

**Chattahoochee Country Dancers  
Steering Committee April 2010 Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: April 18, 2010, 6:30pm

Host: Dave Marcus

**Attending:**

SC members: Margie Cooper, Jennifer Horrocks, Dave Marcus,  
Robert McGregor, Robbin Ryan, Janet Shepherd, Tim Timmer, Jim Crawford

Guests: none.

**Absent:**

SC members: Sherry Kilpatrick.

**Minutes of the meeting:**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:40 by Robbin Ryan.
2. Motion by Margie to approve the minutes of the March meeting; Robbin seconded. Passed 5-0-0.
3. Margie and Janet reported on discussions so far with Christine McKay of EC-DA. We explained that the SC's decision is firm to make the Friday night admission for the Fandango weekend \$9, the same as we do on other Fridays with visiting talent. We are working with her to find other cost saving measures to offset the reduced revenue (estimated \$450.) Some possibilities: use of existing CCC piano with us paying for tuning; use of our food & beverage supplies, button supplies, CCD paying door keeper.

The only decision made (by consensus) was that we will let them use our supplies (food and beverage, button supplies, etc.).

4. Motion by Robert, seconded by Tim, to *"amend the standard out-of-town band and caller contracts that talent will be paid for nothing other than travel if the dance is cancelled to due circumstances beyond CCD's control."* Passed 8-0-0.
5. Janet told everyone where the spare key to the equipment room is. Talk to Janet for details if you were not at the meeting; we decided that this should not be in writing anywhere.
6. Motion by Margie, seconded by Robbin, that it be the policy of the CCD that
  - During each quarter, **the goal of scheduling is to have a minimum of 40% of the bands performing for Friday night dances be local**

**bands.** Local bands are bands that are located in such proximity to Atlanta that they do not qualify for travel pay.

- During each quarter, **the goal of scheduling is to have a minimum of 40% of the bands performing for Friday night dances be out of town bands**, i.e., bands where 50% or more of the members do not reside in the Atlanta area.
- Out of town bands will receive travel expenses as per current policy when at least 50% of the members playing for the dance do not reside in the Atlanta area.
- **The primary focus of scheduling**, within the above parameters, shall be getting the best **quality** of bands.
- **The secondary focus of scheduling**, within the above parameters, shall be ensuring a **variety** of genres and sounds.

Passed 8-0-0.

7. Jim Crawford gave a report on CCD's Contra Dance Basics youtube videos and DVDs as well as giving some feedback from new dancer surveys.
  - Online viewing of Contra Dance Basics or watching the DVD version is seen as helpful by many new dancers.
  - CCD gives out a DVD version of these videos, along with a Get-In-Free Card to our new dancers in hopes of bringing the dancers back to dance with us (and be better dancers when they return).
  - A tally sheet of new dancer surveys was presented and recommendations of:
    - A. Post current tally sheet on listserv and on the CCD cork board.
    - B. Highest scores were: new dancers really like the music and bands, the fun and friendliness of CCD
    - C. Lowest scores were: new dancers have some concerns about the difficulty and confusion of their experience and the helpfulness of experienced dancers.
    - D. Get more data in the next month.

It should be noted that sample size is small (about 35 new dancers from last month) and the difference in raw scores of low and high varies very little.

8. Jim, Margie, and Janet reported on the Village of Stone Mountain Bluegrass, Old Time Music, and Country Dance Festival that took place on March 27. John Kelly was very appreciative of CCD's support. Including audiences and

performers, approximately 600 people attended. Roughly 50 attended the dance sessions, nearly all beginners, plus a few of our regulars. Jim passed out a fair number of get-in-free cards. If the event happens again next year, we hope to move it into the big park with the pavilion, which was not available to us this year.

9. The Emory Dance that night was also a big success. A great lively mixed crowd of about 80 dancers, with lots of students and a great high energy. Free Association with Cis Hinkle did a great job and everyone seemed to have a good time. Continuing to do college dances in the area will be a great way to foster CCD's healthy growth. There were several comments for new dancers and experienced dancers alike about how good the band was.
10. Next meeting 4:30pm, May 16, at Jennifer Horrocks' house 776 Circle Drive, Gainesville 30501.
11. The meeting adjourned at 9:08.