

26 February 1996

Dear Council Representative and/or Trustee:

I should like to take this opportunity to thank those of you who supported our ticket this past November. We gave the "Old Guard" a real run for their money and the difference was the voting by the Executive Committee members. As you well know the "Old Guard" refused to abide by your motion that the vote count be given for each candidate. This should tell you very clearly, you the representative, and your desires and motions are meaningless to them. You should also know that after the meeting was adjourned and after many of you had left the building, a motion was taken by the past president to have the ballots destroyed. This again contrary to your approved motion. Fortunately, the ballots were in the possession of the honesty and integrity of Trustee Gary Serelson, so the ballots were preserved. Again, the "Old Guard" shows their complete disregard for the representative's opinions and motions. Since you were promised the vote totals and weren't given them, I will give them to you.

Dick Lang 32 Bob DeRegnaucourt 54 Jean Aills 33 George Heinz 22
Wayne Forsyth 26 Mary Tomlinson 53 Diane Marcum 24 Don Stiles 27
 Jean DeRegnaucourt 25 Emily Snider 29

There were 18 votes cast by Executive Committee members of which we received 4 and our opposition 14. Our ticket had the support of the majority of the clubs and that's the difference in the election results.

The constitution is up for review this year. The Constitution clearly states in Article II the purpose is to stimulate an active fellowship among area dancers through DANCE CLUBS; create a forum for ...DANCE CLUBS; coordinate DANCE CLUB activities; and Article IV states the Miami Valley Dance Council shall provide services to MEMBER CLUBS. All of this clearly shows the council is designed for the benefit of the CLUBS. The Executive Committee should have voting rights ONLY in Executive Committee meetings and let the CLUBS ONLY have voting rights at Council meetings for the benefit of the clubs. It is up to you, the representative, to speak your peace at the council meetings and make your council vote really count where it should. When you allow the Executive Committee block of votes to control the council activities as is currently being done, then you are relinquishing your responsibility as a representative of your club. You are allowing the Executive Committee to have a disproportionate share of the power of the M.V.D.C. Article V of the Constitution states "Membership in the Council consists of CLUB MEMBERS and their individual members". Since membership is restricted to clubs and their individual members, voting should be restricted to member clubs and not extended to the Executive Committee members.

The first meeting by the new administration was conducted like a business meeting should be conducted. All of you should thank Dick Lang. It's a shame he didn't assume more authority in the previous administration. Maybe the past suffering could have been eliminated with his input.

It has come to my attention that the previous council treasurer has not turned over all the records to the new treasurer. I think it is imperative the new treasurer have all the treasury records from the previous

administrations including all cancelled checks. If he is unwilling to have ALL records turned over to the new treasurer by your March council meeting, a motion should be made requiring him to turn over all records to the current treasurer by no later than the end of March. This is council property we are talking about. Are there misappropriated funds from previous administrations they are trying to cover up? What other reason could it be that ALL of the treasurer's records have not been turned over to the new treasurer? If he refuses to do so by the end of March, then maybe other action should be and can be instigated by any member of the council - dancer or rep. Maybe an outside audit will have to be called for.

I suggest the following changes be made to the By-Laws:

1. Article II Section 1 c. Change this to read "Council members may nominate candidates at any time up to and including the September Miami Valley Dance Council meeting. At the close of the September meeting, nominations are closed for the November election." This would ensure all the clubs adequate time to evaluate the various candidates and give the clubs sufficient time to instruct their representative as to how they want their vote to be cast on the various candidates. This would get the clubs and their members more actively involved in the election process and not just their representative.

2. Article II Section 4 d. The following should replace the current statement. "Appointed officers may hold only one appointed or elected office. Callers and cuers may hold appointed or elected office but no more than two callers/cuers can serve at any one time." This may cause and encourage more activity by other dancers. Clubs cannot dance without callers and callers cannot call without dancers. We must work with and together - dancers and callers/cuers.

3. Article III Section 1 should be changed to read "Only member clubs get to vote at Miami Valley Dance Council meetings. In the event of a tie vote, then the President or the senior ranking officer casts the tie breaking vote." This would put control of council business in the hands of the clubs. The Executive Committee makes the recommendations, but the clubs make the decisions. Last year one couple held two appointed positions on the Executive Council and also were club representatives. They controlled three votes!!! Is this club control?

I should also like to see a motion that the building custodian be responsible for the scheduling of events at the Michael Soloman Pavilion. That way one person would know everything that's going on at the M.S.P. and full responsibility would then be assigned to only one person.

There has been a motion for raiding clubs be placed on a percentage of their members rather than as it now stands. Any club that can not obtain eight people to raid (only four couples) should not be raiding. The Concord Cloverleaves have only about 18 members and they religiously get 10-12 to raid. If they can, so can all other clubs. One square is not too much to ask from any raiding club. This motion should be voted down.

Finally, I think all of you should approach Bob DeRegnaucourt and convince him to run for president in 1996. Get his early commitment. He is already displaying great leadership and he'll make a super president. He deserves your early, active support. So start working on him now. Dear Lois: 27

M. Wayne Lopez