

Central Ohio Corporation of Dane Clubs Minutes of Meeting, January 5, 2015

Call to order: COCDC President Velma Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

Roll Call: There were 7 members present representing 9 clubs. Since more than 50% of the clubs were represented, this was determined to be a quorum.

Liability Insurance: This topic was discussed first to accommodate Mr. John Cook of the Indiana Dancers Association, who was in Columbus on business and had agreed to attend our meeting to share relevant information. Eddie Powell reported that the best quote he could obtain locally was \$250-\$300. Mr. Cook gave a presentation about United Square Dancers of America's insurance program. He stated that for a club of 11 or more members, the cost of the USDA program is \$4.45 per club member, with a minimum charge of \$45 per club. The liability insurance coverage is \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability for bodily injury and property damage each occurrence (subject to a \$100 property damage deductible per claim). The accident medical insurance coverage is \$10,000 per dancer per incident. The USDA medical insurance is secondary insurance; i.e., the individual's own health insurance pays first, then the USDA insurance pays the individual's deductible or coinsurance. He has had no complaints about the promptness of payment in 14 years. He also stated that there has been no "spam," or unsolicited commercial e-mail or other messages, as a result of the program. The USDA receives only dancer names, not addresses or other contact information.

The individual clubs buy the insurance. COCDC gets a certificate for their dances. The Indiana group has saved about \$3,000 per year over their previous insurance program.

COCDC would pay \$25 per year for membership in USDA, since we cover less than 25% of the state of Ohio.

The insurance covers everyone who attends a dance at an insured club, as well as covering club members at any organized dance, anywhere in the world. It does not cover dances held in private homes. Dancers who belong to more than one club would be paid for only once, but the forms for both clubs would have to be submitted in a coordinated manner so that at all members of both clubs are covered.

Members of new dancer workshops are covered too, but there is no additional charge for them.

Special dances can be covered by requesting a certificate for that dance about 6 weeks in advance, although he has received certificates in as little as four days when circumstances required it. There is no charge for these certificates.

All necessary forms are available on the USDA website, www.usda.org.

The insurance coverage is for the calendar year, January 1st through December 31st. Mr. Cook reported that, for a New Year's Eve dance, two certificates were needed, one for December 31st and one for January 1st.

Outside demonstrations are also covered by requesting a certificate naming the location of the demo. Non-club members at a demo sponsored by the club are covered.

Each club owns its own insurance.

The Indiana association has had this insurance for 14 years and is very satisfied.

Caller-run clubs can get insurance through this program. Their members will be covered at any dance they attend.

The current price has been stable for three years. The cost is \$4.45 per dancer.

A motion was made and seconded to join United Square Dancers of America and obtain the insurance. The motion carried with no opposition. Velma Doyle will act as the Affiliate Insurance Chairman and contact person for USDA.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting (11-3-14) were reviewed and approved as amended. The two corrections were 1) that Velma Doyle (rather than Doug Burdette) recommended that we revise the Constitution & By-Laws and 2) that the word “television” is to be deleted under New Business, so that the sentence reads: Eddie Powell charged Council with the challenge of spending 50% of their treasury for marketing to solve recruitment and retention issues.

Treasurer’s report: The treasurer’s report was reviewed and approved. Two bills were approved for payment: \$1.80 to Velma Doyle for copying and \$56.00 for the post office box.

Communications to Council: Debbie Cina has communicated that she was resigning from all of her positions with COCDC and would no longer be attending COCDC meetings this year. Dave Van Dyk has volunteered to replace her as Caller Liaison and Mary Galentine and Dennis Budinski, as a couple, will replace her as State Corp Delegate. After some discussion as to whether the printed schedule is still necessary, her replacement for that function was tabled until the next meeting.

President’s Report: None

Committee Reports:

- a. State Corp: None.
- b. Caller’s Liaison: Velma Doyle reported on preparations for the Snowball. Ed Laudenschlager will sound the hall; Velma will supply her Hilton turntable. Flyers have been printed and are available.
- c. Demo Reports: The Gahanna Christmas demo went well despite rain, with two squares dancing.
- d. Publicity/Recruitment/Marketing: There was a discussion of yard signs, web sites, etc.
- e. Constitution and By-Laws. It was agreed that revisions are needed. Doug Burdette, as chair of this committee, suggested that a morning meeting be arranged to discuss the revisions. Dave Van Dyk volunteered to work with Doug and Velma on the revisions.

- f. Ways and Means: Assignments for the Honoree Dance were discussed. Pat Liston will remind workers of their assignments.
- g. State Convention: There will be two meetings of this committee this month: January 10th at 10:30 a.m. at the Westerville Library and January 28th at 6:30 p.m. at Graeter's in Westerville. The committee will meet twice each month from now until the convention.

Old Business:

- a. Honoree nominations are now due. Eight have been received. If clubs want to send in any more nominations, it should be done immediately.
- b. Webmaster compensation: Velma discussed this with Rob Stampfli. He spends about \$10/month out-of-pocket for the facilities which serve up the COCDC and his other websites, and he is reimbursed for site-specific costs, such as the cocdc.org domain name registration (about \$11/yr). Rob felt the work he does for the website, including the design and real-time updates, would probably cost in excess of \$1000/yr if purchased from a commercial website design firm. Rob does not desire or want any monetary compensation for his work, preferring not to take on the responsibilities of a paid provider, but he does recommend that COCDC and the Central Ohio square dance community develop an action plan for keeping the site alive and up-to-date should he at some point become unable to continue to host the site. Club representatives are asked to return to their clubs and inquire if anyone could learn to act as a backup web administrator for Rob.
- c. Eddie Powell's marketing proposal: Velma began by reporting on an e-mail exchange between Eddie and Sue Williams, the former marketing committee chair. Sue concluded that Eddie's proposal was not specific enough and that she could not endorse it. A discussion followed, during which Eddie stated that what COCDC needs is a plan for marketing square dancing. For example, we need to identify a target audience and then ask how we can reach those people—where are they, what do they listen to, how can we drive them to our website. He also suggested that having class on a different night than club dances drives people away; if they have scheduled square dancing on a Tuesday, for example, they may not have Friday or Saturday evenings free once they graduate. Representatives are to return to their clubs and ask for volunteers for a marketing committee.

New Business:

- a. Elections for COCDC President and Secretary will be held at the March meeting. Representatives should be thinking about candidates for those posts.
- b. Doug Burdette encouraged more training in square dance etiquette during classes and by club leaders. He noted that dancers often cannot hear the caller or cuer because of crowd noise, and that dancers often stand in the way of round dancers between square tips.

Club Reports:

- a. Bucks and Does: The number of new dancers has doubled, from two to four, and regular club dances are resuming in the New Year.
- b. Dixie Squares: Their second Friday dance in January will be Hi-Lo; new dancers are also invited to their February dance.
- c. Friendly Ties: no report.
- d. Grove City Western Squares: no report.
- e. Harmony Hall: They have DBD dances on the second and fourth Sunday from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. These dances are Plus Hi-Lo, i.e., the Lo tips are Plus with no DBD.
- f. Maple Leaf Squares: Because of Tim Hellinger's work schedule, Tom Alexander has been helping with workshops. Lynn also noted that former dancer Pete Plants died last Saturday.
- g. Motivators: Advance dancing on second and fourth Wednesday s. All Advance dancers are welcome.
- h. Orbiting Squares: They did not dance on the first Friday in January, since it was January 2nd. Bob Shover will be cueing on February 6th. Their Spring Special is Sunday, April 12. The location is to be determined.
- i. Scrambled A's: Advance dancing every Monday.
- j. Westerville Promenaders: They will only dance once in February, on the 14th, because of their Marietta trip.

Next meeting: March 2nd, 7:30 p.m. This is the mandatory meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Submitted by: Dave Van Dyk (Acting Secretary for this meeting)