

Swing'n'Country Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 29, 2009

Present: Ann Clark, Rich Cooper, Bill Dortch, Leah Noparstak, Roger Peterson, Kathy Poppke, Judi Troemel, Susie Kaplan, Jerry Kieras

Absent: Don Moeller

Guests: Alfred Dahma, Julie Hein, Tobi Oberman, Jill Popovich

Meeting was called to order at 7:06pm by President Roger. Susie read the Mission Statement.

President's Report:

- Next Board Meeting is scheduled for July 20.
- Roger picked up records held by former president, Chris Peterson. SNC now has minutes going back to 1996. These eventually will be put on DVD.
- The new bylaws were approved via email vote. Those in favor: Bill Dortch, Roger Peterson, Ann Clark, Jerry Kieras, Susie Kaplan, Don Moeller, Judi Troemel, Leah Noparstak. Not found: Rich Cooper or Kathy Poppke.
- **Action item:** We can now appoint an 11th Board Member (Marcia Emmett's name was mentioned as a candidate)
- **Action item:** We can act on life members.
- Email vote to place an ad in the Swing N Dance Party program hosted by Jason Miklic and Sophy Kdep was approved. Jerry made motion to increase the ad from ¼ page to ½ page at the cost of \$150. Bill seconded. Rich opposed; Ann abstained. **Motion carried**
- Roger passed around our Illinois State Registration showing that SNC is legally registered with the State of Illinois as "SWING-N-COUNTRY SOCIAL DANCE" (all in caps). This was quite amusing to a certain few (Julie and Judi) who have held separate opinions on to-use-or-not-to-use apostrophes in the Club's name. The Club will continue to use the generally accepted format of Swing 'n' Country in its publications.

For the Good of the Club:

Chicagoland: SNC needed to re-affirm the long standing commitment as submitted by Jennifer Jeffries on June 16. Julie Hein confirmed Jennifer's recollection of SNC's involvement. Roger suggested we approve the same participation for 2009. Leah entered the motion which was **passed unanimously**. The items are as follows:

- 1) Volunteers to set up the skyline (donated by SNC) on Thursday night from SNC.
- 2) A Friday night pizza party/social hosted by SNC
- 3) Cash support (\$1200.00) for a competition division from SNC
- 4) Discounted weekend passes for SNC members by the dance festival
- 5) Volunteer opportunities for SNC members at the dance festival
- 6) Complimentary SNC display table in the ballroom by the dance festival

We will ask that Jennifer to formally request the event's needs in 2010 and future years. The hand-shake agreement is attached to these minutes and will also be held by the Treasurer for budgetary purposes in January.

Action Item: Leah will advise CDF that the 2009 request for volunteers and cash support is approved.

Committee Chairs: Chairs have been requested to submit their reports for review prior to the scheduled board meeting. Any format is acceptable.

Non-Committee Presentation:

Alfred Dahma and Jill Popovich submitted a proposal for a new dance facility: The presentation included SNC demographics, layout of the proposed facility and rental fees. Swing 'n' Country has declined the offer based on current economics. Copy of letter from Roger Peterson to Alfred Dahma turning down the proposal is attached to these minutes.

SNC Officer and Committee Reports: (Listed alphabetically)

Bylaws: Ann Clark, (Chair). Committee is dissolved. Complete. See President's Report above.

Dance Camp Chicago: (Leah, Chair)

Venue Search: Alfred presented the Dance Camp Committee report which included three venue options: Basic, Moderate and Enhanced. Additional detail included projected income based on zero, 2008 and 2009 attendance. Roger presented a proposal that kept would keep SNC's losses between \$4500 and \$6000. Roger suggested we define what DCC means to the Club in terms of giving back to its members and how much SNC can absorb as a loss. A motion was made by Judi, seconded by Ann to keep SNC's losses at \$5000. Alfred's 2009 venue search presentation is attached to these minutes.

Motion passed.

The motion is as follows: Swing 'n' Country will commit to having Dance Camp Chicago 2010 on the third weekend of February 2010 provided that: 1) the planned deficit for DCC 2010 shall not exceed \$5,000; 2) a member of the SNC board of directors will attend all DCC planning meetings; 3) minutes of all DCC 2010 planning meeting will be sent to all SNC board members within 2 weeks of the meeting; 4) a plan for achieving the financial goals be submitted to the SNC board no later than August 1, 2009.

Action Item: The Dance Camp Committee can now submit RFP's to places like the Waterford, the Hyatt, The Centre at North Park, Intercontinental and Itasca. The committee will also secure Mario and Kristen if costs of these teachers will fall within the "not to exceed a \$5,000.00 loss guideline. A special board meeting will be held on August 3, if required.

Volunteers: Roger volunteered to be a liaison however not responsible for DCC success. Any new board members who would take on additional assignments contact Leah. Bill and Judi volunteered to be on decorations. If DCC 2010 has competitions, SNC will check into the possibility of volunteer judges.

Recap on Survey: The results showed those who did not attend gave reasons that the cost was too high or they were going to other events. Those who did attend felt the value for dollar spent was high. The results of the DCC survey are included as an attachment to these minutes.

Education: (Susie/Tobi chairs) None.

Action Item: Proposal for free beginner/beginner classes remains an action item.

Happenings: Judi (Chair)

Action Item: Coordinating the sync of *Happenings* subscribers to the current member list remains an action item by Leah. A current *Happenings* report had been submitted to the Board previous to the meeting and is attached.

Hospitality: (Ann, Chair)

Propose budget for food for July and August dances. July theme is 'In the Good Old Summertime' with pizza. Ann is basing budget on 90 attendees and will get pricing from Nick and Bruno's as well as Moretti's as pizza suppliers.

Action item: Hospitality will work details via email. Costs for August theme 'In the Heat of the Night' with ice cream social were not discussed.

Action item: Plan 2009-2010 dance themes remains an action item.

Marketing: Jerry Kieras (Chair)

The minutes of the Marketing Committee meeting held on June 5th are attached.

Action Item: Secure volunteers to man the SNC booth at Chicagoland during prime hours to encourage new membership.

Music: Leah (Chair) None

Action Item: DJ guideline that will include BPM, rotation, length of song, interviewing process all summarized in one document remains an action item.

Operations: Roger

Action Item: A report was submitted prior to meeting and will become an attachment to the minutes.

Secretary's Report : Judi

The minutes, second page, first bullet item "Overall, SNC is on budget" was asked to be revised by rewording the phrase to read "Overall, SNC is on budget (excluding DCC)." Motion was made by Leah and seconded Ann to approve as amended. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Action item: Send corrected May minutes to the Roger Peterson for web site posting. (done)

Special Events: December Holiday Dinner: Leah, Tobi and Julie.

Action Item: Reserving December 4 for Dinner/Dance and December 18 for bare-bones dance only (I-Pod music, minimal refreshments) remains an action item.

Treasurer's Report: Rich (Chair)

The balance of P/L of April 2009 was actually forced numbers. An overage/underage account has now been established for \$ variances A revised April Treasurer report was sent to the Board on 05142009. Motion was made to accept. **Motion unanimously passed** and is attached to these minutes.

The Swing Dance Council membership has not yet been paid. As it was approved last month, it will be paid in the amount of \$200.00.

The Treasurer's report for May 2009 was **unanimously approved** and is attached to these minutes.

Web Site: Roger (Chair)

The web site is currently being reformatted to conform to new web host guidelines. Should any board members wish to review the current work in progress, look at "rogerpeterson.net."

Adjournment: Ann made a motion to adjourn at 10:15 pm, seconded by Bill.

Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Troemel

Swing 'n' Country Operations Report

June 29, 2009

- The CD player in the mixer box does not work. We need to get warrantee repair or take other action.

Swing 'n' Country Web Site Report

June 29, 2009

- The switch from MS FrontPage to MS Expression is ongoing. Much has been completed but much more to do. The new web site will, initially, look mostly like the old site but the code for doing this will be totally different. Take a look at www.rogerpeterson.net Ready or not, the new web code will be on our usual URL's on July 1, 2009.

Swing 'n' Country Happenings Report

Happenings Report – Board Meeting 06292009

- The Happenings editors will be on summer hiatus weeks of 0707 and 0714. Intermittent special releases will be made for the SNC July 24 dance and Chicagoland Dance Festival by Judi.
- A promotion outline for CDF has been sent to Jennifer Jeffries.
- The sync of *Happenings* subscribers to the current member list remains an action item. Leah to coordinate.
- The new trial period for Contant Contact has not yet begun. As Comcast subscribers seem to be getting their e-letter without the previous problems, does the Board see any reason to actively pursue within a given time frame?

Judi Troemel 06262009