

MIAMI VALLEY DANCE COUNCIL

MEETING RECREATION OFFICE, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, DAYTON, OHIO

FEBRUARY 9, 1955

Attending the meeting were the following organization representatives:

Bureau of Recreation	Michael Solomon, Municipal Bldg., HE 3441
Associate Dayton Square Dance Club	Gladys Davis, 2703 Dwight Ave., KE 6734
Boots and Ruffles Square Dance Club	Robert Clark, 422 N. Upland Ave., ME 0664
Bow and Swing Square Dance Club	Rose Graziano, 301 Parkdale Ave., WA 7760
Clayton Square Dancers	Don Hutchinson, Box 142, Clayton, Ohio
Dayton Round Dance Club	Milo Clingman, 780 Glendean Ave., KE 3434
Dayton Square Dance Club	Gladys Davis, 2703 Dwight Ave., KE 6734
East Dayton Activities, Inc.	Alton Brokamp, 2419 E. Third St., MA 1092
Fairborn YMCA Square Dancers	John J. Hart, 16 Schneider, MO 84168
Knights of Columbus Square Dancers	Mike Alexinas, 300 Burkhardt, KE 4977
Knollwood Square Dance Club	Joe Sheehy, 56 Forestdale Ave., KE 7478
Merryantics (Square Dancers)	Maryann Woolery, 756 Glendean, KE 6352
Miami Valley Folk Dancers	Grace Wolff, 604 Kenwood Ave., TA 2546
Miami Valley Round Dancers	Earl Steele, 205 Watervliet Ave., KE 1759
Dayton Folk Dance Club	Frank Hart, R. R. #2, Franklin, Ohio
Wright Field Square Dance Club	Bob Holt, Jr., 202 N. Cherrywood, OL 9853

Meeting was called by the Bureau of Recreation for the purpose of recommending the formation of a dance council for Dayton and the surrounding area. The council would include folk, square, and round dance clubs. Purpose of the council, as outlined by Mr. Solomon, could include the following objectives:

1. Promote an annual dance festival.
2. Work out an arrangement whereby members graduating from classes conducted by one club would be eligible to join any other club (in the same dance category).
3. Issue a dance information news sheet or bulletin, perhaps once a month.
4. Be a clearing house for the exchange of information, ideas, and suggestions.
5. Plan and promote public service projects, such as, a) entertainments for patients at hospitals and rest homes; b) exhibitions and participation programs for clubs and churches; c) participation in special events, such as Brotherhood Week.

Much of the ensuing discussion centered on the idea of a dance festival. Several of those present recounted their experiences at festivals in Cincinnati, Columbus, Chicago, and other cities. Possible locations were mentioned, including the University of Dayton Fieldhouse, Fairground Coliseum, and Wright-Patterson Civilian Club.

It seemed to be the general feeling that, if a dance festival is promoted this year, it should be in the fall, possibly in October, and should be a two-day affair. Emphasis would be on entertainment, having fun---rather than in trying to teach new or advanced dance material. An effort would be made to obtain a facility where, during the daytime sessions, two or more dance activities could be conducted at the same time. Then in the evenings all participants would come together and join in dancing for all.

Purpose of the festival would be to give all folk, square, and round dancers in the Dayton area a common ground for meeting and having fun together. At the same time, such a festival, through publicity, should be instrumental in making more people in the community aware of the fun to be found in recreational dancing.

The nucleus of leadership for the festival, it was generally agreed, could be found right here in Dayton. Then, to add "glamour and appeal" to the program, several "name" leaders and callers from other parts of the country would be invited.

Mrs. Graziano remarked that there was no time like the present to do what needed to be done, and it seemed to her that it would be a mistake to adjourn this meeting without definitely establishing a council, provided the others present felt as she did, that a dance council would be a good thing for the community. There being no dissent, Mrs. Graziano made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Davis, and carried, that "the groups here represented shall initiate the organization of the Miami Valley Dance Council".

Another motion was then made, this by Mr. Steele, seconded by Mr. Brokamp, and carried, that Michael Solomon be elected temporary chairman of the council.

Several of those present wanted it to be clearly understood that the Miami Valley Dance Council would remain open to all other dance groups, including nationality clubs, that may want to join in the future.

It was decided to call the next meeting for Monday, March 7, in the office of the Bureau of Recreation, at 8:00 p.m. In the meantime, those present would have an opportunity to report back to their respective organizations on the business transacted at this meeting. Also, the following promised to investigate availability of facilities; Mrs. Wolff---U. D. Fieldhouse; Mr. Holt---Wright-Patterson Civilian Club; Mr. Solomon---Fairground Coliseum.

All agreed that at the forthcoming meeting of March 7, a definite decision should be made about a dance festival in the fall.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

  
Michael Solomon, Temporary Chairman