

Swing'n'Country Board Meeting

April 21, 2008

Present: Roger Peterson, Ann Clark, Tina Reitz, Penny Rusch, Jerry Kieras, Susie Kaplan, Tobi Oberman, Leah Noparstak, Julie Hein, Rich Cooper

Call to order: 7:10 by President Leah Noparstak

Mission Statement was read by Penny Rusch.

Ann and Jerry were welcomed as the newest Board members.

Treasurer's Report:

Budget for this year will be resubmitted and discussed at a later date. It will be e-mailed. Board should read, review, and be prepared to discuss at the next board meeting. Questions should be directed to Rich. We will not have a budget ready for the next Dance Camp @ Chicago but will be able to approve the remainder of the budget.

Roger moved and Leah seconded that we approve the Feb Treasurer's report. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Roger moved and Ann seconded that we approve the March Treasurer's report. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report:

February minutes: Roger has requested and Leah has agreed to the following

- List "Website" as a standing committee
- List "Happenings and Newsletter" as, simply, "Happenings."
- There will not be a separate "Membership" report on the agenda; this information already appears in the Treasurer's report.

Tina moved and Ann seconded that February minutes be approved. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Committees

In the future, the agenda will be sent to Board members in time for it to be reviewed and voted on (approved)

Education:

- Tobi distributed proposed contract and present contract for review before next meeting. Send comments to Tobi and be prepared to approve a new contract. (New one is based on something sent to Tobi by Jen Jeffries.)
- Question was raised about the meaning of the class that Jill will be teaching at the second June dance. "Your Modus Operandi Revealed" is designed to be intriguing and tantalizing. Roger will add some verbage to the website, and Happenings will feature teaser questions as Jill's lesson moves into the rotation.,
- Question about "which" Double Two the club will teach. Hania has been contacted and will get back to the group and a decision will be made later. The Board will make a decision later.

Operations:

No report.

Marketing:

June flyer is done. Do we want to consider adding teaser information re Jill's class?

Music:

- Mark Robbins' e-mail asked questions about tempo of music. SNC's range is not UCWDC's bpm but an adjustment of those tempos. Tina will ask Mark for a copy of the CD that he produced for use on SNC's computer. The songs on the CD will be checked for speed.
- Swing music on Friday wasn't good, especially the contemporary songs that were played early. Ken has been asked to play a mix of blues, contemporary, and country. Leah will write a letter to Ken regarding the Board's concerns. If any Board member has concerns, e-mail them to Leah asap. There were more compliments than criticisms about the music on Friday.

Special Events:

- Do we want to do the Schaumburg Septemberfest parade on September 1? It costs \$25 to enter. Let Tina know.
- Do we want to do a showcase/demo at the Shriner's hospital in Oak Park? Date is negotiable. Let Tina know.

Membership:

See note above.

Happenings:

- General information tidbits are appearing from time to time in Happenings. No one has objected either to the inclusion of these articles or to a specific article. Hearing nothing, they will be continued on an intermittent basis.
- Discussion of the use of Yahoo Groups or Google Groups website as a chat room/blog. This may be worthwhile to pursue as a way of communicating among ourselves. This would need to be moderated. Jerry and Roger will discuss this and get back to the Board.
- Discussion about a member's request to announce his/her work needs. We cannot do this, since it is not in our mission statement. In addressing this request, Leah will also respectfully ask that she not use the Angels' e-mail, since it violates our privacy policy.

Note: Going forward, Board members are asked to blind members of committees in order to be in compliance with club privacy policy.

Dance Camp @ Chicago

- Don (general committee) and Leah (steering committee) are co-directors. Steering Committee is: Don, Leah, Roger, Tobi, and Julie. The main job of the Steering Committee will be budgetary. The general committee will brainstorm ideas without concern for budget.
- Next meeting will be Sunday, May 4, 3-5 pm at Skokie Public Library. All are invited to attend. Contact Don if interested in joining the general group.
- Time frame:
 - Postcard Save the Date flyer ready by Circle City (transition May/June weekend)
 - Full flyer ready by Chicagoland (mid August)
 - Date: February 20-22. (May?)
 - Location options: Waterford/Quality Inn or Medinah Shriner's Convention Center/Hilton Inn

Website

- Report submitted.
- New website is lovely!!

Lesson Videos

- Report submitted
- Current policy: \$5 for video if you pay for full month of lessons
- Suggestion: Sliding scale with bonus for instructor if anyone pays more than \$5 for a video.
- Julie moved and Susie seconded that we accept Roger's proposal as amended (CDs available to those who didn't take lesson for \$35). Friday dances may or may not be included. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- Put a note on DVD that they should not be put on public display (e.g. Youtube)

Board Responsibilities

- One month of lessons (need three people for 1st week of lessons)
- X number of Fridays
- Spreadsheet can be expanded so there is one tab for each month. Roger will expand to include Dance Angels, videographer, hospitality, etc.
- Board members pay for lessons and DVDs. Only dances are free.

Open Board Position

- Alfred Dahma has agreed to fill open Board position.
- No objections were offered; Leah was asked to invite Alfred to join the Board.
- Ann pointed out that the by-laws state that whoever sits as the President Emeritus continues to be President Emeritus until replaced. We need a letter of resignation from Amy. Leah will contact both Amy and Alfred
- Tobi and Jerry moves that, pending Amy's resignation, we offer the 11th Board position to Alfred Dahma. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

By-Laws Committee

Ann, chair
Richard
Julie

Committees

- Chairperson of committee should send to Leah a brief summary of work of the committee.
- Indicate whether you would like to continue, would like assistance, or would like to change committee membership.
 - ~Education:
 - ~Marketing:
 - ~Special Programs: Tina Reitz
 - ~Happenings: Judi Troemel
 - ~Website: Roger Peterson
 - ~Database: Alfred Dahma
 - ~Operations
 - *Music
 - *Hospitality
 - *Dance Angels: Susan Kaplan
 - *Volunteers

Lessons

- We are using CNPs mic; do we want to get our own mic?
- We need to get rid of amplifier.
- Roger will look into addressing this issue. He will get Alfred's assistance.

Database

- Alfred is still working on this.
- The Board requests a likely completion completed.

Calendar

- Leah passed out calendars which include many, if not all, of the dance dates in the entire universe: UCWDC, WSDC, Genesis, Rebels, X-Dance.
- In addition, holidays and other important dates have been included.
- Let Leah know of changes or errors.
- Roger suggested that due dates for flyers be included.

Future meeting dates

May 19
June 23
July 21
August 25
Sept 22
Oct 20
Nov 10
Dec TBA

50-50 Raffles

- Previous motion (12/10/07): no more than 1/quarter or 3/year and be charity-driven
- (Q1: Jan-Mar; Q2: Apr-Jun; Q3: July-Sept; Q4: Oct-Dec)
- Question about wisdom of giving Grant's tapes/DVDs away. They are dated and may seem to be approved by the club.
- Consider instead giving DVDs from previous lessons, dance lessons, dance classes, etc.
- Committee will make the determination.

Special Events

- Tina distributed proposal for holiday dinner dance.
- Leah moved and Penny seconded that we have the holiday dinner dance on Friday Dec 5 at CNP. The club will subsidize the meals at \$5/member. Tina is authorized to pay the \$250 deposit to CNP. Vote was unanimous (even Rich). Motion passed.
- Tina distributed proposal for picnic/pizza party.
 - ~Picnics have not been well attended for the last several years.
 - ~It may be time to give our much-discussed pizza party a try.
 - ~Roger moved and Tobi seconded that we have a pizza party on July 18. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

New t-shirts

- We will get an interim order to our regular vendor.
- Susie will get info re shirts to Roger and Julie re the possibility of a new vendor.

Chicagoland (Aug 15-17)

- Jennifer discussed having clappers at Chicagoland. (Julie talk to Jen and then Bruce.) Discuss cost with her.
- Jobs: Set up and take down of skyline. Volunteers. Food for volunteers. Who will do this? Check with Stephanie and Mike to see if they are interested in continuing. Can Jen help out?

Adjournment

- Tina moved and Ann seconded that we adjourn at 10:19 pm. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Hein