

Swing 'n' Country Board Meeting
December 10, 2007

Present: Don Bright, Rich Cooper, Alfred Dahma, Susie Kaplan, Leah Noparstak, Tobi Oberman, Penny Rusch, Roger Peterson, Tina Reitz

Absent: Julie Hein, Amy Kaawa

Meeting called to order by Leah at 7:00 at Spaghetti Warehouse.

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The Board welcomed Don and Penny.

**Secretary's Report**

- It was moved (Roger) and seconded (Tina) that the minutes be approved as corrected. Vote was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report**

- Rich stated "You Finally Got it and it Worked" in reference to the financial reports. Thanks to Rich for all of his hard work to get the reports out online. Rich will look at our fixed assets (computer, music equipment) to check into their depreciation and make corrections to the budget.
- Rich will do some housecleaning on the current budget. He will look at all line items.
- One of our CD's came due. Rich will put it on the books and charge interest to December 2007.
- We are about \$900 short in our budget.
- It was moved (Susie) and seconded (Penny) that the financial report be approved. Vote was unanimous. **Motion carried.**

**Good News – The tax penalty and all interest charges for late filing of our taxes has been removed.**

**DDC**

- This is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of DDC. There was discussion about why the budget was so high. The line item that held the most objections was decorations. The Board understands that it is probably too late to address this at this point. The Board feels that the DDC budget gets to them way too late leaving them very little time to facilitate any type of change. It was explained that VIP passes would be sold this year. This pass would include: a shirt, dinner, preferred seating and a DVD.
- It was moved (Roger) and seconded (Susie) that the Board accepts Stephanie's budget recommendations as is. Approved: Penny, Don, Roger, Susie, Leah and Tobi. Opposed: Rich and Alfred. **Motion carried.**
- Reasons for being opposed: Decorations will become an asset. The Board should have approved the expense earlier. We should have known specifics earlier. The Board objected to no DDC meetings and being out of the loop.
- The Board requests that Stephanie recommends her successor as Director of DDC by the next board meeting on January 7, 2008.

**Education**

- Mike and Debbe Lapina will be teaching WCS on February 15, 2008.

- Tobi would appreciate suggestions for 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday lessons and instructors.
- Videos from the November lessons went out on December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- A proposal regarding getting “Technique back into our lessons” was brought forth by Tina on behalf of member Jon Serletic – Board to read and discuss at next meeting.

### **Operations**

- Nothing to report at this time

### **Marketing**

- Flyers are completed for January, February and March.

### **Classic Sponsorship**

- On hold until the next meeting (Swing 'n' Country has not yet been asked to sponsor in any way – has only been asked to sell tickets at reduced rate of \$89).

### **New Board Positions**

- The Board is looking at removing the position of president emeritus and adding another board position possibly for a one year term only. The merits of having an even/odd number of members were discussed. The general feeling is that odd is better to break ties. We could also use an additional member to help with the workload. The positives are that it brings continuity and adds another person who knows the history of the club. The negatives are that it is a three year commitment and history the person has done very little to help out with operations.

### **By-Laws**

- Don will begin to work on the By-Laws.

### **Dances**

- Once the database is ready a business practice for lessons and dances will be developed.

### **Special Events**

- The Holiday dinner dance was discussed. Tina did a wonderful job organizing the event. Attendance was a little low this year. The committee will look at alternatives for next year.
- Alternatives for the picnic was discussed - committee to look at choices and get back to Board for approval

### **Voting on-line**

- A business practice for e-mail voting needs to be developed. Discussion: an email vote needs to be open for 24 hours in length. Discussion on the topic needs to happen before the vote can be taken. Leah will make follow up phone calls to members who have not responded. Read receipts can be requested. Conference calls can be an option. Motions should revolve around one topic; not multiples. The president should send out the topic and then be responsible for making the motion and taking the vote.

### **Website**

- The website will need to be remodeled soon. Roger put out a request that anyone who sees a website that they like should forward it to him to look at for ideas.

### **Established Committees**

- The Board spends too much time doing work that should be done by committees. The committee will bring their suggestions to the Board for approval/vote. Below is a list of our current committees (Chairperson listed first) and who is on them (if anyone is interested in

joining any of these committees please contact Committee Chairperson):

| HOSPITALITY/<br>VOLUNTEERS | SPECIAL<br>EVENTS | BY-<br>LAWS | MARKETING | WEBSITE | EDUCATION |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Susie                      | Tina              | Don         | Tina      | Roger   | Tobi      |
| Elizabeth                  | Tobi              | Richard     | Penny     |         |           |
| Leah - Ops                 | Leah              |             |           |         |           |
|                            | Julie             |             |           |         |           |

| DATABASE | DVD'S | HAPPENINGS | MUSIC | T-SHIRTS |
|----------|-------|------------|-------|----------|
| Amy      | Roger | Julie      | Leah  | Susie    |
| Alfred   |       | Judi       | Ken   | Leah     |
| Richard  |       | Ken        | Tobi  |          |
|          |       | Bill       |       |          |

### Hospitality

- It was moved by (Roger) and second by (Susie) that SNC provides pizza at the first March 2008 dance. Approved by: Roger and Susie. Opposed by: Tina, Don, Rich, Penny, Alfred, Leah and Tobi. Reasons for opposition: logistical difficulties regarding the Center at North Park and breaking continuity with dancing. **Motion is lost.**
- It was moved by (Roger) and seconded by (Susie) that SNC hold a 50/50 raffle to be held at the first March 2008 dance with proceeds to benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital. **Motion carried.** Board also discussed that no more than three 50/50 raffles would be held per year (1 per quarter) and be charity driven.

|                                  |
|----------------------------------|
| Roger to Organize                |
| Richard to be our "Wingman"      |
| Tina to be our Charity Organizer |

- It was moved (Alfred) and second by (Don) that the Hospitality Committee creates a special events calendar to be presented to the Board for final approval no less than four months in advance. **Motion carried.**

|              |                                               |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Jan</b>   | Mario                                         |
| <b>Feb</b>   | Valentine's Day                               |
| <b>March</b> | 50/50 raffle for St. Jude Children's Hospital |
| <b>April</b> | Gently Used Clothing Sale                     |
| <b>May</b>   | TBA                                           |
| <b>June</b>  | Food Drive                                    |

### DJ/Music

- Effective in January, Ken Dillard and Matt Cotheman will be switching off. Happenings will run an ad inviting anyone interested in being a DJ for SNC should contact **Operations**. Bob Boyle and Dave Thompson (from Silver Saddle) have expressed interest in being a fill-in.

### Policies

### Weather

- The weather policy will need to be re-written. We need a better method of notification of class/dance cancellations. Discussion: Do a Happenings Blast, the

website might not be dependable because of the time factor, have dancers call the hotline to receive the most current up to date information. Making phone calls is not a good option – no one has the time; or at this point the phone numbers and it is just not the most practical solution.

### **Lesson Videos**

- It was moved by (Susie) and second by (Tina) that we accept Roger's lesson video policy. **Motion carried.**

*“Swing 'n' Country Dance Club may, on occasion, make video summaries, of the Wednesday night lessons available to lesson attendees. A nominal fee to cover the cost of reproducing and mailing these videos will be collected at the time of order. These videos will be available only to persons paying for all four weeks of lessons. Videos will be produced only with approval from the instructor. If an instructor denies approval for these videos, that denial is final. Swing 'n' Country does not guarantee to make videos of all lessons. When resources are not available for recording, editing, and reproducing, no video summaries will be made. These videos are made as a courtesy to our members.”*

### **Petition**

- Discussion tabled until next meeting.

### **Equipment**

- Alfred recommends the following to replace the big boom box with broken pieces:
  - channel stereo mixer
  - portable CD player
  - I-pod docking station
  - Case
- All items to be “packed” by Alfred for easy set-up
- It was moved by (Susie) and second by (Tina) that we accept Alfred's recommendation. **Motion carried**

### **Meeting adjourned 10:35 p.m.**

- It was moved (Penny) and second (Don) that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tobi (substitute note taker)