

Present at 7:00 pm were continuing board members Tom, Vicki, Larry, Ann, Mary, Helen, and Haven, and new board members Joe Dertien and Walker Banning.

Orientation: The new board members were given an overview of board member duties.

Finances: Walker, our new treasurer, thanked Tom for his help. He reported that our current balance is \$1645.71 and that upcoming fixed expenses in the next half year would be about \$750, including membership in COCA and CDSS, PO box rental, and insurance. He noted that we had started the year with about \$3000, so he thought we needed to consider either cutting expenses or raising income. We agreed that there were few places to cut. We have had lower attendance for the last few dances, and we have had some large bands, which increased the cost of a dance. Mary felt that there was no need to panic since \$3000 was an unusual high, and \$2000 is what we consider a comfortable balance.

Monitoring attendance: We reviewed our responses to the Senior Center's desire for usage reports and scan cards. Tom has been handling sign-in sheets, but Walker will now have this responsibility. We agreed that coordinators should encourage attendees to sign in or scan in, and we should encourage regular users to get scan cards, letting them know that they do not need to answer any questions they find intrusive. We appreciate our relationship with the Senior Center, but since we are not a class, it's difficult to get as many forms filled out as the Senior Center would like.

Admission: The finance report plus Mary's strong feeling that we need to give band members a raise plus a report on what other dance communities in Florida are charging caused us to move forward on a vote to raise admission price. We decided on \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, and \$6 for students with 12 and under free. We have not set a date for starting the new fee structure; we feel that we first need to send out an email explaining our reasons for raising prices and also announce it at a dance. Probably we will start in February or March.

Scheduling Report: The callers and most of the bands are arranged for the next six months.

Miscellaneous:

Board members are encouraged to ask newcomers to dance. We think callers should split up foursomes of newcomers by swapping out couples.

October may not be the best month for our membership drive since attendance is often low. Perhaps September would be better.

One dancer is particularly sensitive to body odors and has complained to the board about those

who come unwashed. The board is not sure they have a duty to intervene in this situation. Some board members consider fragrance can be more of a problem.

Special dance: April 28th we will have the Gadabouts playing, but the following night they will be playing as Gumbo Limbo for a Cajun dance at the Junction at Monroe. Mary is arranging the weekend and would like the board to help publicize the event. Band fee for the 28th has not yet been decided.

Coordinators:

Jan. 13 - Ann (Orange Blossom Weekend; Joe shadowing)

Jan. 27 - Haven and Tom (Snowball Weekend)

Feb. 10 - Helen (Walker shadowing)

Feb. 17 - Mary

March 10 - Vicki

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 15th, 7 pm at Ann's house.