

## Swing Ann Arbor Open Meeting Minutes May 18, 2006

### I. Meet the Board

- A. Members of the Executive Board who were present introduced themselves: Jesse Metcalf-Burton (President), Alex Mirkin (Treasurer), Erin Morris (Events Coordinator), and Laura Morris (Secretary)
- B. Director present was Mike Skora (Web Site Director)

### II. Workshops/Lessons

- A. Styles for workshops discussed included West Coast Swing, Balboa, Charleston, Blues, Collegiate Shag, Carolina Shag, other vintage dances. There are a number of qualified instructors that could be utilized here in southeast Michigan such as Adam Boehmer (Charleston, Shag, Blues), Kelly Porter (Blues), Jason Herron (Balboa), Tim Constant (Carolina Shag).
- B. Venues discussed included other rooms in the Union and Dance Revolution.
- C. Dan Smouse suggested holding a fund-raising workshop. The idea is to hold 4 or 5 "circle lessons" that take place at the same time. One hour (or 45 minute) lessons could be held over several hours. Basic east coast swing could be taught by a number of volunteer instructors. In Salsa, they are trained to teach exactly the same thing. It was debated if something similar could be done with swing. This will be discussed further.
- D. Wednesday night curriculum was discussed. The idea of incorporating progressive lessons was tabled.
  1. Month long progressive lessons during the first hour followed by drop-in lessons
    - The ability to make it a true progressive was argued. Probably very difficult to ensure if at all.
    - It was brought up that if the drop-in lesson was always beginner east coast swing, then the beginners would never progress further. It was pointed out that the progressive would not be limited to lindy hop.
  2. Holding progressive lessons on a different night was also discussed. Ideas included:
    - Monday or Friday night lessons
    - Practica with experienced dancers

### III. Volunteering Opportunities and Incentives

- A. Set-up and Tear-down requires one person to take the equipment home at night. The group ruled out obtaining a closet for security reasons. SAA might be able to apply for and receive office space in the Union but not likely for at least a year. Jesse to investigate further.
- B. Ideas for incentives included getting in free for the night and/or Dance Revolution passes.
- C. Making door duties into volunteer position(s) discussed.
- D. The following incentives were floated:
  1. Extra set-up volunteer - free pass for the night
  2. Equipment volunteer - free pass for the night plus pass for extra night
  3. Door volunteers in shifts:
    - 7:30-8:30pm - free pass for the night
    - 8:30-9:30pm - free pass for the night
    - 9:30-10:00pm - free pass for the night
    - 10:00-10:30pm - free pass for the night
  4. DJ volunteers - free pass for the night; possible pass for extra night

### IV. Other - financial situation discussed briefly. Financial statements will be published by the Treasurer.