

Teachers Committee minutes

meeting on January 10, 2009

location - Marianna and Alex Harvey

Present: Armin Busse, Alan Twigg, Linda Henderson, Juliet Davoren, Marianna and Alex Harvey, Paula Jacobson, Coletta Hill, Sandee Schultz, Bruce Hamilton, Lin Pettengill, Rebecca Davis, Jim Passage (BC liaison), Kathy Allen.

Regrets: Fred DeMarse, Jo Hamilton, Gail Erwin, Ellen Aaron, Pat O'Brien, Bruce Herbold and Patti Cobb, Cathy Bertics, Bob McMurtry, Susie Langdon-Kass, Tim Wilson, Tom Winter, David Newitt, Julian Irias, Fred MacCondray.

Meeting called to order by Armin at 2:01 pm

Agenda - small additions made

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes:

July 2008 (Alan, Jim Passage) passed.

Sept 2008 (Lin, Marianna) passed.

October (Marianna, Lin) passed.

Reports:

Monthly Party committees -

March – April '09 program finished

Assignments for programs later

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Fall 2006 Teachers' Workshop

Receipts \$465 - Expenses \$450 = \$15 profit.

Kathy reported low registration until the last minute. 3 payees at the door provided the profit margin. Next year we'll try for earlier sign-ups.

Alex Gray was well received, all enjoyed the workshop and learned new methods.

The Teachers' Committee meeting next year will be in conjunction with the workshop, but not in the middle of the workshop, like this year.

Tutor Training offered by Scotland. Coletta and Paula reported no interest from our branch or branches further afield. There is no justification to pursue this further and it will be taken off the agenda.

Report on Teacher Training:

Alan reported that 2 dancers have passed the Unit 1 Exam: Nancy McKeown and Laura Cooper. We decided to invite them as well as Bradley Hobbs to the meetings as well as to include them to the reflector. (Armin's task)

Report on survey by Bruce Herbold on TC Meeting Attendance:

- Most prefer Saturday meetings
- Most prefer changing locations
- Large majority liked the social networking, helping each other with teaching needs or problems.
- Business seemed less important to most than discussion of dance points, etc.
- Suggestion to limit meetings to 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 hours.

Proposal: For the foreseeable future, TC meetings should be scheduled on Saturdays (Juliet, Rebecca) passed.

Proposed: a need for a topic, a focus for discussion. If there is a presentation, it would depend on the amount of business to cover. Perhaps a 15 – 20 minute presentation and then questions. This topic should be included in the meeting, not at the beginning or end.

NEW BUSINESS**Elections:**

Chair – Armin nominated (Paula, Alan) affirmed.

Secretary – Kathy Allen nominated (Coletta, Marianna) affirmed.

Monthly Party Continuity Person – Bruce Herbold nominated (Coletta, Paula) affirmed.

Ball Continuity Person – Paula offered (Sandra, Alan) affirmed.

Discussion included the possibility of having specialist ball continuity (for 2 or 3 JP balls, or 2 or 3 Valentine balls) because each ball has a different focus and atmosphere. Decision was to keep all three balls as one job. Juliet mentioned that favorites from monthly parties go onto JP program. Out-of-practice dances should be put on monthly party programs before adding to a ball list. There should be multiple, strong reasons for including unknown dances on a ball program.

TAC Representative.

Marianna offered to serve again. She said that Headquarters likes the position to rotate among members. She will attend Summer School, Alan is also attending. Marianna nominated (Bruce Hamilton, Paula) affirmed.

Summer School is at Shawnigan Lake, July 27–31 with the AGM July 24-26., Applications are out - sign up now. 2010 TAC will be in Ontario.

BC-TC Liaison-

Jim Passage to continue. His report included a suggestion that more teachers serve on the Board. BC Elections are coming up.

Party Program Committees: (with deadlines)

Mar 1 - Kim McGarrity Memorial Ball – Paula, Sandra, Alan

Mar 15 – Jean Patrick Memorial Ball - Paula, Kathy, Rebecca

Aug 1 – October-November 2009 – Bruce Herbold, Lin P, Tim Wilson

Aug 15 – Valentine Ball – Paula, Rebecca, Coletta

Oct 1 – December-January 2010 – Bruce Herbold, Sandra, _____

Dec 1 – March-April 2010 – Bruce Herbold, Juliet, Jennifer Kelly

Feb 1, 2010 – May-June – Bruce Herbold, _____, _____

Please consider serving on a monthly party program committee.

Fall Teachers' Workshop to co-incide with TC meeting.

Coletta offered to organize with notes from Kathy.

Old Records

The task to evaluate old records and to consider the transfer to new media will be discontinued, due to the continuing increase in CD available recordings.

Paula and Bruce Herbold have equipment to transfer LP albums to CD. Call if you want something transferred or wish to borrow the Branch's digital turntable for this purpose.

TC Budget

TC must ask every year to include a line item on the Board budget for the teachers' committee.

Motion: request \$400 to be allocated from the BC to the TC to be used to cover expenses for the Fall Workshop, if needed. (Kathy, Bruce Hamilton) passed. Jim will report this request to the Board. The TC has no other expenses, as the Teachers' Reception at Asilomar is now an Asilomar expense.

Monthly Parties attendance

2007-8 parties lost money

The board would like all events, including monthly parties to come out even. Please encourage attendance.

Discussion:

- 1) Newer dancers are intimidated by the programs. Maybe start earlier, end earlier. Vote: not passed.
- 2) Newer dancers might come one hour early and one host teacher review dances for beginners while musicians set up. Passed. March party in Palo Alto will offer this.
- 3) Give beginners a boutineer or something like a ribbon or plaid duct tape to facilitate finding partners for the easier dances. (A hint of competition for the best markers ensued.)

OTHER BUSINESS

Starter Jig:

Jane's Jig in Let's All Dance

Dance Clarification -

Glasgow Highlanders – TC consensus to dance in long sets down the length of the hall for 5X. The end couples finish across from their partner, with top couple on opposite sides and wait out one repetition. This should be the way the reel of 4 ends.

Request for donation of duplicate books and CDs, tapes, etc to Molly Zorn who is returning to northeastern Pennsylvania and will start a Scottish Country Dance class there. The class in Allentown is one hour away in good weather. She hopes to get visiting teachers from Allentown or elsewhere. If you are travelling there for any reason, please consider helping her out.

Next Meetings:

May 9, 2009 at Sandra Schultz's home in Berkeley [Location changed to Kathleen McAdam's]

October Workshop hopefully on October 24.

January 23, 2010 - _____

Meeting adjourned 4:46 pm (Kathy, Paula)

Followed by Microphone Workshop by Paula Jacobson.