



Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance

* The New Facility Newsletter *

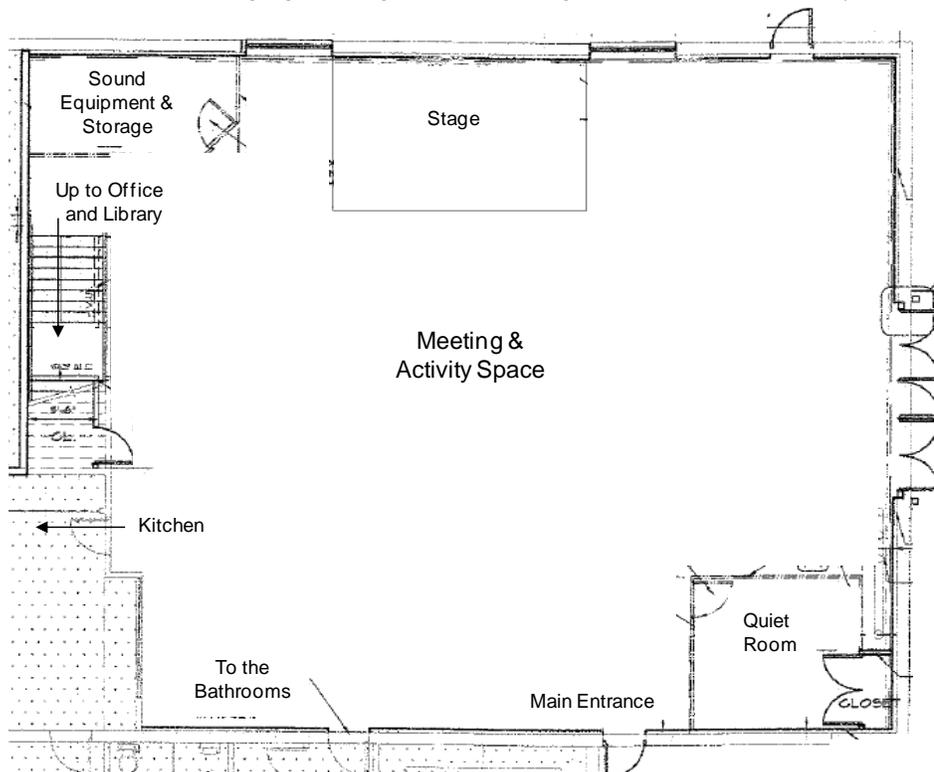
May 29, 2009

AACTMAD received final zoning approval on May 7 from the Pittsfield Township Planning Commission for its use of the building at 4531 Concourse Drive for its home base of operations, including its music & dance activities. The final building renovation plan is being determined in collaboration with the architect and prospective builders to ensure optimal use of the space and of AACTMAD's resources. The New Facility will have an office, library, equipment & archive storage, places for meetings and gatherings, and most importantly a wonderful new Activity Space for music & dancing! At the right is a rendering of what the large 60x70' (4200 sq. ft.) activity space should look like when completed.



The 22' feet high ceilings give the space a light and airy feeling, and the triple-basket-weave-constructed sprung dance floor will be topped with hardwood flooring. A Quiet Room away from the Stage can be used for meetings, or for a space where children can play or babies can sleep during dances. A large 12x16' bank of windows on the right (south facing) wall and more windows flanking the 20x16' stage add to the charm and bring in natural light. The 8x16' storage room for the sound system and other equipment is just a few feet away from the stage. A large stairway on the left wall leads to a 21x 32' second level, above the kitchen, for AACMAD's office, library, and other storage. The stairway is wide enough to encourage loitering, with a large landing halfway up, and rises to a viewing balcony where one can watch from above or just chat quietly, away from the action below. Ample air conditioning and heating systems ensure comfort during dances and other large gatherings. The existing new kitchen and newly renovated bathrooms are adjacent to the Activity Space and are shared with Gretchen's

House Administration office staff whose use is predominantly weekday business hours. Finally, a large paved parking area around the building more than adequately accommodates the large turnout of dancers attending a typical Saturday night contra dance.



AACTMAD's vision of having its own Facility is well on its way to reality, but many details are still to be worked out and many questions still need answers. Please send us your questions by email to AACTMAD@hotmail.com. We will reply and add your question to our Frequently Asked Questions located on the AACTMAD.org website.

For further information, contact Nawal Motawi, nawalandglen@tds.net, or Mark Hillegonds, mhillegonds@comcast.net.