Puttin' on the Dance Session Notes

“Organizers Unite”

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Generically
• The Southeast Leadership Conference has a web site with session descriptions, schedule, and an address list. There is no archive of conference materials or minutes.
• Make It Happen! Has supporting materials. It’s on the CDSS web site.
• CDSS Starter Kits are on the CDSS web site.
• SharedWeight.Net hosts email lists and public list archives.
  • Callers list
  • Organizers list
  • Web Masters list
There exists an English Country Dance list that’s moderated by Alan Winston. (I’d bet that Richard Sauvain subscribes.)

Rochester, NY
• We may want to have a board or advisor committee retreat to nail down and come together on the vision.
• We should train in how to use the email list for discussions. Set a group norm.

Michigan
• A new dance space has become available that provides an opportunity to do a new series. The 4th Saturday series has 1 organizer. 5th Saturdays has another single organizer. They’d like to facilitate forming a committee to build a broader base of ownership. Get the starters to open up and get others to join.
  • People DON’T want to go meetings.
  • People DO want to work on problems.
  • ==> Problems are a resource!
  • Inventory your resources (problems, people, other resources in the region). Invite stakeholders to help solve the problems.

MA - Lavender Country Dancers
• When a volunteer or an organizer gets burned out, recognize it.

Ways we might stay connected
• Provide a discussion space, e.g., email list like Shared Weight
• Provide a library of artifacts, e.g., CDSS and/or Google Docs
  • May need to include a summary of the discussion that led up to creating the artifact.
  • What did we think about, and why we chose to set things this way and not that in a policy.
  • Consider Lonely Planet’s Thorntree, which is a threaded Q&A space.
• CDSS has a forum set up but it’s not used now. Perhaps it could be kick-started.
• Wiki - which is a way to get people to collaborate on authoring.

What role can CDSS play in solving common problems?
• What successes have you had in your community?
• Be a collection point and connect people.
• Partnership is a current CDSS priority.
• The CDSS forum admin could set up categories of discussions which would tie to artifacts in CDSS Starter Kits and the Make It Happen! Section.
• Perhaps a smaller model could work for local dances.
• Could the HMO model be used to create a “Legal Maintenance Organization”, whereby local dances could access professional assistance to handle questions around liability, insurance, etc.