

Old Farmers Ball

“The Old Farmers Ball cultivates traditional folk and social dance in our community”

Minutes of the June 11, 2012 meeting of the Board of Directors

The meeting was called to order by President Allen Bergal at 6:35 pm with a quorum present.

PRESENT Board Members: Able Allen, Allen Bergal, Danaan Henry, David Stalnaker, Dennis Merritt, Diane Silver, Laura Lengnick, Nick Coker, Owen Shaffer, Robyn Blakely, Stefanie Wilkins

ABSENT Board Members: Heather Tinnaro, Joe Karpen, Jonathan Gilbert, Terry Doyle

GUESTS: none

The minutes of the May 14 meeting were approved as amended.

Old Business

Purchase of a defibrillator - Allen - tabled.

Process for Board decision-making - Jonathan - tabled.

Reports from the Board Retreat - tabled.

New Business

Danaan, the Chair of the New Years Eve Dance Committee, reported that he will not be able to attend the New Years Eve dance or participate in any set up for it due to work commitments. Danaan therefore said that he could not have overall responsibility for the dance. Owen and Allen volunteered to help with the dance, but were unwilling to assume overall responsibility. The Board decided to announce at our dances and via the web that we are looking for someone to assume overall leadership for the dance this year. Danaan will coordinate closely with whomever is selected.

Owen reported that our response to Bob LeRoy concerning our participation in a joint venture to establish a dance facility in Asheville has been forwarded to him. There has been no response from Bob.

Discussion ensued about whether financial commitments about floors and sound attenuation at Bryson should be initiated at this time due to the possible joint dance facility. It was decided that Laura would gather more information on floors and sound attenuation from Warren Wilson College.

Stefanie reported that the membership directory has not gone out yet. Noting that membership renewal time is only a few months away and that there were no requests or complaints from members who wanted a new directory, Stefanie moved and Owen seconded a motion to no longer print a membership directory. After discussion, the motion failed. It was decided by consensus that a small number of directories would be printed and distributed in the next few weeks.

Diane moved and David seconded a motion to initiate a search for a new booker. Discussion ensued. The motion passed unanimously.

Owen moved and Robyn seconded a motion that the current Booker be removed from the position of Booker as soon as reasonable. Able moved and David seconded a friendly amendment to the motion which added the idea that Laura and Diane be appointed interim bookers. The final motion that was approved unanimously is "the current Booker be removed from the position of Booker as soon as reasonable, and Laura and Diane be appointed interim Bookers."

Owen moved and Robyn seconded a motion that the Booking Committee work to undo booking actions that do not reflect our mission statement and to smooth any ruffled feathers. The motion passed unanimously.

By consensus, the motions concerning booking are to be implemented by the Booking Committee.

Other

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Minutes submitted by Owen Shaffer, Secretary.

Appendix A - Previously-submitted Committee Reports

Sound

The equipment inventory is about 90% complete. Submitted by Owen

Y Dance / Dance Development

The Y dance continues. The last two months were very small, probably due to LEAF in May and the Y's Healthy Kids Day in April. But, to try to encourage attendance, we decided to try offering the dance for a "pay-what-you-can" admission – i.e., free, or whatever you want to contribute, with a \$5 recommended donation. We are wondering if the cost is keeping people away, and as the money is split between the performers, and Diane and Laura are recruiting performers on a volunteer understanding, it was decided to give this strategy a try, at least for a few months. We are committed to continuing through the calendar year, with an assessment in November to determine future commitment.

Submitted by Diane

Splash Dance

No meetings this month, reports from the field indicate Robyn has done a great job getting flyers out and about, registrations continue to come in, musicians are lined up, food is lined up, workshops are getting lined up. We still need a monkeysh sort of person to volunteer for the dangerous and thrilling set up and break down of the lights at the gym.

submitted by Dennis

Marketing

The marketing committee is still waiting for a leader. In the meantime, schedules get updated, newsletters go out, someone seems to maintain the facebook presence, and the Webmaster continues to have great plans for changes sometime in the future.

Webmaster subcommittee of marketing:

Daily site visit averages run between 180 and 200. This is about the same as it's been although maybe a bit less. I wonder if the site visits are correlated to the attendance?

Other than the schedule, the top pages viewed, in order of popularity, in May were: WarrenWilson, SplashDance, EnglishCountryDance, GreyEagle, performers, YMCA, board, members, AdvancedDance, contact, NewYearsEve, volunteers, newsletters, dances, and Waynesville.

submitted by Dennis

Appendix B - Board Retreat Committee Reports

Board Process Committee Report

Joe, Heather, and Owen were on the ad-hoc committee from the Board Retreat that explored the Board decision process. The following is our report.

Board Decision Process During Meetings

Goals:

1. everyone heard
2. efficient use of meeting time

Implementation:

1. mention to Board members at the start of each Board meeting:
 - a. if you wish to speak, raise a hand and wait to be recognized.
 - b. stay on topic.
 - c. limit responses to 2 minutes.
2. Time keeper limits responses to 2 minutes.
3. Ask for opposing view if 3 members all speak in agreement.
4. Everyone responsible for the goals above. Anyone can use “point of order.”

Committees vs. Board Decision Process

Committee Limits

1. All contracts must be Board approved, excluding the booking of sound, bands, and callers.
2. Decisions that will be added as Board Policy or that are contrary to Board Policy must be presented to the Board formally as motions.
3. Conflicts between committees go to the Board.
4. Decisions within budget do not need Board approval.
5. Committee Reports are the vehicle for Board oversight of committees. All Committee decisions must be recorded in the Committee Report.
6. Committee decisions become official after the Board accepts the report.

Implementation

1. While other topics can be included, Committee Reports should be focused on decisions taken by the committee.
2. The Chair of each Committee is responsible for ensuring that the Committee Report accurately reflects all decisions by the Committee. The process of taking notes during a meeting may be delegated to another Committee member, but the Chair holds ultimate responsibility for the delivery of the Report to the Board Secretary.
3. Once the Chair of a Committee approves a Committee Report, the Report is emailed to all Committee Members to ensure the Report is an accurate reflection of what transpired at the meeting.
4. After Committee review, the Report is emailed to the Board Secretary to become part of the next monthly compilation of Committee Reports.
5. Three days prior to a Board meeting, the Board Secretary emails the compilation of Committee Reports to all Board members.
6. Objections to actions recorded in the reports can be raised at that Board meeting. If the Board does not act to change a decision of a committee, then the decision stands.
7. Committee Reports are then included as an appendix to the minutes of that Board meeting.

Recommendation to the Board

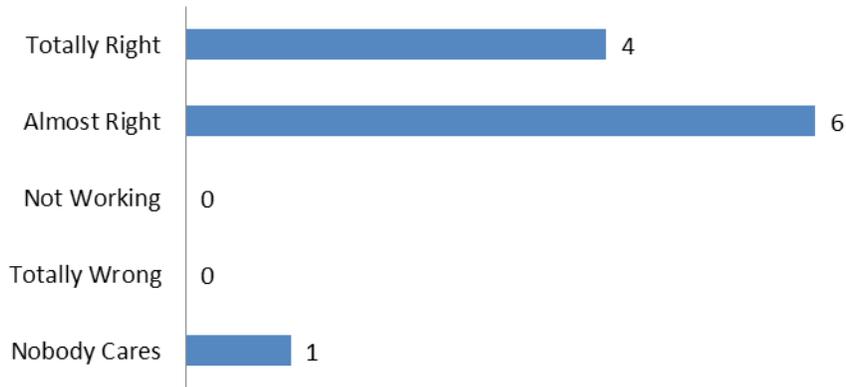
The committee recommends that a Governance Committee be appointed to

1. examine and make recommendations on any changes that may need to be made to the current committee structure;
2. to review the Policy Manual, the Handbook, and the relationship between them;
3. to review past meeting minutes to ensure that policy and other important decisions are correctly recorded in the Policy Manual and Handbook; and
4. to ensure there is an appropriate procedure in place to ensure that future policy and other important decisions are recorded in appropriate documents.

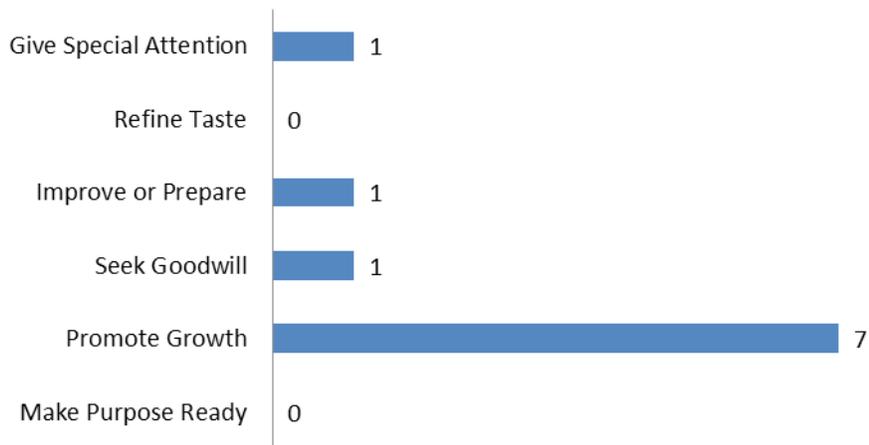
Mission Statement Committee Report

11 respondents

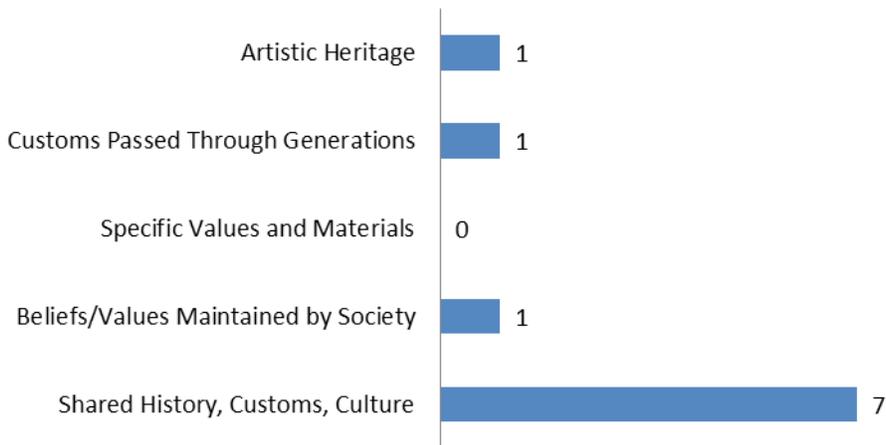
1. How Well Does Mission Work for You?



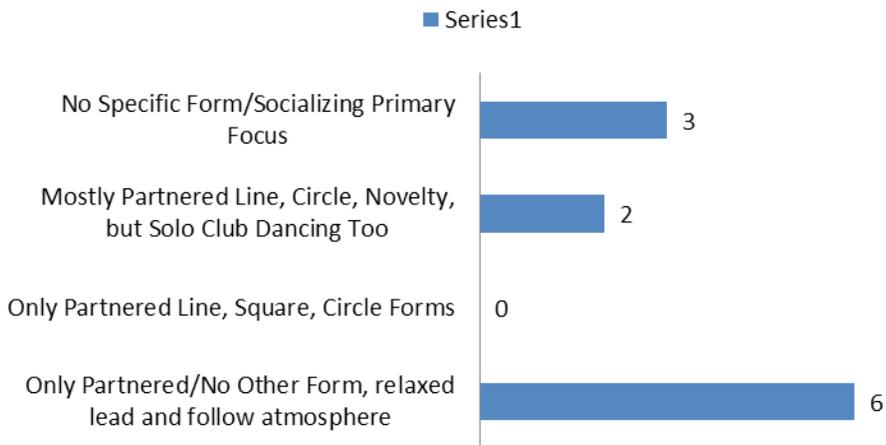
2. What Does Cultivate Mean?



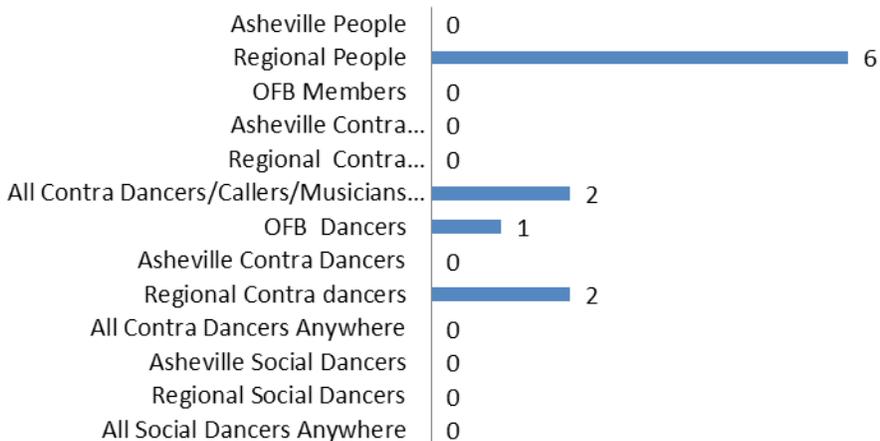
3. What is Traditional Folk Dance?



4. What is Social Dance?



5. What is the OFB Community?



6. Which Mission Statement Best Aligned with OFB Mission?

