

Indy Contra Board Minutes
November 9, 2010

Present: Juliet Port, Dianna Davis, Ken Gall, Barry Levitt, Kathryn Millis.

1. Meeting minutes (Kathryn)
 - a. Approved.
2. Treasurer's Report (Barry)
 - a. Weekly income continues to vary.
 - b. GMB seems to have been a success. Attendance was up substantially from past years, and a profit is likely.
3. Scheduler's Report (Dianna)
 - a. Report
 - b. Out of Town Talent Form – Juliet has drawn up a form to help gather and keep basic information needed regarding bands (e.g., equipment and housing needs, etc.).
4. GMB
 - a. What we did right –
 - i. Weekend was very popular, have gotten lots of good feedback on the bands and callers.
 - ii. Locations both worked well. Increased dancing (Friday night, more Saturday afternoon, more waltzing Sunday) was very popular.
 - iii. Not decorating was good. Nobody complained, and it made setup and cleanup easier.
 - b. Next year –
 - i. Talent
Need to schedule ASAP - Discussed whether to aim for an “alternative” or innovative band to be different from Wild Asparagus, who are expected to play Nashville that weekend, and are fairly traditional. Discussed whether to aim for a national band like Perpetual e-Motion or try to identify two newer, younger bands & bill them equally.
 - ii. Location / Showers
Showers are drained October 15th. We need access Saturday & Sunday. Demand was too heavy for Juliet's clubhouse, so if attendance stays high we can't meet the need. If we have to try to offer showers off site, how confusing/problematic is that?
 - iii. Workshops
 1. We had planned on jamming in the meeting room that the vendors took. In such tight space, vendors are not realistic, and we shouldn't plan on them in the future. Music, singing, and games can happen without significant planning. Should we try to offer session on calling, planning for dance, yoga, etc? Keep the dance focus on

contra and waltz/couple's.

- c. What to improve next year
 - i. Kitchen – Need to better review equipment and supplies, and be sure that people working have (and know they have) what's needed. (e.g., we had sharp knives, but people could not find them). Perhaps label our equipment, and move some of Belzer's things out of the way.
 - ii. Food - Need to buy more food, especially main dishes, and better communicate between the buyers and kitchen people. There was some duplication of purchases, with both Kathryn and Fiona buying the same thing, and some food not put out at intended times, because kitchen folks didn't realize it was ours (Belzer had food in fridge, some on counters). Need to label our food & food areas. Offer a discount on admission for people who bring main dishes, both to provide more food and to encourage local dancers (who may not want to pay a higher price than our regular cost) to attend.
 - iii. Serving - Divide pitch in dishes across more tables, with greater distinction between kinds of dishes (e.g. meat and vegetarian entrees on different tables) to speed the lines. Perhaps use the tables at back of the hall for salads, desserts? Did we use appropriate serving utensils? Signs on kinds of foods? Use a commercial percolator to make more coffee at peak times.
 - iv. Visit the camp in advance to plan trash & recycling strategies. We had bins & signs for mixed recycling, but found that Belzer had can recycling, & we did not have good places to put recycling bins.
 - v. Need to cover floor outlets.

5. Beach Party

- a. Mean Lids are booked.
- b. Discussed callers. Get someone from a different dance than Urbana (so people from Urbana & the other area will have the motivation of something different). Dianna will ask Susan Moffett.
- c. Extend the dance to afternoon? Dancing 2 – 5 or 6, then 8 – 11. Decided against this. If we're snowed out, we would have paid for more hours of talent, but not gotten more hours of dancing.

6. Email Guidelines

- a. Brevity is a good thing
- b. Discussions belong at the meeting and not written down

7. Next Board Meeting – December 14th