

**Doo-wop and Disco Dance Club
Membership Meeting Minutes– Nov. 9, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. in Abravanel Hall

Attendees:

52 members plus Board members: Marv Harwood, President; Joanne Goglia, Vice President; Jim Kaminsky, Treasurer; Linda Ball, Membership Chair; and Lynn Murphy, Recording Secretary.

Welcome and new member introduction- Marv

Marv thanked all for attending and said that pizza would be here for all soon.

Treasurers Report – Jim

Bank balance.....\$6,270.00 Reminder: Financial reports and minutes are available on the web site.

Proposed Estimated Party Expenses –authorized by the Board

Sept. \$6,200, Oct. \$6,300, Nov. \$2,200

Membership – Linda

There are currently approximately 468 members.

2018 membership dues can be pre-paid at front desk. Dues remain at \$10 per person.

Any changes in contact info, fill out a membership form.

Approval of Minutes-Lynn

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the July 20 general meeting. Greg Coffee/Katherine Fitzwilliam (S) PASSED

Parties- Joanne

Thanks to party hosts and new bands, we had outstanding parties this quarter. November 18th party has a few seats available when last checked. If interested in going to the November 18 party, sign the wait list and will notify you if ticket(s) are available.

A sign-up sheet was circulated for people interested in hosting a party in 2018.

Party Hosting Guide – Lynn

A guide with former hosts notes and other information about how to host a party is being compiled.

Do Dues Day – January 6 – Marv

Asked for volunteers to help with 1-hour shifts. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

Nominating Committee – Jim Kaminsky, Co-Chair

Nominees are the current Board; additional nominations were called for from the floor. No additional nominees.

MOTION: To elect the slate of officers as presented. (Greg Coffee/Gloria Lipitz (S) PASSED

State of the Club – Marv & Lynn

Accomplishments from this year's board were detailed and Board members thanked.

Ticketing process – Marv

Marv reminded us that parties seldom sell out that first morning of ticket sales. He stressed: Leaving a check at the front desk by ticket sale morning generally will get you into a party.

However, for those who want to wait in line early to be assured of a seat, our present system of ticketing was adapted from what OSPA does: On ticket-sale morning, instead of a disorganized line, members can sit on the numbered next chair in line and, wait, or take the number off the chair and return at 8 a.m. At 8 a.m. we start to

pre-check the ticket orders for easy handling when sales start at 9. Some people who can't stay, ask the group if anyone has room at their table and can take their check(s).

Brainstorming the signing up for parties through e-mail vs. face to face – Linda

Linda explained there was interest in exploring using our computers for the ticketing process. We are open to a trial of a system that

- Would not add more work to the process.
- Would enable buying a table for up to 10 people.
- Would allow people who do not use e-mail to participate.

Linda Ball drafted an idea that she thought was workable and sent it out to all members a few weeks ago. If the majority of our members like it, it could be tried on one party. Key features would be:

- Use our standard e-mail announcement and ask for RSVP's via e-mail on a certain date and time.
- People without computers will be assisted by members who have agreed to help them.
- At the designated time they would RSVP via e-mail indicating how many seats they want, up to 10, and the names of the members.
- Reservations are then taken on a first come/first served basis.
- We would e-mail them back if they were among the first 200 to reply instructing them to submit a check by a certain date. If not, they would be put on the wait list.
- After one trial we would see if it was easier for everyone.

The membership wanted to discuss the whole concept to see if there would be an advantage to changing.

Discussion included Pros and Cons about an **e-mail ticketing system**:

FOR E-MAIL TICKETING IDEA

- E-mail sales makes it easier: does not take hours of our time, does not require getting up early and avoids shutting out people who cannot physically be there, due to work or other commitments.
- It is a mistake to say our current system works...it does not work for people who can't be there at ticket sale time because of work or other commitments.
- Some people don't join/re-join Doo Wop because they can't get tickets. This would solve that.
- You can use your 'auto response' to bounce back early repliers' e-mail.

AGAINST E-MAIL TICKETING IDEA

- Members may be working on assumptions that their table mates are in, holding spots open when there is no firm commitment yet.
- Members may send multiple e-mails to insure that one of their e-mails goes thru'.
- There could be members for whom 2 or more people are RSVP'ing
- "If it ain't broke don't fix it" the current system is an easy one-shot, party before the party event, no back and forth with communicating if we are in or not.
- There is no transparency with a computerized system (some would wonder: is first-come/first-served REALLY being carried out)
- A computerized ticketing method is good, but not this one. Paying online using the member's credit card would be better. Our invitation should be specific to our members; not open to the public.

Suggestions:

- New members need to be told how to getting tickets.
- Create a Chair of Ticketing to sort this all out.
- Consider a membership cut-off TIME (not just the date)
- No matter what the system, if a problem has been dealing with checks that are written incorrectly or invalid memberships, once the membership list is on the web site: Require that the table organizer check for membership status and just submit one check to cover everyone at the table.

- Give everyone a member number each year; people submit their number which means they are a current member

OFFERS OF HELP

- Jackie Crosby worked in I.T. and is willing to find a system that is not e-mail based.
- Harriet Marois, offered to help anyone who needs help using a computerized system of ticketing.
- Marianne Michaels – (possible help) Has used Meetup.com It restricts invitations to only people who are members, you can RSVP and see an immediate confirmation of your response.
- Linda said she's willing to put together a single person's contact system (to meet others who want to put together a table).

After members offering pros and cons for about 40 minutes, the issue was put to a vote.

MOTION: To keep the current system. Greg Coffee/Gloria Lipitz. PASSED. 32 yes votes to keep our current system.

Jim recommended that if anyone has a ticketing idea that does not cost a lot, put it to a beta test first and, if it works, present it to the Board.

Joanne recommended that if you want to meet other members, offer to help the party host whose name is on the bottom of each party's flyer.

Marv thanked all for their ideas and reminded us that members can give their checks for Doo Wop parties prior to the sales time and almost always get in. Also, it would be a big help if table organizers would ensure that the checks they submit are from members, and made out properly.

Adjournment: MOTION: to adjourn the meeting. Joanne Goglia/ Jim Kaminsky(S). PASSED. Marv declared the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. and invited everyone to stay and finish up the pizza.

Submitted by,

Lynn Murphy, Recording Secretary