



Boulder Dance Coalition
Music, Dance & Folk Culture

6185 Arapahoe Road

Boulder, CO 80303

BDC Board Meeting - 1-09-20 - at the home of Susan Smith. Called to order by Larry at 7:06.

PRESENT: Deborah Howard, Susan Smith, Dorothy Vernon, Jim Borzysm, Caroline Stepanek, Steward Hartman, Larry Utter, Bill Johns, Chuck Palmer

ABSENT: Susie Reisser

GUESTS: Ingvar Sodal, Yannick Nelson

BOOK PROJECT: See attachment for discussion with Ingvar and while Yannick was present. Following much discussion, Steward moved that BDC provide a \$3000 grant to the Ingvar Sodal Book Project. Bill seconded. Approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 12-05-19 - **MOTION:** Chuck. Susan - 2nd. Approved.

STANDING REPORTS

TREASURER: Deborah - We have \$41,240.31 in the Chase account. We received \$4032.65 from Colorado Gives Day (total including 1.4% fees and about \$100 in matching).

AVALON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Caroline – no report this month.

AVALON REPORT: Chuck - Chuck has procured 6 picnic tables for \$100/each. New couches are in the works via a redecoration at the Longmont Best Western. Chuck picked up two loveseats today for free; additional matching love seats and couches will be available in February.

Chuck is close to having the cost of the parking lot vs. the solar project. He hopes to have Boulder Dance LLC taxes done in January. At that point he will have a figure for the parking lot capital call.

OTHER BUSINESS

TAXES: Larry - Chuck completed this year's taxes and refiled some from previous years. Larry is now caught up with other filings.

JOINING THE COLORADO NON-PROFIT COALITION: All agreed to the annual expenditure of <\$200/year; because the amount is nominal, we did not take a formal vote.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: Six people have expressed interest in directing the International Festival. Larry, Dorothy, Sally Nibbelink, and Jim Schwartzkopff are the committee to select the new director. Chuck moved that this committee have the authority to hire the festival director at up to \$1800. Susan seconded. Approved. Jim Schwartzkopff may require some amount of funding during the transition.

ANNUAL MEETING: May 17, 3 pm, in the ballroom.

Do we need more board members, and, if so, what skills do we need? Deborah is retiring this year; Bill, Susie, and Larry are up for re-election.

Deborah estimates that she spends 3-2 hours a month during most months. During the weekend of the festival she spends several more hours writing checks, counting donations, and making deposits. She also signs paychecks when Chuck is not available.

ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING: February 6. **MOTION** to adjourn - Dorothy. Susan - 2nd.
Adjourned 9:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Vernon for
Susie Reisser
Secretary

ATTACHMENT

Book project discussion, January 9, 2020 Presented by Ingvar Sodal

Organizations that reach a certain level of maturity write books about themselves, which prove useful to themselves and to others over time. Ingvar passed around several examples. Travelers from other communities have asked Ingvar how the Avalon came about, which suggested to him that we ought to document how we got to where we are, as an inspiration internally, and to serve as a face to the outside community. John Wilson, Alex Wilson's brother, has offered to provide funding for the project. He has published several books, and is willing to help with publishing. Jane Shepard is available and interested in doing the writing. Ingvar is asking us to commit to a level of funding that will allow him to tailor the size of the project to the amount of \$ available.

Q&A:

1. What is the target audience: all of our own groups, as well as the citizens of Boulder. We can also circulate around the country. Ingvar thinks we should give it away freely.
2. Do you intend to publish 1,000 copies? No. That depends on the cost of printing, and we need to get more information on costs.
3. Would you consider publishing on demand, and how does that work? You set up the files, and it is printed each time a consumer orders one.
4. Why do you want the book to go all around the country? Why would outsiders be interested? Because they would benefit from what we learned in building ours. Many communities are struggling with how to make themselves viable. However, it is more important that we define ourselves within the Boulder-area community, and to make ourselves known and have a more visible presence.
5. Would you consider a smaller book, about the size of Melba's history of the Intl Fest? That would not be ideal. A full size book will be attractive and will generate interest.
6. Have you considered publishing it online instead of in hard copy, which is a really efficient way to distribute it? I don't know how to think about it in this context. The product will depend on the money available—both the size and the focus. We can chop up and not do the whole thing.
7. In your ideal version, what are the boundaries of what's covered in the book? For example, who is included and who is not? Starting in the late 50s or early 60s, although there were ballrooms much earlier. When Tink was really active, he did some things that were instructive about how a community evolves, starting with his project for a community center in North Boulder.
8. Would the history continue all the way to the present day, or just capture the key foundational moments? Weight should be on the events that had the most influence on our success (that is, the building of the Avalon), but the book should cover up through today.
9. How will the book be structured? A how-to? A history? A story? It has to cover everything.
10. How will the interviews be used? The writer will use the taped information as source material. It may or may not be transcribed for her use, but the intent is not to publish them in full. Some information is more relevant than others. Melba has listened to a lot of the interviews and made notes.
11. What would the cost be of putting online? We don't know that cost. Writing will be approximately a 6-month effort, full-time. That is a fixed cost.
12. Could you speak about the funding profile, and why BDC and BIFD were approached: John Wilson has already put in \$12,000; Ingvar thinks the groups who have benefited from the sale of FDIG should contribute equally as community partners. Ingvar established a checking account and an organization to house that money.

Discussion points brought up:

- We need to do this now, because we have already lost important community knowledge.
- We need solicit feedback, but we have to be careful about how we request the feedback, including stating that we will incorporate as it fits with the project.
- Histories tend to be interesting to those in the book; coffee table books are going out of style; people aren't reading so much anymore; much reading is online. An online format would lend itself to anyone who wants to follow a path to certain information. How would we make this a compelling book that people would want to read?
- The concept is good, but it's a big expense—a bigger expense than most things we consider. It's a value vs. cost equation. Promulgating what we did and how we did it would be very useful for a few people who might replicate the example. It's also valuable to document our history. It's hard to quantify the value vs. the \$12,000 requested.
- A web page would reach far more people than a book ever would; and can be updated and expanded.
- Interviews document history from people; we should transcribe them and provide them to an appropriate research library.
- We have trouble communicating how the Avalon got there, what it is, and how it works. We should document this so that people can get that information easily. Suggest a PDF, about 20 pages, hand out at Avalon, and put online. Find out how useful that is, and go forward from there. A book on the order of the ones Ingvar shared is beyond what we need.
- Some say: No one wants the physical anymore. Soon we'll be able to access everything online. Others say: I really like books, for example the Tea House book is very popular.
- The project has two components:
 - Assembly of information and presentation in some form that can be accessed.
 - Production and distribution by some method—this is the expensive part, and the more difficult part. If we make this part flexible and cheap, then it becomes something we can work with over time.
- We could combine a handout with an architected web site. We could even generate a version that could be printed as a book if desired.
- We need to target the output so that it promotes our outreach to the community.