

# Chattahoochee Country Dancers (CCD) Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2017, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

## In Attendance:

### Steering Committee Members:

Bobbi Gruber	Maggie Bessent
Bill Porter	Marni Bender
Dan Sandler	Matt Zeller
Joseph Steinhauer	Ralph Riley
Kevin Liske	

### **Next meeting:**

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2017  
**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
**Location:** Maggie Bessent's home -  
3074 Vine Circle, Decatur, GA 30033

### **SC Nominating Committee Follow Up**

Kevin made a phone call to Janet Shepherd during the meeting to ask if she would be on the SC Nominating Committee. She agreed "IF" Scott Russell were to also be on the committee.

### **Friday Night Security**

Darlene will not be available to provide security after the end of August. The SC voted to eliminate security for the regular Friday night dances.

### **Fund Raising Website Follow-up**

Kevin Liske reported that he is in the process of setting up a fund-raising site.

### **Scheduling of Recent Catapult Bands**

Ralph will talk to Kimbi and Deanna about getting one or two of those bands on the schedule.

### **New Dancer Follow-Up**

Angelica will take lead on efforts to contact new dancers to make them feel welcome and get feedback on what they liked and did not like about the dance. Joseph volunteered to assist in contacting new dancers. We need to get new dancer contact info from Deanna, based on "new dancer card" information collected at front desk.

### **Modernizing CCD's Name**

It was discussed that the word "country" in our name "Chattahoochee Country Dancers" could be misleading to people looking for new dance opportunities. It was voted to change our name to Chattahoochee Contra Dancers. The term "country" can mislead potential dancers about our style of music and dancing, and imply country western line dancing, with cowboy hats and boots. This change does keep our long-used acronym CCD for continuity. It was noted that Doug Singleton was asked about the possible change, and stated that this would not be difficult, and he can process any legal paperwork.

### **November Dance Weekend**

Contact Jane Schindler to see if she is willing to co-chair with Deanna with her focus being on volunteers. Marni will contact Deanna to request updated task lists before upcoming SC Meetings. Marni will also remind Deanna to get SC approval before major decisions are finalized. Workshops were omitted last year due to the cost of the extra rooms, but as it turned out – the rooms were open and available without cost. We would like to offer workshops again this year. Dave Marcus has offered music for either couples Waltzing and/or an English County Dance Workshop. An interest in offering a Cajun/Zydeco workshop has also been expressed.

### **Band Selection Committee**

It was discussed that writing comments and putting them in the comment box is not always convenient for dancers during Friday events, and takes away from people's dancing and socializing time. We would like to add an easy access [Comment Button] on our website Home/Front Page, to make it easier for dancers to send feedback, comments, and suggestions. Kevin will talk to Seth about getting this button added. It is beneficial for bands to know where they need improvement. We would like to email bands regularly with feedback after each dance. Kevin will take over gathering the comments that do find their way into the comment box.

We discussed that the name Band Selection Committee could imply that their function is only to select bands to be added to the roster, or screen out bands that are not suitable. The preferred/actual role for

this committee includes review of existing bands, band improvement, and maintaining an active, vibrant, varied group of bands to support contra dances in our area. For this reason, we voted to change the name to Band Review Committee, indicating more of an active, ongoing review process.

**Extending our MeetUp.com Contra Dance Group to the area of Exercise**

Promote contra dancing as an exercise activity. Joseph will extend our current Meetup Group profile to include people whose interest is exercise/aerobics/cardio activity.

**Promoting a Sense of Community**

Periodic potlucks during the regular Friday night dance. Home parties.

**Ideas for Increasing Revenue/Attendance**

Decrease band pay from \$360 to \$300. Buy 10 dances, get one free cards. Promote to captive audiences, such as people gathered for meetings. Have a membership program similar to public radio/tv, get a button for being a sustaining dance member. Learn how to use social media more effectively. Actively search for an alternate venue.

-- end --