

Minutes of TCFOOTD Board meeting, Wednesday, June 7, 2017

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

Finances:

- Our balance has dropped to an alarming \$424 with an \$85 check due soon to CDSS. During the last fiscal year, we have lost over \$2100. We have been losing money on all our dances for a while due to low attendance, and recently we had to pay our insurance and an out-of-town band.
- We have obligated ourselves to bands and callers through the end of 2017, so one of the board members wrote a check to make sure we did not immediately run out of money, but by October, when bands and callers will be contacted for next year, we need to decide if our current schedule is sustainable. We may need to cut back to one dance a month. Even then, attendance will need to rise, or we will still be losing money.

Action plan:

- Larry will compose an email blast and show it to the board before sending it out. In it, he will explain the situation, that low attendance will require us to cut back on dances unless we can get enough financial contributions to keep us going. He will encourage people to become dues-paying members as soon as possible. He will solicit feedback from dancers: Why are dancers not attending? Is there anything the board can do to lure back the regulars?
- Haven will look for grants, perhaps a Tallahassee Action Grant that would pay the differential if we bring in an out-of-town band.
- We will try to hold a fund-raiser at our October membership meeting—perhaps a silent auction.
- Mary will talk with the local bands about our financial woes and tell them that we are considering cutting the schedule and not bringing in any out-of-town bands without a financial angel to sponsor them. Perhaps some of our bands would be willing to play for free.

Sound:

- Our current sound guy, Luka, is leaving town in late July or early August. Larry is trying to line up a replacement. Our best option seems to be John Calvert. Even though we can't pay much by local standards, having a regular gig would make it worthwhile for him. Bruce Graybeal is also an option but probably just for backup since he is a musician and often has other obligations. Mary will talk to Bruce. We would like both to come to one of the summer dances so that Luka can explain what he does. The hall is not easy to provide sound for; it requires some training.

Emergency preparedness:

- Haven reminds us the Press the Chest event is scheduled for Saturday, June 17th, from 10-12 at the Civic Center.

Outreach:

- Joe reported on the possibility of holding a public dance at Cascade Park on the Meridian Plaza. He brought along papers outlining the various fees: \$100 for the plaza, \$35 for electricity, \$31 for event application. We agreed that it was an interesting idea but one that we would have to table for now, given our finances. The papers will be kept in the Minutes Book.

Status:

- We discussed whether we were a non-profit organization since Walker pointed out that we were actually just an affiliate of the non-profit organization CDSS. However, Tom, who had to leave early, later reassured us by email that for all tax purposes, including the ability to receive contributions that can be written off as charitable deductions, we are indeed a non-profit organization and can refer to ourselves that way.

Coordinators:

- June 9 – team
- June 23 – Walker
- July 14 – Vicki
- August 11 – Ann
- August 25 – Haven
- Sept. 8 – Helen
- Sept. 22 – Tom

Next meeting:

- Wednesday, August 9th, 7 pm at Ann's house.