

Chattahoochee Country Dancers (CCD) Steering Committee Meeting MINUTES

June 19, 2017, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

In Attendance:

Steering Committee Members:

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| Bobbi Gruber | Maggie Bessent |
| Dan Sandler | Marni Bender |
| Kevin Liske | Ralph Reiley |

Guests:

Doug Singleton
Lalah Manly

Next meeting:

Date: Thursday July 20, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: Maggie Bessent's home – 3074 Vine Circle, Decatur, GA 30033

CCD/ECDA Cooperation

Members from CCD and ECDA met and discussed working together to promote local dance events & schedules. We will link our websites via a central Atlanta area dance site. Willing to include other local dance communities, such as WaltzPlay, Zydeco, etc.

Ramp Renovation Project for CCC

The ramp on the back entrance to the CCC is in need of repair. The Home Depot in Lawrenceville has agreed to donate the wood and nails needed for the project. Volunteers from CCD and CCC will do the labor.

Subcommittees for Attendance & Fundraising

We will form committees to address attendance and fundraising. Doug has volunteered to draft a letter advising of our financial status. Dan expressed an interest in addressing retaining newcomers as returning dancers and went on to say that he has been talking with new dancers about 3 things that are important to him in contra dancing: Fun, Stomping and Community.

SC Nominating Committee

Three current board members will be rolling off at the end of this year. Doug Singleton has agreed to chair this committee to recruit at least 3 persons interested in filling these openings. Two others are needed on the committee to help in the recruitment efforts.

Security at the Friday Dance

We voted as to whether to discontinue security or remain with the current Security Guard. Some votes were by proxy and the outcome was 4 to end security and 4 to keep it. Only one board member vote is outstanding. It was decided that the vote was too close to a tie to end security at this time. We will continue using the \$60/week security guard.

Use of Fundraising Websites

Kevin Liske has researched several fundraising websites and has found one no-fee site along with several fee sites. He will send out his notes so that we can decide which site is the best fit for us. We will also need to determine what our \$ goal is and our time frame for fundraising. Then set it up, send out to the dance community and post to the website.

CCD participation in the July 14 CCC fundraiser gala at Mason Fine Arts

Last info we had on this, the space did not allow for dancing. We do plan to provide live music for this CCC fundraising event.

Acknowledgment of Exceptional Donors

Cristin has sent out thank you letters to recent donors. We talked about how to otherwise thank exceptional donors, but came to no conclusion at this time.

Role of the Band Selection Committee

We talked about the role of the band selection committee and found that there is work to be done to define its role. Currently they look at out of town bands before scheduling them.

Scheduling of some recent Catapult Bands

We did not discuss this one to a decision, but it was determined that all were good dance bands, with Tempest and Tea & Whiskey being brought up in the most favorable ways.

2019 National Square Dance in Atlanta

This is 2 years away, but we should definitely participate.

Dance Behavior

We discussed the recent email conversation on the listserv regarding inappropriate behavior from some in our dance community. There have been no firm personal accusations, therefore at this time, there is no action to be taken on any individual(s). We will keep an eye out for any unsolicited behavior and will post notices in the restrooms regarding how to properly behave and what to do if you don't like something someone is doing.

Finance

The cost of rent and low attendance are our reason for financial hardship.

CCD Name Change

We discussed that maybe a name change will help our group seem less old folksy. We discussed removing Chattahoochee Country – in exchange for Atlanta Contra Dancers.

Alternate Dance Halls

We discussed the possibility of renting a warehouse-type building and purchasing our own floor that could be taken with us when/if we move to another location. Also discussed looking into the use of a university for a dance hall location with a bargaining tool of allowing students to dance for free – providing a social activity for students and new young dancers for us. Are there any elementary schools or churches that would rent their facility for weekly dances?

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