



El Camino Reelers Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 13, 2022, 06:30 PM PDT

Remote meeting via Zoom 465 455 8223

Attending: Annette, David, Michael, Robin, Sheri, Oliver.

Minutes from Last Meeting

- Minutes from the 04/18/2022 meeting minutes were approved.

Activities since last meeting

- Blast Class completed
- Convention prep afternoon dance on 5/14 (3 squares) **Should do more weekend afternoon events.** Next one will be our June 25 Picnic. **A few people asked to have more. We'll have another picnic July 16th (see below) (July 30th has Oaktown 8s Picnic.)**
- Ed has come up with a handout that has general club info on small format to hand out to potential interested folks at Pride events (see below).
- SSD dance opportunities: Club Night, Running Bear dance 5/21, Strawberry festival
- IAGSDC Convention in Minneapolis! (2023 Ottawa, ON; 2024 Durham, NC; 2025 Salt Lake City, UT?; 2026 San Francisco, CA?. Minneapolis had several club members test positive for Covid afterwards
- San Mateo Pride at the Park (6/11) was successful. One demo tip on stage (thanks Kurt and everyone who came out).. Was too early in the day or too warm for an audience to pull in, but passed out 30-40 flyers. **What worked?** Video on Kurt's laptop pulled in a few people. Approaching people during the demo and handing them a flyer. Approaching people as they passed the booth. **What can be done better in the future?**
- Had to skip Pride at the Fair due to too many drop-outs due to positive tests and isolation
- AJH Grant to pay for Longevity bars has been approved

Club Nights

- We will not have a pre-7:30 class review as a general rule. But we can have it upon request for class members who missed a class or review session.
- Club nights will have new format once class started: 7:00 Advanced, 7:30-9:00 Class-level review, 9:00-9:30 Plus. For now, we will have a short star tip in the middle of SSD, to be revisited after class is over, and depending on the success of the Saturday afternoon.

Covid Policies

- We will continue to mask until at least end of June **and review at each meeting**
- Health officials are still recommending wearing masks
- Given the experience with convention and the rising numbers in the area, we'll keep the mask mandate for the time being

Quarterly Dances

- Will have a picnic instead of a summer dance, on June 25th in Robles Park, Palo Alto
- Eric Henerlau confirmed to call the Halloween Dance
- Ken Ritucci reached out to us to potentially call on March 25, 2023 (he's already in the area to call for Advanced Squares the Friday before). Board has interest. **Robin will look for possible conflicts with other dances.** Sheri says he is known in the straight community from CallerLab workshops. **If no conflicts, Ed can reach out with our standard contract.**

Beginner Classes / Open House

- We will schedule Open Houses for June 21, July 12, **July 26th.** We will probably have an **SSD-to- Plus follow-up class later in the year, dates to be determined based on interest.**
- **Class dates Aug 13th, 27th, Sept 10th 1-5p taught by Michael Levy. Annette to reserve the church**
- **Need to advertise.** Things that worked in terms of recruiting, and those that didn't:
 - **Nextdoor (David)** and Palo Alto weekly (**Oliver**), and word of mouth worked

- Though there was response on Meetup, no-one showed up **Robin to see if she can stir up some interest.**
- Los Altos had success **with Palo Alto Daily Post (Oliver)**
- **Reach out to Avenidas. Oliver will send them an e-mail with the pertinent details**
- **Put out flyers at Stanford student union? (Oliver)**
- **Post on flyer board along California Ave**
- What did we not do (enough) of, if any? **Paid ad in papers... Distribute flyer in the area at ...?**
- Up-to-date vaccination (incl. booster) required, masks still required
- Class fee includes all review and club nights until convention
- It was decided that class members will get badges at graduation. Ed has asked what info they want on theirs, and placed the order

Community Events

- Family Pride Day / Out At The Fair at San Mateo County Fair on 06/05. We had to pass on that due to Covid (see above)
- San Mateo County Pride 6/11:--See above
- We had dancers for more than one square, a caller (thanks Kurt!), and table volunteers.

Membership

- Oliver has made changes and sent out a copy to the Board for review. Those changes were approved
- **Need to have it voted on by the membership. Oliver will ask Ed to prepare an Election Buddy Special Election**
- We should see that we can have the change official before the next class graduates
- Eric has proposed that we use the IAGSDC club retention program by All Join Hands to propose they pay for the initial set of anniversary bars. Eric has applied, and the application was approved for the cost of \$241.27. We received that reimbursement check from AJH
- We have 11 5-year, 13 10-year, 9 15-year, 8 20-year, 7 25-year, 5 30-year, and 3 35-year bars left, in the locker in the back of the church. Also ordered 5 40-year bars. **When will we hand them out?**

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. **We need volunteers to do 50/50 at our dances**
- Tuesday Club Nights: Still losing money weekly, but not unsustainably.
- All Join Hands is offering \$500 to clubs for outreach in addition to a grant for club development if starting a new class. We applied for that, and the request **has been approved**
- We got \$200 for attending the **San Mateo Pride** event
- Club development grant for the Longevity Bars was approved by All Join Hands

Board / General Meeting

- Eric handed over responsibilities
 - **Get mail: Annette needs to get the keys from Eric**

Other dancing

Venue

- Billy de Frank has started to have some in-person events again. **Do we want to reach out to BdF, or wait until we started up Fun Nights**
- Eric picked up keys for St. Andrews and has made 3 copies. David, Eric, Ed, and Oliver have keys. Kurt got a key from Stan. **Eric will pass his keys on to Annette.**

Picnic

- Next picnic is June 25 in lieu of a summer dance. Robles park, picnic 1:30, Dancing 2-4. Levels called depends on attendees. Rich will be one caller, Mike and James as Two of a Kind the other callers. SSD will be the main focus, with a few calls of other levels. Ed produced a flyer, and has advertised to surrounding clubs. **Need to be more specific in the future about BYO or potluck (for now, it's BYO). May need power.**
- **Next picnic July 16th. Robles Park, David to reach out to Rich and Michael to Dave for calling**
- **Will do BYO** instead of potlucks while St. Andrews kitchen is unavailable and sharing of food is unadvised due to Covid, weather permitting

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

- Currently on hold.
- Once we feel comfortable to have shareable food, we will discuss scheduling potluck nights.
- In the meantime, we'll have picnics

Quarterly Workshops

- Currently on hold
- 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 (thurs, 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

Online Presence

Meetup

- Meetup currently costs \$24.99/mo. We will keep MeetUp and have changed to the 6-moth 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 5 months**

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.

Website

- Has been updated with changes and lists callers through end of July, Open House info, Convention photo (Thanks, Jeff, for showing your legs front and center!). Thanks Ed!
- SCVSDA Club Info Page has also been updated

Next Board Meeting:

- Friday, July22, 2022, at 4:00 pm PDT. Location: Zoom