

Times Squares Board of Directors Meeting

Date: December 4, 2017

Time: 6:50 PM

Location: Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT)

Board Members Present: Alain Buzzard, Larry Caputo, Michael Coan, Jeff Eisner, Warren Livesley, Alan Teicher, Susan Gill

Members/Guests Present: Gabriel Rivas, George Voorhis

A. Secretary's Report: The minutes of the meeting on October 30, 2017 were accepted

B. Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was accepted with gratitude for its thoroughness and clarity.

C. New Business

- 1. Peel the Pumpkin 2017.** There was a net loss of approximately \$1800 for PTP 2017.
- 2. Peel the Pumpkin 2018.** We are using PayPal for online registration for PTP 2018. There was a discussion of the way PayPal works and the need to request a transfer of funds collected by them.
- 3. Thursday Club Night January 4.** This dance will be held as scheduled
- 4. Proposed By-Law Amendment.** Alain will prepare a paragraph explaining a proposed by-law change.
- 5. The Gathering.** The NNJSDA will sponsor an all-day event on May 5, 2018 entitled Dream 2018. It will be open to all participating clubs with breakout sessions on various topics on advancing square dancing. Kian and Kim will present a session on using the Internet and social media.
- 6. Yale GALA.** The outreach event with Yale GALA has been tentatively scheduled for January 16, 2018 with January 19 as an alternative. Caller Pat Push has been engaged to call for this primarily gay women's event. It will be held at PS3.
- 7. Membership Renewal.** The membership renewal letter has been posted.
- 8. A-2 E-vite.** Alain has agreed to include A dancers in his Evite for Thursday evenings.
- 9. Spring Classes.** It was decided, by a vote of 6:1, to offer the new 2018 Basic class beginning February 6 without any financial constraints or restrictions. Alain pointed out that the Basic Class/Club Night evening loses very little money, so putting a financial burden on new dancers may be counterproductive. That Basic class will be \$10/class with an incentive price of \$100/all 12 classes, approved 6:0:1. Ken will be asked to book Howard for these evenings.

10. Outreach. In preparation for our new Basic class, we will have two Dance Parties as outreach events, instead of club nights, on January 16 and January 30, 2018.

11. Completion of Current Mainstream Essentials Class. Alain will ask Kim to talk with current Basic students regarding the opportunity to complete the Mainstream list of calls in January in order for them to be able to dance Mainstream at club nights and other dances. This initiated a conversation about our discomfort with not being upfront about how long it really takes to complete the Mainstream class, and the feeling that breaking it into Basic at 12 weeks and Mainstream at 4-5 weeks sounds a bit like a “bait and switch” tactic. Perhaps it would be better to modify the CallerLab definition and bill the class as a 16-week Mainstream class.

12. Outreach. Alan brought up the *The Gay City News*, which ran a free calendar listing in the past, and now want us to pay for any further ads. We decided against paying for advertising.

Club members are reminded to contact Michael Coan when they plan to attend a meeting so that they can be cleared with security at FIT. Agenda items should be submitted by email to the secretary no later than 2 days before any board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Gill, Secretary