

# Contra Board Meeting Minutes

~7.20.15~

Attendees: Ryan, Chris, Kristen, Frank, Whitney, Larry, Chuck, Ashley, John McCain, Deb, Bob, Barbara

## 1) Dancer Etiquette/Behavior Policies

Kristen and Ashley researched what other groups have done (particularly the St. Louis group). The group agreed that the Cincinnati Policy should include important points like: alcohol policy, establishing the overall etiquette of asking someone to dance/turning down a dancer/the right to say no to dancers that make you feel uncomfortable, addressing the issue of rough dancers, asking permission before dipping/doing non-standard dance moves with a partner, and how the board will deal with dancers who exhibit inappropriate/problematic behaviors that disrupt the dance community.

The policy document will include the names and photos of designated board members to approach about any problems or concerns that arise in the dance community.

The group agreed that the policy should be posted on the website and that hard copies should be available and passed out during Monday dances. Once the hard copy policy is handed out, we will ask the Cincinnati dance community for feedback.

### General disciplinary steps for problematic issues:

- 1<sup>st</sup> level consequence—Two board members will approach the dancer with problematic behavior and discuss the issue with them (and hand them a copy of the policy, if appropriate).
  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> level consequence—If the dancer is still causing problems, two designated board members will give the dancer a verbal warning.
  
- 3<sup>rd</sup>—If the dancer does not heed these first two levels of enforcement, then the two board members will 1) notify the whole board and 2) ban the dancer from the dance community.

Kristen and Ashley will initiate writing this document.

## **2) Phone Directory**

The phone directory was most recently updated in 2013, per John Brockman. This list is the same list as the Pigtown mailing list. Kristen will talk to John about updating the phone list, as well as maintaining Pigtown mailing list data.

## **3) Proposal for New Speakers/Sound System**

Latest update is that Milan has granted us permission to purchase/install permanent mounted speakers. The group was also in favor of a new soundboard. We just need to get more details on what speakers/soundboards are out there.

Kristen has been in contact with Tony Hernandez. It sounds like the best option would be to invest in a digital board and tablet, as well as new speakers. Tony is willing to come and give a workshop or a consultation on how to use the speakers (possibly during Pigtown 2016?).

## **4) Pricing for New Speakers/Soundboard**

Bloomington just got a new sound system with the speakers and analog soundboard (approx. \$1800). Columbus recently got a new sound system, too (*note: Dave Notman, the contact for the sound system*). Some members estimated approx. \$1300 for a digital sound board. The whole speaker/soundboard system should be less than \$5000 total.

The group agreed that whenever we get new speakers/soundboard, we need to create a policy/contract establishing Cincinnati Contra Dancers' ownership of the sound system and right to determine which other parties (if any) can use our sound system (i.e. DJs for weddings at the WFAC). This document should include an insurance/damage policy, in case another group uses our equipment and damages it. We should also invest in a secure storage place to contain the new equipment.

Kristen will contact Tony for specifics on pricing. Josh Telecsan and Bob will help research pricing, as well.

## **5) Saturday Dance Deficits**

Frank provided the group with an update on finances and the Saturday night dance deficit. The group voted to bump up Monday night pricing to \$5. The new rate will start on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. The group will notify the caller who will declare the new rate during the announcements part of the weekly dance.

This price increase will bring in more revenue than raising the Saturday night dance price and the group agreed that the older rate of \$4 was a bargain considering other dance communities charge at least \$5-\$6 for their weekly dances.

## **6) Current Problems with the Fans**

Dancers have been complaining that the fans have been blowing dust around. Since the old fans are inconvenient to clean out, the group agreed to research pricing for new fans (specifically oscillating fans on poles). Larry and John McCain will investigate pricing.

## **Other Issues**

-The group agreed that we should invest in new microphone stands, as part of the initiative to update the speakers/sound system.

-The group also mentioned possibly contributing to the WFAC building's AC system (either updating or replacing it); this topic will be discussed at a later date.