

Minutes – AACTMAD board meeting 8/27/2011

Present:

Robert Messer
Will Jaynes
Gretchen Preston
Brooke Ratliff
Marlin Whitaker
Hal Breidenbach,
Cyndy Keesler
Linda Hanson

Hal read letter of resignation for Carolyn. Board decided Hal would send a letter, compliments of the board, thanking Carolyn for service to the board.

Linda agreed to take notes for the meeting in Carolyn's absence.

Gretchen moved (second Cyndy) ask Steve Johgart to join the board to replace Carolyn. Would be for term ending April, 2012. Question about asking to serve three year term. Proposed keeping with present term as do not want to offset schedule. Was proposed allows extra time for service as can be reelected twice. Proposal approved.

Marlin moved approve the June 29th minutes. Will seconded. Noted no meeting July 27 due to lack of quorum. Approved.

Long range plan. Nothing yet scheduled. Hal to talk to Debbie about scheduling. Hold over.

Question raised about whom to be included. Indicated all AACTMAD members to be invited to participate.

Gretchen proposed invite Debbie to November meeting. Will to contact Debbie to invite for meeting on November 16 to discuss how to plan a long range planning meeting.

Cyndy has prepared a solicitation letter for the silent auction. "Morphed" into solicitation flyer. PDF sent by Greg to Hal to send to AACTMAD membership. Question raised about what to send. Decision of one page "hidden talent" solicitation form.

Hal will send a separate message advertising the weekend events for the English and American Dance weekend and Fundraiser.

Funding for new dancer program.

Robert sent draft of letter to be sent to be sent to organizers of various dances; got feedback from Linda. Submitted a motion by e-mail asking for approval at the July meeting which was not held. Proposing \$1200 to reimburse dance groups and \$50 for printing to fund program. Set goal of 100 new members. This is largely following the

original proposal by Ray Bantle with the addition of asking new dancers to be on a contact list.

Original proposal for a new dancers committee. Dance groups to make coupons available that would say to get information from the website and have three tear-off strips to give at dances for reduced rates. Dance groups would turn in strips to be reimbursed. Proposed \$4/coupon with 3 uses.

It was noted that some organizations do not have a set rate but use a “suggested donation. Aim to get people to come and try dancing. Would require organizations to have AACTMAD membership forms.

The materials to expire at the end of December and a report on impact of the program would be done in January.

Brooke will get in forms/coupons. It will be necessary to keep track of which dances sent coupons and who will use them. A website is being prepared to explain coupons.

Robert moved funding for program be provided, Cyndy seconded, and proposal approved.

Budget.

There have been a number of questions about the budget. Marlin stated that the budget provided was not a final budget. A separate meeting to talk about the budget mentioned as being on the deadline list. Brooke indicated a seminar is needed to put together a budget. What was handed out was more of a cash flow analysis. It was indicated that many of the board do not know which dance groups have their own accounts and which go through AACTMAD.

Linda, Marlin, and Cyndy indicated problems with attending a meeting during the day on weekdays. October 2 will be a meeting on the budget at 5:00 pm at Concourse Hall. All forms used for the budgeting process will be available to board can see the different forms. Brooke will organize meeting, including an overview of the committees, who manages the money, and how deposits are organized.

Country Dance and Song Society – the CEO has gone. The organization is looking to the membership for input on what membership wants.

Marlin has spreadsheet on committees on GoogleDocs, being made available.

Dancing in the Streets

Peter requested assistance with stage managers and MCs. As the board had requested announcements be made about AACTMAD, proposed having board members and/or AACTMAD members announce. Four stages; will have someone at each running the sound. Hal agreed to do contra/Anglo stage. Gretchen will share the international stage. Drake will be requested to share the stage.

Cyndy to be at the information table. Indicated that a banner is needed showing AACTMAD.

Job – make a script. Aim to push the kind of dance being done and what is going on in AACTMAD for this kind of dance.

People also are needed to help pull barricades at 12:30. 8 people needed.

New Business:

Kelly asked for a response about participation about assessment of nonprofit organization for class. Carolyn never submitted an official proposal. As of Monday, said too late by end of week. Will be on the list for potential assessment of nonprofit organization for next year.

Brooke stated that the taxes for AACTMAD are done.

Scandinavian dance proposal:

Bruce Sagan proposed a Scandinavian dance on 4th Saturdays before the 4th Saturday dance. Start with teaching followed by live music to dance. A reduced rate for hall rental was proposed (\$35), with small amounts of money to teachers and musicians (\$10). The board was asked to be liable for hall rental in case of shortfalls. Gretchen proposed board accept proposal with a limit of up to \$350 exposure to cover hall rental through 2011/2012 season.

It was brought up that membership is needed if this is to be an AACTMAD committee. Gretchen will contact Bruce about requirements. He will need to be informed about processes for AACTMAD such as the I and E form.

Robert expressed concern about having one person doing all the work, such as a single member committee. Marlin indicated we need to have information on who is or will be on the committee. Will agreed to be board liaison.

Marlin expressed concern that the board should consider rental charges if different for different groups. It was noted that if a higher rent was charged, this would increase the board's potential exposure. An area for further discussion.

Dance organizers encouraged to talk to CDSS as grants are available for dance development.

Name Change – paperwork being resubmitted. A check was needed from Brooke for this. The check sent with previous paperwork was not cashed.

Hal raised a question about whether members had voted to change the name. Records indicated had been voted on by the board and approved by the membership to change the name of the organizations officially to AACTMAD.

Sound committee.

Joan Hellmann raised concern about sound system rental. She agreed to work with sound system at Grange, but not to manage the system at Concourse. She has been managing rental of the AACTMAD sound system currently stored at the Grange.

Gretchen had meeting to properly use sound system for the hall. An official committee roster is being prepared.

The sound system at the Grange is owned by AACTMAD. Brooke gets some rental checks for its use. Committees don't pay rental on the system. Organizations not affiliated with AACTMAD are supposed to pay rental when use. However, some non-AACTMAD dances are using but not paying rental

Originally had been paying \$35 for storage of the system at the Grange. When Concourse Hall started, proposed not paying rent for closet at the Grange. Grange said would keep the sound system without charging rent, but Grange would not pay to use the system for Grange-sponsored dances.

Brooke asked how much was made. Indicated were making something above the rental cost prior to this change in the arrangements. The change happened 2-3 years ago. Some pieces of equipment were moved to Concourse while others remained at the Grange.

Gretchen stated that the system belongs to AACTMAD. Proposed return to old system: pay rent for storage and have the sound system rented for use by non-AACTMAD groups.

Marlin proposed that if not paying rent on the system, it will be moved to Concourse. Then users would need to get their own system or rent the system.

Brooke preferred to bring the system here as the sound system requires training.

Indicated that a simpler system as an option or backup would be desirable.

A different system was donated to the grange.

Will was concerned about possible damage during transportation of the system.

Will proposed going back to the old system where rent is paid to the Grange for storage of the system, AACTMAD events do not pay rent to use, but Grange events and others rent the system.

Gretchen proposed a discussion with Joan and representatives of the Grange about two options: old system (above) or moving the sound system to Concourse.

It is necessary to be bringing in some money to maintain/upgrade the system over time.

Will revisit if the financial situation changes.

A chair of the AACTMAD sound committee is needed. It was proposed that there be one chair with other committee members doing particular jobs.

AACTMAD annual meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2012. This is the same time as Trillium Twirl, and thus a bad time for the annual meeting.

Linda moved that the annual meeting be moved to May 5. Cyndy seconded; Motion approved.

It was proposed that the annual meeting be combined with a strategic planning session. Further discussion on this in future.

A new membership list needs to be published. Robert will do contact of individuals for renewal of membership. Robert will send Will a copy of the spreadsheet to try to figure out an automatic way to screen and update the database. Deadline to send to Will by August 29.

Fundraiser:

A meeting was held. Minutes were not sent. Identified four categories of work to be done at this time:

Advertising (Greg)

Auction coordinator (Will)

Desert and wine coordinator(s) (Brooke and Gretchen)

Post event follow-up (Hal)

Flyer provided to board. Will is preparing donation slips. A form letter for donation is being prepared. Proof of admission for \$50 that can be used for tax records. Every board member is requested to solicit donations. All to announce event and seeking donations at dances.

It was requested that board members indicate when they had read notes so that sender can determine information went out properly.

Facilities committee should break even this year. Weekday renter is committed to September through December.

KISSME dance made a small amount of money

Roberts letter to membership t include a list of great things that money will support.

Will moved to adjourn. Marlin seconded. Approved.