

Teachers' Committee Meeting Minutes (Draft 05/06/08)
Saturday, April 19, 2008
Home of Pat O'Brien

Call to order at 2:00 PM by Armin Busse, chair.

Present: Armin Busse, Bruce Herbold, Marianna Harvey, Alex Harvey, Paula Jacobson, Alan Twhigg, Patti Cobb, Pat O'Brien, Kathy Allen.

Regrets: Ron Wallace, Gary Thomas, Jo Hamilton, Fred DeMarse, Trina Merriman, Tim Wilson, Gail Erwin, Susie Langdon Kass, Sara Gratiot, Ellen Aaron, Lin Pettengill, Emily Evans, Bruce Hamilton, David Newitt, Cathy Bertics, Kathleen McAdams, Julian Irias, Jim Passage, Rebecca Davis, Denise Heenan, Lenda Henderson, Claudette Sigg, Caroline Hunt, Carolyn Harvey, Coletta Hill.

Minutes of January 19, 2008 meeting approved. (Alan, Paula)

Party Program Committees:

Jean Patrick program done

Kim McGarrity program done

May - June party program are completed

Discussion ensued about mailing dance descriptions: now that the website is password protected, dance descriptions and/or diagrams might not infringe on copyrights. Problem: email addresses change. Perhaps the board should be asked about this idea.

There was a request for non-RSCDS dance descriptions for the Jean Patrick dance. Ask board if these can be put on the website.

Party Program Committees:

Oct – Nov, due Aug 1 - Bruce Herbold, Sandee Schultz, Patti Cobb

Valentine Ball 2009, due Aug 15 - Juliet, Paula, Alan

Dec – Jan, due Oct 1 – BH, Susie, _____

Mar – Apr, due Dec 1 – BH, Armin, Alan

May – Jun, due Feb 1 – BH, Marianna, Paula, Kathy Allen

Kim McGarrity Ball – Due March 1 – Juliet, Coletta, Linda

Jean Patrick Mem. Ball – due Mar 15 – Juliet, Sandra Schultz, Marianna

Regional Tutor Training:

We have had little feedback so far. Perhaps it should be put out on the teachers' reflector. If there is no interest here, it would be hard to promote and organize this to teachers from far away.

The Teacher Training system has changed dramatically and we need to teach to the new system, but most of the info is still the same, just packaged differently.

We could announce this to TAC TALK and Strathspey Server. We could also send directly to branches like Reno, Sacramento, Idaho, Portland, LA, San Diego, New Mexico, Colorado, Seattle, Vancouver, Bellingham to see if there is interest.

New Business:

Teacher Candidates for 2008-2009

No interest has been shown for a class this year.

A note should go to Teacher's Reflector, for teachers to ask students if anyone is interested.

Motion: to not hold a Teacher Candidate Class in 08-09 due to lack of interest unless 5 viable candidates speak up by May 19. (Patti, Marianna)

Kathy – email board and report to Alan

Kathy – put on board agenda in June, report to board.

Fall 2008 Teachers' Workshop:

Lin Pettengill is looking for a teacher. She will report to Kathy who will start preparations when date and teacher is known.

Probably Alex Gray, weekend before Asilomar.

Peninsula school back room suggested as venue, also St Mark's church.

Lin also had questions about Asilomar teacher workshop.

Eleanor VanderGriff has agreed to teach a Saturday afternoon specialty class. Lin suggested discussion group format – to rest feet for the ball.

What do other teachers want for format and topics?

8 votes for seminar format

Topics:

Examiner comments or discussion about new Teacher Training as it has been experienced in Scotland – evaluation of what they have learned about the new system.

As an examiner – what common strengths and weaknesses she has seen in new teachers.

Teachers are often cerebral – students are physical – how to handle this?

From her experience, what does she see as critical items to help us with our teaching/class management?

How to channel a social group into a class interested in learning technique, details.

Ways to engage dancers and keep them coming back to class.

Armin will report on these topics to Lin.

TAC Representative:

Meeting in Ontario '08, Vancouver '09

Branch pays half airfare and half the registration fee for the weekend.

'08 will be a big celebration for 50th anniversary.

Rep must have membership in TAC (can be obtained there.)

Marianna was confirmed to be our rep for this year.

Asilomar 40th Anniversary Book:

This year is really the 39th Branch-held event. 7 events had by Reel and Strathspey Club, 39 events held by the Branch This is the 50th anniversary of the first Asilomar.

The committee has not yet received many contributions to this book.

Monthly Parties and Balls MC microphone practice:

Paula offered to hold a microphone practice session at the next meeting. Might also add it to the fall workshop.

Other Business:

Suggestions for a good starter jig:

The Lady Wynd – Goldring good music, nice dance

Kathleen McAdam's Scroll – Tim Wilson

Jill's Gentle Jig – Tim Wilson in Dunsmuir book

New suggestions:

Jamba Jig by Bob McMurtry

Marian's Jig by Marianna Harvey for Marian Stroh

Spiers Bruce

Send other ideas to Kathy Allen to collect.

Beginner's coupons for monthly parties:

Teachers feel that a Beginner should be encouraged to attend parties for at least a year at a discounted rate of \$2.00.

Reasons: widespread geography prevents beginners from attending many parties.

Beginners are only able to dance a few dances

All beginners do not progress at the same rate

It should be the teacher's choice to extend this coupon to beginners in basic classes even into the second year.

Teacher's Committee Representative to the Board:

If anything comes up at the board meeting, please email the info to the TC or send a rep to the TC meeting.

If anything comes up at a TC meeting, teachers will send a representative to the board meeting.

Future meetings:

July 20, 2008, Sunday – Kathy Allen, west San Jose

September 20, 2008, Saturday – Kathleen McAdam - Lafayette

January 3, 2009, Saturday – Marianna Harvey same time and near the board meeting

Meeting Adjourned 4:20 pm (Bruce, Patti)

Please send regrets before the meeting (not with other attendees) so expected attendance can be ascertained.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm (Coletta, Bruce)

Submitted by Kathy Allen