**CFOOTMAD Board Meeting November 12, 2016**

**In attendance**: Riley Geistmann, Sam Smith, Roxy Johnstone, Paul Somlo, Nancy Reindl **Absent**: Possible new board member Julie Olsen

**Promoting CFOOTMAD dances** – Riley has talked to organizers of other contra dances in other parts of America who have tried traditional methods of advertising, and the consensus is that they do not increase attendance at dances. CFOOTMAD’s meet-up site seems to draw some new dancers. Getting more information about where our new dancers are hearing about us was discussed; recording this information when handing out free admission coupons to first-timers at the lesson was mentioned.

**Masonic Hall’s floor** - The Masons are planning to install a much-needed new floor. The possibility of CFOOTMAD donating money to the cause in exchange for a long- term lease was discussed. Our understanding is that the hall will be un-available to us for about 4-6 weeks in perhaps February while the floor is being installed. The Denver dance coordinator, Duffy Boyle, will be in charge of finding a temporary hall.

**Dancer Safety** – Sam and Riley have been announcing at CFOOTMAD dances that the board wants the dances to be safe and welcoming environments for everyone, and that if anyone has any feedback or complaints to feel free to approach the board members. These announcements seem to be well-received. It was mentioned that the dance coordinators are the first point of contact for issues at any event. How to address issues was discussed. Complaints about individuals need to be more specific than, “He’s creepy,” such as “This person was too rough,” or “I was touched inappropriately.” If the same name is brought to the coordinators’ and board’s attention from different sources, these cases need the most direct intervention.

**Finances** – Sue Horn is slowly getting the dance sheets from 2016 submitted. This gives us information on how much money each dance makes or loses.

**The Westy Dance** – SCFD provided the Westminster dance a grant of $2,400 for the year. Even with this subsidy, the dance loses about $1,000 annually. CFOOTMAD cannot continue to subsidy a dance at such losses. By the last quarter of 2017, the dance needs to break even, or it will need to be discontinued. Peter Johnson and Tina Fields should be invited to the next board meeting to discuss ideas for the Westy. It was reported that Pat Danscen would not be available for a couple of months, but this was a mistake (revised 3/4/2017). Riley helps the Westy as much as possible, but cannot commit to a formal role.

**Volunteer Appreciation** – Having a special volunteer breakfast on a Saturday morning between Denver and Boulder to make it easily accessible to all volunteers was discussed. Being a social gathering outside of regular dance events might help build a sense of community. However, it may not be well-attended as volunteers may have other plans when there is not a dance involved, and this event would not be very visible to the community for volunteers to receive public acknowledgement. It was decided to go with our traditional volunteer-appreciation connected to a dance, which we have not held for several years. Sunday, January 29 was decided on, at the Avalon before the afternoon special dance at 1:00. Riley, Sam or Paul will check with the Avalon for an available space for 12:00 that day as there is another event in the main ballroom that day until 1:00. Lunch will be served – likely pizza – and the volunteers will get buttons to wear indicating they are volunteers. At some point during the dance, volunteers will likely be asked to come forward to be acknowledged by the community. Nancy will ask Pam for a list of regular volunteers.

**New Board Member** – A potential new board member, Nancy Reindl, was discussed. Sam reported that the main draw for having Nancy on the board is that she has a centrally-located house at which board meetings could be held. Nancy was voted on the board.