
- Discussion on policy and procedure for board use of emails

- Meetings (email or in person) should be announced or posted and open to all members who wish to attend/included in the correspondence (in accordance with Ohio Sunshine Law)
 - Can be written on the dry erase board
- Executive sessions can occur without telling general membership for “sensitive topics” (i.e. behavior policy issues)
- Possible cooperative program with VA beginning Fall 2017
 - Board will review proposal
- Changing the name of the Beginner Lesson to Intro Session
 - Approved