

Swing 'n' Country Board Meeting

March 18, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. and was temporarily halted at 7:15 p.m. due to the extreme noise level at Gulliver's Restaurant. The meeting was moved to Judy's basement and resumed at 7:30 p.m. Thank you Judy!

Present: Jerry Kieras, Don Moeller, Rich Cooper, Deborah Sitter, Ingrid Dubman, Karen Saunders, Leah Noparstak, and Gary LaForte.

Absent: Suzanne Saxer

Mission Statement was read by Don Moeller.

Member Presentations

- ❖ Carey Schug has stepped up to the plate and offered to continue the reproduction of the videos of the Wednesday lessons. The cost will remain at \$5.00. The videos will be ready for pick-up at the Friday night dance following the previous month's lessons. If they are not picked up by the 1st Wednesday of the following month, they will be mailed to the recipients. Carey was unable to be present at the meeting. Don presented the information.

President's Report

- ❖ Rich will look around for a new location for our April board turnover meeting.
- ❖ Don will advise Jennifer Jeffries of the reduction in sponsorship for Chicagoland.
- ❖ Rich has been asked to get QuickBooks up and running on the new laptop computer. Rich will call Tina Robbins to see if she can be of assistance to him with this process.
- ❖ Rich has been asked to break down each committee's budget in the March report.

Treasurer's Report

- ❖ Jerry moved/Leah seconded that we accept the January report. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- ❖ "Life Storage" is taking over "Metro Storage". Our lease expires in July which is when the insurance will expire. Rich tried talking to the new management but caught them as they were heading out. Rich will contact them again to find out more information.
- ❖ The Treasurer's report does not contain monies deposited for Dance Camp. This is due to the unreliable reports produced by the World Dance Registry. After running three (3) different reports from their system for the month of February, all gave different totals, none of which agreed with the bank's deposits.

Secretary's Report

- ❖ Leah moved/Karen seconded that we accept the report. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Hospitality

HOSPITALITY REPORTS			
January 4, 2013	79 attendees	\$42.98 spent	\$.54/person
February 1, 2013	98 attendees	\$41.47 spent	\$.42/person
March 3, 2013	95 attendees	\$50.56 spent	\$.53/person

Dance Camp Chicago

- ❖ It is looking like we have an \$1800.00 amount in the black for DCC! An exact figure will come after reports from World Dance Registry and our bank deposits are reconciled.
- ❖ Member attendance was low this year but non-member attendance tripled.
- ❖ We had 486 people this year and 501 last year.
- ❖ Our major problem was the floors in the smaller ballrooms being extremely slippery.
- ❖ Next year's 1st choice dates are February 28th thru March 2nd, and 2nd choice dates are February 21st thru February 24th.

Operations

- ❖ Eight members are running for the seven (7) open positions for board members for the election of 2013. One member is running for the Secretary position with the Vice President position remaining vacant. This will create a need for a special election later in the year. As of March 1, 2013, 217 ballots were distributed by mail or in person. Five were returned due to incorrect addresses of which 3 were handed to members. The other two (2) did not successfully reach the individuals after attempts by email and phone. All ballots postmarked by March 15th will be counted if they arrive by March 20th. The election committee consists of Marla Rohlfing, Marlene Kenney, and Jerry Kieras. They will count the ballots on the evening of March 20th. The Board of Directors will be notified via email of the election results and for an email certification vote no later than noon on March 22nd. All candidates will be notified on March 22nd as to their election status. On March 23rd, the release of the election results will be sent to Judi Troemel and Roger Peterson for publication on Facebook, Constant Contact and the website.

Happenings

- ❖ Don will contact Judi to request monthly status on Happenings.

Marketing

- ❖ Since there is no marketing chairperson, Leah created the March and April flyers, Judi Troemel created the three (3) month calendar and Don printed all the copies. Thank you Leah, Judi and Don! Jerry will be doing the May flyer.
- ❖ SNC donated \$300.00 and presented it to the youth group Swing Cats Dance Club on Saturday, March 9th, 2013 at the Chicago Classic. A thank-you letter was sent to Judi and Roger for publication.

Education

- ❖ We have received the final signed contract from Don Leynes which completes the educational year.
- ❖ Judi Troemel did a great job running the Slightly Used Shoe, Boot, and Jewelry Sale at our March dance. Sales were not as good as last year and people were more interested in the lesson and the dance. Therefore, we have decided to skip this event next year and try it again in 2015.
- ❖ Nightclub lessons have been well attended. Julie and Don have made the material easy to understand yet challenging at the same time.

Website Report

- ❖ The wording on our website regarding renewals and new memberships has been updated to read as follows: The membership year begins on September 1st and all memberships expire on August 31st. Brand new Swing'n'Country members will receive a prorated membership fee their first year.
- ❖ The description of SNC has been updated on Facebook to read as follows: The Club is dedicated to the promotion of couples' style Swing and Country dancing. Our dances are held the 1st Friday of each month at The Center at North Park in Franklin Park, IL. The purpose of this Facebook group is to provide a dancing contact venue for Swing'n'Country members and its supporters (Dance Camp Chicago, SNC Dances and/or Lessons).

Music

- ❖ Our February dance brought several comments regarding the music: It was too loud, a lot of WCS dances, and a lot of 2 Step. People settled on the rotation. Time will tell if they miss the "orphan" dances.
- ❖ Jerry heard several positive comments on the music at our March dance.

Volunteers

- ❖ A new volunteer has been added to the list: Sandy Falesch. Welcome Sandy!

Dance Angels

- ❖ There was not as much enthusiasm regarding the Dance Cards at our February dance as there was in January. The Jack & Jill competition and new music rotation may have been distracting.
- ❖ It is questionable whether the new Dance Cards are getting the people off the wall to dance. Ingrid suggested that we re-explain the Dance Cards each dance for the new people. It was also suggested that we have clipboards with pencils placed around the room for people to sign-off on the cards. Gary will be in charge of putting them around at the dance.
- ❖ The winners for February were Diana Smith and David Allen.
- ❖ The winners for March were Barry Loberg and Marlene Kenney.
- ❖ At the March dance, many members refused the Dance Cards because they interfered with their dance time.

Membership

- ❖ Currently there are 217 memberships. February brought in 6 new members and 19 renewals.
- ❖ In March, 2 renewals were received. This is 3 more than last September and 29 less than the last election in 2011.

Next meeting is April 22nd, 2013.

Adjournment

Rich moved and Karen seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:45 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted,

Deborah E. Sitter

Addendum:

The election is complete and certified by the current Board of Directors:

President - Jerry Kieras

Vice President – vacant

Treasurer - Rich Cooper (Finishing his last year)

Secretary - Deborah Sitter

Ingrid Dubman

Marcia Emmett

Susie Kaplan

Gary LaForte

Don Moeller

Reike Moskal

Leah Noparstak