

# Board Meeting 2/1/16

**Attendance:** Kristen, Frank, Ashley, Lea, Darren, Larry, Mary, Chris, Shelly, John M, Deb B, Darlene, Christie, Tom, Chuck, Patricia, Terry, Ryan

## **1. Treasury update: Frank**

The checking account currently has sufficient funds to cover Pigtown expenses and the anticipated cost of the sound system purchase. We have had an average Monday increase of about \$13, taking in \$260-\$280 total per evening with \$40 net on average.

Switching from FR1 to FR2 means switching some tax things; Frank will investigate non-profit tax workshops, and we will foot the bill if necessary.

## **2. System for paying Monday night dance talent**

A minimum guarantee of \$10-15 per person on stage was standard for many years; we are at \$20 currently. The payment process begins with \$100 to the house, \$20 to each band member as possible, then to the caller and sound person.

Starting tonight, we will begin a pilot system of giving part of the take at the door to the talent. When there's more than \$30 in the till after paying for the hall and the \$20 per person on stage minimum, we will keep the \$30 for CCD then divide equal shares between band members, caller, and sound person. This will be done at the break.

We will consider revamping Saturday payment as needed for the future as we are often losing money on Saturdays.

## **3. Leadership positions/elections**

Treasurer: Frank Buschelmann

Secretary: Shelly Zeiser

Co-Facilitators: Ashley Greathouse and Kristen Planeaux

Mailing Lists: John Brockman

## **4. Dancer behavior and etiquette policies, signs for the weekly dance**

Policies drafted by Kristen with help from Gabrielle, Chris, and Ashley were presented to all. We agreed that complaints should be addressed in a person-to-person low-key fashion; male board members will address issues with male dancers, female board members will address issues with female dancers. We will look over the proposals before the next meeting and all suggestions will be sent to Kristen. Darlene proposed hanging signs in the bathroom as well as in the hall as a place people frequent and will see them.

We will create a poster to have out at dances with pictures of several board members' faces. This will help new dancers find us to give any comments or report issues. Volunteers to have their picture posted are board members Deb B, John M, Ashley, Shelly, Larry, Darlene, Ryan, and Kristen.

## **5. New Year's Eve dance review and future plans**

This year's dance had low potluck attendance, was a small dance, and faded early. We had trouble getting bands and callers to fill the slots. The history is that we used to be the only game in town, but that has changed with other communities hosting their own New Year's dances.

All decided that we want to keep the dance going. We need email announcements, more advertising, reinvigoration of the organizing and planning of the dance with a committee and/or facilitator, maybe go to a one band one caller format to draw a crowd.

## **6. What to do about dancers banned from surrounding dance communities**

Problem dancers who have been banned from other regional dances were named and their offenses brought to light. We will take no official action other than to be aware of their presence should they show up and keep a sharp eye out for any issues.

## **7. Sound system purchase update**

Bob is speaking with a sound company and Milan to get an estimate on installing wires; the sound committee is still thinking about what system to buy. A document will be written up and signed by both us and the WFAC on what happens if we leave.

## **8. Acquisition of appropriate recorded music in case of late or no-show band**

We recently had a no-show band; we need to have music available just in case this should happen again. Appropriate recordings (with potatoes) include the Berea Cast-offs, String Beans, and Assembly: Other Side of the Tracks. We have a cable that will connect a media player to the sound board, so all we need is a sound device like a CD player and couple CDs and we can ensure there will always be music.

## **9. House concert funding**

Darlene asked: Can we offer a \$100 guarantee for house concert support? It can help us to get new bands in the area who would like more than a one-night gig, and these bands are playing for dances as well. We should compile a short list of people who would like to host house concerts in the future so the burden is not always on Darlene. Lea Crain has volunteered; we will follow up with others as well.

Parameters: guarantee from Cincinnati Contra Dancers that we will make up the difference if the concert takes in less than \$100, 5 concert per year cap, the band must have contributed to traditional dancing.

**10. Air conditioning for the summer - not addressed**

**11. Crumbs on the floor at break - not addressed**

### **Follow-ups**

1. Should we stop mailing Pigtown flyers and go completely digital? Tweak the flyer system?
2. Feedback form for each dance in a half sheet format
  1. How was the calling?
  2. How was the music and the sound?
  3. Was there anything tonight that made you uncomfortable?
  4. Is there a way the dance could be improved?
  5. Name spot if willing to have a follow-up
  6. Date spot
  7. Email address provided if you would like to email comments
3. Saturday night costs - do we need to raise our rate?
4. New Year's Dance
5. Revisit behavior policies
6. What will we acquire to ensure music in the case of no-show band?
7. Air conditioning for the summer
8. Crumbs on the floor at the break

*Notes taken by Kristen Planeaux*