CFOOTMAD Meeting Minutes, 11 March 2017

Present: Sam Smith, Paul Somlo, Roxy Johnstone, Julie Olsen, Nancy Reindl

* We discussed the requirements (under bylaws) to actively maintain agendas, and minutes, and post them on the website. We have not always done this regularly.
* We looked at aspects of the bylaws that were somewhat confusing. These include:
  + The mission statement, and whether we feel it accurately represents our organization.
  + “Legacy” elements of the bylaws, providing for annual meetings, and membership overrides of board decisions. Under the bylaws as written, these are possible but not required, and have not been held. In our current state, the board is relatively autonomous, but can be overridden by the membership.
  + We do need to provide notice of board meetings and agendas, both to directors and to the membership at large.
  + We decided that this formulation is acceptable, and that we don’t need to deeply reconsider the bylaws as they stand at this point.
* Sam presented an analysis of the 2016 financials for each dance.
  + Westminster lags far beyond our other series, both in terms of subsidy per event and subsidy per dancer. This situation is not sustainable and needs to be fixed.
  + Westminster would need 15 more dancers per evening (32 people coming per night) on average to be sustainable under its own grant. This is not happening, but is feasible.
* We discussed organization-wide financial stability.
  + Attendance is down year-over-year across all series. Most dances now rely on grant funding, whether in the form of grants earmarked for specific dances (Westy, Boulder) or grants to the whole organization (Denver, Zesty, Waltz).
  + This is sustainable for the short term (we’re still getting grants and have money in the bank). But if grants dry up, we’ll be in a more problematic situation. (Does our financial stability affect our ability to receive continued SCFD funding?)
  + Rent increases in Denver threaten to drive the organization further into the red.
  + We need to consider organization-wide approaches to promotion.
* Documentation of grants and funding.
  + It’s better for people to donate money to the organization, and then to have the organization pay. In-kind donations and volunteer hours are easy to claim, but hard to document.
* May is a month for the “bring a newbie, get in free” promotion.
  + We have buy-in from Denver.
  + Nancy will work with Teri to make sure this will work.
  + The “get in free” coupons should be valid at all dances except specials in May 2017.
* Other promotional concerns:
  + Is the Zesty still listed on meetup.com? Is this the right audience for a Zesty dance?
  + Is the family dance listed on the webpage?
* Questions over donations to CROMA.
  + There’s less and less overlap between the mission and membership of CFOOTMAD and CROMA. (Old-Timey music isn’t really our thing.)
  + How necessary is our donation?
  + We voted for Paul to write a $75 check for this year; will look at again for later.
* Profit split policy.
  + Unclear what this is; discussion postponed until Riley is here.
* Photography policy.
  + We welcome photography/videography, so long as it does not interfere with bands or dancers. Photographers must have band permission. Consistent interference with dancers’ privacy is an issue, and should be addressed by dance coordinators.
  + Should we post a sign to this effect? Paul will talk to Viki about this.
* We are still awaiting proposals for Louis Sass’ memorial bequest to the Denver Sound System.
* What to do about the robbery from Bill Dover and Kathy White?
  + CFOOTMAD to reimburse Bill and Kathy for their loss.
  + Concerns over dancer safety: at least, we should ensure that no “last person out” is left alone, especially with valuable assets (cash box, sound equipment).
  + Should we also warn dancers?