

CASCADE ZYDECO BOARD MEETING MINUTES

December 19, 2017

Meeting was called to order @ 7:07 p.m. by Adam Grimshaw.

Board Members present: Adam Grimshaw, David Seitz, Vicki Louthan, Loren Raymer, Phil Meehan and Gabriel Farkas. Absent: Jane Kerin. Derek McKinney

Minutes from October board meeting and November board retreat were approved and seconded as submitted.

Treasurer's report: Approved and seconded as submitted

Membership Chair Report:

Loren is working on finalizing the messages to the members regarding the change in how our membership year is calculated and reminding people to pay their membership dues. Suggestion to make a note that the membership dues are tax deductible. This should go out this week.

We have now implemented the rolling membership.

We now have 85-90 paid members.

VP and Band Coordinator Report:

We now have completed the agreement with Too Loose for every other month, on the 2nd Wednesday. This starts on January 10. Admission will be \$15. for all. Lesson will start at 7, with dance at 7:30.

Upcoming bands: Curley Taylor is booked for February 3 – this is a Saturday, they will be playing at Eastside Bar & Grill. Lesson at 7:15, dance 8 – 11. We need 95 paid people in attendance for our breakeven point. There is no cost for sound, \$100. for water, and a minimal cost for a door person.

David has talked to other potential bands. At this point, the cost is too much (\$3,000. for band, and if not coming through already would have to pay airfare.) We need to take some time on this to see if we will generate sufficient funds at our new venue to be able to hire a band at this level.

SSB is trying to put together a house band oriented towards our kind of music. We could possibly have them play on Too Loose off months.

President's Report:

Sean Donovan workshop – Dates we would want to do this again – Target for April or early June (1st or 2nd weekend). Need to find out when Sean is available and then determine where we can hold it. Chere volunteered to chair it again and Vicki will help her out with registration, etc.

Annual Meeting and picnic – Need feedback from Jane

Miscellaneous:

Phil – report on Zydeco meet up: Invite went out, it was a fledgling effort, will need to try again. Board members need to sign up for the meet-up to show a number of people going in order to help entice more meet-up people to go.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Louthan, Secretary

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CASCADE ZYDECO BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Retreat – 11/5/17

Board Members present: Adam Grimshaw, David Seitz, Jane Kerin, Derek McKinney, Vicki Louthan, Loren Raymer, Phil Meehan, and Gabriel Farkas

Review of Mission Statement

What is needed to accomplish goals of mission statement:

Provide venue

Increase membership

Financially sustainable

Welcoming & fun

Promote live dances

Encourage younger dancers

Quantifying goals:

12 Live band events

Negotiations are underway with Too Loose for at least one event every other month

New venue has been obtained

Theme dances, You Tube our dances or our dance instructors

Secret Society promotes our events

Connect with Meet-up group

Updating Bylaws

To change how the membership year runs

Strike current wording – “The membership year runs from July 1-June

30. Dues paid after April 1 of any year will be applied towards the following full membership year.”

Add – “Memberships paid in any month will be effective immediately in that month and will be effective through the end of the same month in the following year.” Proposed change was approved by board members.

Retroactive to 6/30

We have to work out details for how this will be handled and Loren is working on that.

Dealing with disagreements and conflict between members

Membership Planning

Determine if survey is still relevant

Determine if a membership committee is needed

Need way to immediately sign up

Smart phone on line sign up?

List at the door for if people want to sign up

Continue distribution of the one free dance cards

Possibility of link from SSB website to our website

Goal is 120 paid members by this time next year

Sending out reminders?

Secret Society Transition

Breakdown of income – first \$150 to CZ; next \$200 to SSB; next \$50 to CZ, then split 60% to CZ/40% SSB

CZ supplies official greeter? This person not obligated to stay at front desk all the time

Loren will bring a membership list to SSB in case people are not aware if they have paid their dues or not

Managing the door – SSB counts – they provide accounting sheet

CZ person with SSB person at end of night count

David volunteered to do this 1x/MTh; Adam suggests they do check and mail to us instead

David will check on the ability of having our sign at the outside door and having a place to store it at SSB

Specific Projects:

June workshop with Sean Donovan

Yes to having again this year. Adam will contact Chere about chairing it again

Blues Festival

What kind of support needed from us?

May not have the multiple stages next year

Other Live Bands

New Iberians? Zydeco Rex?

Meeting adjourned @ 3:08pm

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Louthan, Secretary

CASCADE ZYDECO BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 17, 2017

Meeting was called to order @ 7:12 p.m. by Adam Grimshaw.

Board Members present: Adam Grimshaw, David Seitz, Derek McKinney, Vicki Louthan, Loren Raymer, and Gabriel Farkas. Absent: Phil Meehan, Jane Kerin.

Minutes from previous meetings were approved and seconded as submitted.

Treasurer's report:

As of 9/30 balance in bank account - \$9,920. Discussion regarding Profit & Loss statement and Balance sheet not matching up (liabilities & equity). Figures are coming from Quick Books. Not sure why they don't match nor if they need to. Financials were approved and seconded as submitted.

Membership Chair Report:

Currently have 69 paid members. Discussion regarding preparation of a survey – most likely a single question survey with a multiple choice answer, to find out why people have not renewed.

1st need to remind past year members who have not yet renewed.

Loren to bring draft of plan to increase membership to the board retreat. He is also working on the survey, and will circulate it to the board members prior to sending to general membership.

VP and Band Coordinator Report:

We are set for 10/20 dance with Too Loose. It will be at Polish Hall and Oh Honey will provide food and adult beverages for sale. Cover charge will be \$15.

So far no band found for day after Thanksgiving. Eagles Hall has been reserved.

Derek suggested if we are doing a CD dance, why not include some different lessons. Different instructors teach a different step spaced out through the dance. Would probably need 3 different steps taught. David agreed to contact the instructors.

David is trying to find a band and place in December.

President's Report:

Venue change:

Secret Society – could possibly get for Monday nights, trying for Wednesday. Not available Sunday afternoons, would have to be in the evening (7-9), that is a conflict with Vancouver dance.

Eagles – could do Wednesday nights

East Side Bar & Grill – could do Wednesdays and they would not charge.

Rose City – Very nice, but pricey

Polish Hall – could stay – available 4 Wednesdays/month; downside – no food/beverage; upside – great parking

Annual meeting & picnic:

Need to follow up with Jane – want to get a location and date for next year set up now.

Retreat:

Looks like will be at Adam's on 11/5, he will follow up after making sure Phil is available this date.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Louthan, Secretary

CASCADE ZYDECO BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 19, 2017

Meeting was called to order @ 6:43 p.m. by Adam Grimshaw.

Board Members present: Adam Grimshaw, David Seitz, Jane Kerin, Derek McKinney, Vicki Louthan, Loren Raymer, Phil Meehan. Absent: Gabriel Farkas

New board members welcomed: Loren Raymer, Derek McKinney, Phil Meehan, Vicki Louthan.

Minutes from previous meetings were approved and seconded as submitted.

Treasurer's report deferred to next meeting due to absence of Treasurer.

Looking for a Volunteer Chairperson and Membership Chairperson. Loren volunteered to chair Membership and was approved and seconded.

Phil volunteered to open doors/set up for Wednesday night Zydeco to give Susan Farkas, our current Volunteer Chair, a break. He will correspond with Susan.

VP and Band Coordinator Report:

Next event coming up - 10/20 dance with Too Loose. Still determining venue. Eagles not available, possibly at Polish Hall, will check Catfish Lou's, Norse Hall (but expensive), Eastside Bar & Grill, Village (?) on Dekum.

Trying for a dance Thanksgiving weekend – looking at Seattle and California band possibilities.

President's Report:

Board Retreat – need to set date. Looking for 10/28 or 10/29 as 1st choice. Other possibilities 11/5, 11/18 or 11/19. Check calendars and get back to Adam for final date. Jane has a notebook of general information for Cascade Zydeco and will bring it to the retreat.

Wednesday night revitalization needed:

Consider a venue change? Options to check out – Catfish Lou’s;
Spare Room

Need ideas to get more people in the door:

Theme nights

Annual Meeting & Picnic recap:

Went smoothly, decent turn-out, weather perfect

Set date for next year:

#1 Choice – Saturday following Labor Day Weekend (9/8)

#2 – Saturday prior to Labor Day Weekend (8/25)

#3 – Sunday following Labor Day Weekend (9/9)

#4 – Sunday prior to Labor Day Weekend (8/26)

Looking for options of where to hold it. Frenchman’s Bar a possibility. Jane to follow up on availability. Other ideas?

General Discussion:

Ideas for increasing membership:

Silent Dance (summer time option) – Jane pursuing

Future meetings:

Monthly Skype meeting – 3rd Tuesday, except quarterly will meet in person at Overlook. This will be on Wednesday evening prior to dance. Meeting times will be published so any members wishing to can attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Louthan, Secretary

Cascade Zydeco Board Meeting Minutes – August 15, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Cascade Zydeco Board was called to order at 7:15 pm. The meeting was on Skype. (Skype initiated within 10 minutes.)

Board members present were: Adam Grimshaw, David Seitz, Gabriel Farkas, Phil Meehan, and Jane-Clair Kerin. Derek McKinney in via Skype at 7:28.

June's CZ board meeting minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report:

\$\$ in account. Membership fees keep coming in. Profits and losses – descent income through Wednesday dances. Live band dances doing well. Too much money in account – CZ should be able to afford bringing in a band from Louisiana.

Gabe provides an explanation of expenses and incomes to new board members.

Polish Hall \$/hour, \$ per night, \$ sent for August.

Inquiry about Eagles Hall – will have to anticipate not being there.

Treasurer's report approved.

Board Transition:

Adam Grimshaw – president

David Sietz – vice president

Vicki Louthan - secretary

tbd – membership chair, explanation of membership duties for new board members.

Door volunteers needed – weekly dances need more support through volunteers

Vice-President/Band Coordinator Report:

Dance on Sunday, August 27th at the secret society (possible new place for CZ activities?)

\$ sound and door, band gets % of door (beyond our flat rate), \$15 cover, aiming for 150 people in attendance. \$ additional at live band dance.

September, October

Derek has a sound system – is willing to bring for live bands. He will provide sound system for the CZ picnic on September 9th.

Too Loose dance in September or October – exploring venue options aside from Polish Hall.

Ideal Venue: good dance floor, food, alcohol, sound system provided.

Polish Hall's AC and door are in need of repair/improvement – Adam will be liaison with Polish Hall.

Jeffery Broussard show – CZ made \$.

WBF rundown - \$\$ raised! Some production and sponsorship changes may be taking place – details provided cannot yet be confirmed.

Presidents Report:

Suggestions/ideas by Dick: All board members present at dances, all board meetings conducted on stage at dances, publish meetings to CZ association, survey about accessibility for members, Wednesdays are CZ's lifeblood.

58 members – 115 last year. 1,000 on e-mailing list. Explanation to new board members why membership is important.

Annual Meeting/Picnic planning:

At Ben's place, CZ providing hot dogs and hamburgers, water, ice, buns (toasted and dancing), and condiments.

Adam will cook. Dave will contact Ken about his playlist plan and will contact Ben about his grass being cut. Derek will provide his music system.

Next meeting will be third Tuesday in September – in-person.

Board retreat in November or December.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Jane-Clair Kerin, Secretary

Cascade Zydeco Board Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Cascade Zydeco Board was called to order at 7:06 pm. The meeting was on Skype. (Skype initiated within 10 minutes.)

Board members present were: Adam Grimshaw, Ken Parker, David Seitz, Greg Gustafson, and Jane-Clair Kerin.

Treasurer's Report:

For the Zydeco workshop there was a \$ loss. Expenses were band and hall. \$ contract of service for live band.

Had to get pocket money from 2 members to cover losses. How to remedy? Leave at the discretion of the event manager with respect to how much additional money to bring. Difficult to predict the number of attendants, so it's difficult to predict the amount of supplemental money to bring. \$ short at Curley's show on Father's day. Have money in pocket as backup. No further questions about financial statements. Greg moves to approve. Approved.

New Board Member:

Phil Meehan. Willing to join board. Ken and Greg are not continuing service. Vice President is David Sietz. New Secretary - TBD. Phil M. needs to be elected. Adam and Jane-Clair need to be re-elected. Membership chair -TBD. Live music coordinator: David Seitz. Other CZA members were considered and discussed as board member options.

Vice-President/Band Coordinator Report:

Questions by Ken: Any feedback about the floor? Sticky floor, and hot in there too. Former Duff's, not as "connected": No ads in the Willamette Week, no web site, just a Facebook page, seems to have lost Duff's following. Secret Society on Sunday's for free (?). Venue came strongly recommended by Dick B. Very small space though. It can get crowded, but there's a good dance floor. Not a lot of sit down room there. David will look into it for Sunday afternoons.

Upcoming band events: Jeffery Broussard (July 3rd), nothing in August. September TBD, maybe with picnic.

Jeffery Broussard house party – Any materials? Anything to buy? Any promotion? Fliers at WBF. House party will be at Jamie and Rick's house. What else is needed? David will be on site early to help set up. Bringing ice chests and water. House party will need a clean up crew. BYO chairs and potluck dish item. Additional information like turn by turn instructions to house party, directional signs nearby discussed as options. The break even point is 120 attendees. CZ will charge \$15 per person as cover. Diane is coordinating out of town visitor rides.

Blues Fest:

Blues Fest contributions are \$12, 725. Promo push, teaching schedule, announcements all set. Review Dick's schedule with respect to MKON's second line.

Picnic:

September 9th or 10th. Hosted by Ben, who also wants to host another party (like a birthday party).

Someone to sponsor dances to get more attendance. Ben and Steven Z. Free may not be a good idea for these.

Presidents Report:

Adam will be on vacation in July. David will preside over the next board meeting as Vice President on July 18th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm. Meeting Adjourned.

Jane-Clair Kerin, Secretary

Agenda for Cascade Zydeco Board Meeting

May 16, 2017 7:00 Skype meeting

7:00 to 7:10 Call to order. Get Skype working. Roll call. Approve meeting minutes from past meetings.

7:10 to 7:20 Treasurer's Report and financial statement review.

7:20 to 7:40 Board transitions and election planning for June. Who will continue to serve next year and in what capacity? Who can we identify as potential new board members?

7:40 to 7:55 Membership Drive and Sean Donovan Workshop registrations. Sara.

7:55 to 8:10 Vice President and Band Coordinator Report. Anything more needed for the Zydeco Rex dance on June 10 or the Curley Taylor dance on June 18? We need to set a time and get the details out there for the July 3 Jeffrey Broussard dance at Jamie and Rick Morgan's house in Vancouver. We'll also need an address and a plan to get our out of town guests there.

8:10 to 8:20 President's report.

- Blues Fest contribution drive details so far.
- Annual meeting and picnic planning. What date in August? Ben is willing to host.

8:20 to 8:30 Old or Unfinished Business.

Adjourn by 8:30 PM.

Cascade Zydeco Board Meeting Minutes – April 18, 2017

The monthly meeting of the Cascade Zydeco Board was called to order at 7:10 pm. The meeting was on Skype.

Board members present were: Adam Grimshaw, Ken Parker, David Seitz, Sara Olson and Greg Gustafson. Gabe Farkas and Jane-Clair Kerin were absent.

Minutes for the March board meeting were approved by the Board.

Treasurer's Report: Because Gabe did not attend the meeting, approval of the treasurer's report was postponed until next month.

Membership issues:

- Our promotion priorities: (1) fundraising for the Blues Festival, (2) the CZ June workshop, (3) membership.
- June Workshop with Sean Donovan – the goal is for 40 paid attendees; Sara reported that registration sign-ups are going slow; flyers to hand out on Wednesday nights are being drafted.
- Sara and David will meet and begin a process of coming up with a plan for a membership drive.
- “Keep the music coming” is our best membership pitch.
- Best opportunity for promoting membership is at the Waterfront Blues Festival.
- We'll probably need help doing graphics for our membership drive.

Band Coordinator Report:

David stated everything is all set for the Too Loose event on this Friday (April 21) at the Eagle's on SE Hawthorne. Snack size food will be available for purchase.

No live music event is scheduled in May. David stated that he could not find a date that works for a Sunday Cajun Jam session in May. He is working on the possibility of an event at Catfish Lou's on the third Sunday in June.

Post Blues Fest House Party – Jeffrey Broussard is confirmed for July 3rd. Location still to be determined.

Presidents Report:

Adam will be sending out a Blues Festival fundraising letter to the CZ membership in the next couple of weeks.

Summer Membership Meeting – Adam stated that Ben is willing to host it again sometime in August...either the 5th or the 19th. Adam will check with Ben and finalize the date.

Attendance at Wednesday night CD dances was discussed...concern about low attendance. Hopefully attendance will improve as the weather gets better.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm

Greg Gustafson, Secretary (alternate)

Cascade Zydeco Board Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2017 ☐ ☐

The monthly meeting of the Cascade Zydeco Board was called to order at 7:05 pm. The meeting was on Skype.
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Board members present were: Adam Grimshaw, Ken Parker, David Seitz, and Greg Gustafson. Gabe Farkas, Jane-Clair Kerin and Sara Olson were absent. ☐ ☐

Minutes for the February board meeting were not available to be approved by the Board.
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The treasurer's report for March was approved by the Board.

Membership issues:

- Membership for the current year is at 113.
- Concern was expressed about low attendance at Wednesday night CD dances. Our cold & wet Winter may be one reason. Adam stated that he will send out a letter to the membership to encourage greater attendance.
- Sara is working on increasing the number of CZ members by contacting past members who have not re-upped.

Band Coordinator Report:

Board members commented that there was great energy at the Curly Taylor event at Duff's Garage on March 12th. A minor concern – the volume was a bit too loud for some folks.

David stated that the Eagles is set for the Too Loose event on April 21 (since Duff's Garage is no longer an option).

David suggested we look at the possibility of having an event at Catfish Lou's (on NW 24th Ave.). Maybe an event this Summer on a Sunday...assuming Penny and Phil take their usual Summer off in Vancouver. Or maybe a Sunday Cajun jam? David will follow up.

David is also looking into the possibility of having a future event at Secret Society (located on NE Russell).

Ken/David are exploring having 1 (or more) post-BluesFest live band events. Ken will check with Chubby and J. Boussard regarding their availability. David will follow up with Dick Brainard and get his thoughts on this.

Presidents Report:

June workshop with Sean Donovan – Sara is meeting today with Vicki L and Chere to clarify “who's gonna do what” to make this event happen.

Annual Summer Membership Meeting – Adam will check in with Ben to see if he would be willing to host it again...maybe in August.

We need to be thinking of ways to help Dick B with BluesFest fund-raising. David suggested we consider partnering with the Cascade Blues Assn on a fund-raising event for the Waterfront Blues Festival.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm Greg Gustafson, Secretary (alternate)

Cascade Zydeco Board Meeting Minutes, January 18, 2017

Regular meeting of Cascade Zydeco Board was called to order at 6:33.

No minutes to approve

Present were: Mr. Adam Grimshaw, Mr. Kenneth Parker, Mr. Gabe Farkas, Ms. Sara Olson, and Ms. Jane-Clair Kerin via Skype

Officers' Report

Treasurer report: Mr. Gabe Farkas

No treasurer report. Gabe will send by week's end.

Paid rent (overpaid because missed last week)

Insurance discussion.

2 new members paid.

Will need cash box tally to make full report.

Membership Update: Sara Olson

Nothing new to report

-Interruption - site contact called Ken about water on north floor of dance hall (Mr. Pawel, hall rep. will be notified)

Live dance management message from Susan F.

Who is organizing door attendance for February dance? Will Susan F?

David plans on being on duty at live dance (except for taking money at the door).

Sara will ask individuals to volunteer at door, wants to e-mail a call for volunteers.

Cover of \$12 – use \$5 credit for door volunteers

How does Duff's cover the door?

Next dance – Zydeco Rex, Feb. 11th (needs homestays)

Curley Taylor March 10th or 12th

Too Loose in April (Possibly)

President Report: Mr. Adam Grimshaw

Spoke with Chere – she will want help with registration for the Sean Donavon workshop.

Did Eagles hall get sold? NO!

WFBF OFB fundraising - \$2,500 + separate box to collect money to subsidize festival.

Ask people to give – persuade people to purchase zydeco buddy pass.

President will write request to donate to the WFBF.

1st Wednesday – January and beyond - want to try alternative lessons again?

Action items:

Homestays (Adam) - # from Zydeco Rex (David)

Bucket! Send Pic of bucket (lagniappe)

Tuesday – Feb. 21st

Jane-Clair Kerin, Secretary