



El Camino Reelers Board Meeting Minutes

Sunday, November 20, 2022, 11:00 AM PST

Remote meeting via Zoom 465 455 8223

Attending: Annette, David, Ed, Michael G, Kurt, Michael L, Oliver.

Minutes from Last Meeting

- Minutes from the 10/16/2022 meeting minutes have been approved.

Activities since last meeting

- Successful Halloween Dance with Eric Henerlau calling
- Replace mask mandate with masks being highly recommended

Club Nights

- As of 9/20 Club nights have the following format: 7:00-8:30 SSD, 8:30-9:30 Plus and Advanced
- Kurt has scheduled club night callers through end of this year.
- We will be dark December 27th and encourage people to attend the Interclub Holiday party on the 26th

Venues

- The hope is that with successful recruiting we will have enough attendance to have two club nights again, one (mostly) SSD, one Plus and Advanced.
- Looking for Saturday afternoon dance venues for potentially a second club “night” for Plus and Advanced dancing, and potentially future classes
- St. Andrew’s schedule to see if 2nd and 4th Sat mornings 10-12 are available. Cost would be \$100 (per night?). Solidly booked afternoons
- Ventura Community Center. \$250 refundable deposit, \$50/hour, high stage with power, possible kitchen access.
- Mountain View Community Center (hardwood floors in L Room: \$56-Maple Room \$? – padded vinyl floors \$113/hr: no tables and chairs allowed in those rooms) \$250 deposit required Prices are for non-profit. We are 501(c)7
- Trinity Church Menlo Park: They have 2 large rooms (for 106 or 300 people “standing”. Larger hall has a sound system. \$20 or \$35/hour. \$150 security and \$15 key deposit. \$50 cleaning fee for 3 hours (i.e. \$150)
- **Will go with Ventura CC. Oliver to initiate contract**

Covid Policies

- As of November 1st, we have changed our masking policy to recommending instead of requiring them.
- Kurt has sent out the risk-level assessment he has, and we will make our masking requirements dependent on Santa Clara County risk level.
- We’re keeping our requirements of requiring fully vaccinated. Currently, only 21.8% of County residents have the Omicron BA5 booster, so can’t require that, yet
- Current [Community Level for Santa Clara County](#) is “Low” (as is all of CA except Imperial County), with cases having trended down recently. Small uptick in hospitalizations on a very low level. [Sewer viral load trend](#) is steady in South and central county, trended lower in North county
- We will reconsider mask requirements when the risk level in SCC reach Medium again and trends continue to go up. While we remain at Low we will continue to have masks recommended, but optional

Quarterly Dances

- Eric Henerlau confirmed to call the Halloween Dance
- Ken Ritucci will call on March 25, 2023 **7-10**
- **We should have a sign / poster board about what level will be called with the next tip Ed will work on that**
- Masking decision for that dance will have to be done at the January board meeting

- We had two teams doing 50/50 at the Halloween dance.
- Ed will be reaching out to callers for a late-May dance after he gets back from vacation
- There was a miscommunication about scheduling the church. We will have the person who books the caller also book the church. Annette will check with Stan if they could put a publicly accessible calendar out again. Note: Eric was certain he had booked the Church at the beginning of the year
- A public calendar has now been posted by the mailboxes

Classes / Open House

- There's a Quads Plus class we can recommend should there be someone who want to proceed
- At Open Houses, we need to have a rotation to greet new people at the door to make them feel welcome, even late comers. Starting Dec 6, 7:00-8:30 pm
- Things that worked in terms of recruiting, and those that didn't:
 - Nextdoor and Palo Alto weekly, and word of mouth worked
 - One group showed up after seeing the flyers on California Avenue
 - Though there was response on Meetup, no-one showed up
 - Los Altos had success with Palo Alto Daily Post. They offered an ad package for \$850
 - Oliver reached out to Avenidas, who expressed interest at San Mateo Pride In The Park in including the info in their newsletter, but has never heard back
 - Flyers were posted on California Ave and around Stanford
 - Reached out to Stanford Queer Student Resources who promised to spread the word
 - However, Stanford is in low-attendance summer sessions right now
- What did we not do (enough) of, if any? Paid ad in papers... Distribute flyer in the area at University Ave, Castro St (Mtn Vw)
- Up-to-date vaccination (incl. booster) required, masks recommended
- Class fee includes all review club nights
- If less than 3 months left in membership year (i.e. graduation is after June 30), Students get the following year free, otherwise the rest of the current year
- Class members will get badges at graduation.
- We reached out to Open House attendees per email at least once
- We will have another SSD class likely Feb 4th, Feb 18th, Mar 4th, and Mar 18th, if we can sort out the location
- Michael L and Kurt will sort out details about restructuring the blast class to run over 4 Saturdays x 3 hours
- For the class, you will need some time to warm people up, then review previous calls, then teach, then review what was learned that day. 4x3 hours will be tighter than 3x4 hours but should be doable..
- We will have an Open House Dec 6 to gather contact information of interested parties. Will start advertising once Ed has come up with a flyer. Other Open House dates Jan 10th and Jan 24th.

Community Events

- No upcoming events

Membership

- At what occasions will we hand out the next batch of anniversary bars?

Board / General Meeting

Financials

- Looking at past pre-Covid dances, 50/50 was a major contributor to the bottom line, bringing in anywhere from \$65 to \$155. Even with that, we lost money at some dances. Net results were anywhere from ~~-\$321~~ to \$556.

- Halloween Dance made \$332 net revenue, \$103 from 50/50 (with decorations, PR, and drinks donated)
- 61 people have paid their dues, 17 outstanding (some possibly in the mailbox)
- Tuesday Club Nights: Still losing money weekly, but not unsustainably.
- PayPal button for subscriptions is ready, will be live by December
- Once all members have paid up, Ed will send insurance money

Other dancing

Saturday afternoon dances

- Should do more weekend afternoon events.
- **Should they become regular, and if so, how frequent? And where? See Club Nights above**
- **They could morph into Workshops?**

Venue

- Billy de Frank has started to have some in-person events again. Annette tried to **to reach out to BdF, but they still have very limited hours.**

Picnic

- SSD picnic Sunday Sept 18th was cancelled. **Reschedule?**

Fun Nights

- Currently on hold. Doing a couple of Open Houses pre- class begin.
- We previously decided that whenever we resume dancing, the monthly Fun Nights held at St. Andrews (twice a quarter) will move to Tuesday nights from 7:15 PM to 9:00 PM, with full level Plus dancing from 9:00 PM to 9:30 PM. We will advertise the night as starting at 7:00 PM to get people there on time to start dancing by 7:15 PM.
- We are planning on retaining the quarterly Friday Fun Nights at the Billy De Frank Center in San Jose once we feel comfortable doing so. We'll be reaching out to them about starting those up.

Potluck Nights

- Once we feel comfortable to have shareable food, we will discuss scheduling potluck nights.
- We're not comfortable, yet, and will **assess in the New Year.**
- In the meantime, we'll have picnics

Quarterly Workshops

- **Need to find a space for them now that St. Andrew's is unavailable weekend afternoons**
- We want to hold more quarterly workshops. We'd pay \$200 or half the door. Topics we'd like to cover: Gender Swap/APD workshop, for 4 hours.
- Allan was to check with Rob to see how long he thinks a workshop should take, and if he's available for a date yet to be determined. If Rob's not available, Allan will ask the same question of Eric Henerlau.
- Convention Brush-Up for Plus (thars, teacup chain, other rarely-used calls) This might also be handled via the 6 weeks of club nights prior to Convention, as long as we announce the topic of each club night in advance? In the last half-hour of Adv-Class-Plus format?
- APD/DBD Plus. (Again.)
- Square recovery techniques. (Keep the square dancing, and also know how to reset from lines or waves. Ideally, swap people around to get them into the right place before the end of the sequence.)

Social Activities

- None planned at this time
- **Robin** has looked at taking up going to the Mountain View theater again. Their free tickets for non-profits was stopped during Covid, and they do not seem to have any intentions of taking that up again. We could still go. Weekday tickets are \$30, so an evening with dinner would be \$50-\$60. She'll **ask around to gauge**

interest, and to get other ideas of fun things to do. In the Board's opinion, \$30 for an event / \$50-\$60 with dinner would be upper limit for events. There's been interest at the Board for Little Shop of Horrors. Other suggestions: Sing-A-Long movies. We'll put our planned social activities on our ECR club calendar.

Online Presence

Meetup

- Meetup currently costs \$24.99/mo. We will keep MeetUp and have changed to the 6-month model. Just paid another \$100. Is this something we want to keep up? How active are we on Meetup?
- Robin to try and generate more interest on Meetup. We'll reevaluate in 3 months
- Let's advertise our Open Houses as much as possible, if no response, we'll drop it.

Zoom

- Zoom has been renewed for another year in June.
- Board meetings are zoomed.

Facebook

- We will ask Dave Decot to delete the group. Michael to look into that

Other

- Eric posts on Instagram, posts are sent to Twitter. Last update to Twitter was 2020. Michael will ask Eric what's going on. If there's extra work with Twitter, we should drop it. Anyone wants to take up TikTok? Michael will ask Jeff if he has any interest in doing that. Instagram posts can be linked to Facebook, and vice versa if it's a post with picture.

Website

Next Board Meeting:

- Sunday, December 18, 2022, at 11 am PST. Location: Zoom