

Indy Contra Board Minutes  
September 14, 2010

Present: Juliet Port, Dianna Davis, Ken Gall, Barry Levitt, Doug Engle, Kathryn Millis. Carole Gall (guest).

1) Minutes

Approved unanimously with minor edits. Kathryn will clean up minutes page on the website so they're easier to find. (UPDATE: Our web hosting company is going to load WordPress software so we can modernize the site, hopefully very, very soon. I will not do much, if any, work on the current site.)

2) Finances

- a) Barry reports that attendance is down a bit, but we continue to not lose money. Discussed why people aren't coming. Kathryn will make a test survey and distribute.
- b) Barry will reserve the scout camp for Friday – Sunday, October 28 – 30, 2011.

3) Scheduler

- a) Dianna is making progress on finishing up the October and November schedule.
- b) Dianna will help Kathryn compile band descriptions, biographies, photos, and other material for enhancing our p.r.
- c) Atlantic Crossing emailed offering to play, but wants more money than we can afford to pay. We agreed unanimously that we can't afford it. If they can accept our payment we would be glad to have them come.
- d) We agreed unanimously that Dianna is empowered to schedule regional callers and bands we know, and only needs to ask about talent that's substantially more expensive.

4) Setup

- a) Setup is not getting done on time, with people arriving as late as 7:40 when they're needed by 7:15. Some sound checks have been as late as 8. Discussed tasks that need to be done before each dance. Dianna especially needs another person there on nights she plays.
- b) Juliet, Dianna, and Doug will work on lists of tasks, equipment needed, instructions, etc., so we have better organization for volunteers. We need three people each night: one board member, one sound setup who knows what they're doing, and one other person to help with the table, water, etc.
- c) Board will discuss how to officially replace Dave when he "retires," possibly with James, Ian, or Bradley, who have all been helping.

- d) Setup people will get free admission for that dance.
- e) We need a schedule for having 2(?) people split working the desk until about 9.
- f) Doug reports problems with boxes and equipment being left on the stage, and the piano off, so we have to move them to set up. Juliet will share with Earth House our concerns about extra work and the possibility of damaging things.
- g) Discussed recognition of Dave's retirement.
- 5) GMB 2010
  - a) Bradley has offered housing but can't afford to come so Ken will remind him that free admission is available if he can help with setup, cleanup, or other tasks.
- 6) P.R.
  - a) Dianna will get fliers to the Indy Folk Series
  - b) Singles group dances – Bradley suggests that ISO40 (<http://www.meetup.com/IndySinglesOver40/>) might sponsor a dance. To mesh with their procedures, we would probably request pre-registration, with a cost of about \$10 admission, \$2 of which goes to Earth House, but offer free admission for Indy Contra members who would come specifically to introduce beginners to contra. Ken has been calling lots of events for beginners, but we don't have a specific band in mind. Juliet will ask Earth House about possible dates. Perhaps a Thursday in November? Perhaps run the dance early, say 6 – 9, so people have time to go out afterward.
  - c) Several CDSS board members will be in Indianapolis Oct. 22 – 24, meeting with Brian Gallagher, at the Gall's house. Barry, Dianne, and Kathryn will be out of town.
  - d) Debbie from Kokomo will be selling tickets to her barn dance at the next few contras.
  - e) Discussed sending email to people we haven't seen lately asking if it's for any specific reason.
  - f) Our dance at IUPUI has been moved to spring due to scheduling conflicts.
  - g) Kathryn will, at Dianna's suggestion, look at the fitness section of the *Indianapolis Star* and try to get listed.
  - h) Kathryn will do some adapted fliers, such as adding phrases like "does this music make you want to dance?" for distribution at local music or other events.
- 7) Next board meeting will be 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- 8) Good of the order
  - a) Kathryn is looking into new web software.
  - b) Discussed the child policy, as some kids have been coming but not dancing. Current policy on the web may not be particularly

- welcoming. Kathryn will check, remove if it's discouraging, and draft language for the board to approve next meeting. Basic ideas: kids are welcome if they can dance, under 16 should be accompanied by adult, adult is responsible for behavior, may need to ask
- c) GMB 2011 bands. Kathryn will email young dance gypsies for ideas.
  - d) Beach Party 2011. Juliet will see if we can get the Earth House the weekend before Ann Arbor, Saturday February 19.