

9 Feb. 1971

Memo to the Council of the Miami Valley Folk Dancers

Because there have recently been discussions and differences concerning the authorization and purpose of a program committee, and because my method of initiation of the committee may have contributed to the present uncertainties, I am offering these comments for your consideration.

After the 1969 annual meeting of the MVFD it was my impression that the group had approved my suggestion of having a program committee and they felt such a committee should be appointed by the council. I was not aware of any further guidance on this subject from the meeting, nor did any of the other council members indicate any during discussion at our first council meeting. At this meeting Pat suggested, and council accepted without discussion, that council members should not be on the program committee. With that bit of additional guidance the council authorized me, as the author of the idea, to make the initial appointments and to work with the committee to get them started. On that basis I appointed five members and met with them to initiate and organize the program committee. Thus Florence, Kenneth, Margie and Dick Mann became the committee for 1969. Ed Pries, the fifth appointee, chose not to participate at that time but I left the appointment open.

I understand now that my presumption that five members would make a good committee was in conflict with the minutes of the annual meeting. This leads me to suggest that to avoid such misunderstandings and to further the feeling of closeness and participation of all the members, copies of the minutes of annual meetings, subject to correction, should be sent to the members as soon as possible after the meeting.

Note that the program committee is appointed by the council and cannot have tenure beyond that of the council. Thus each year the new council has the responsibility to appoint a program committee - and any other committees to whom they wish to delegate part of their authority - for that year.

In 1969 the council proposed changes to the MVFD Rules And Regulations to reflect changes which had occurred since the previous edition dated January, 1963. These changes were duly adopted by the members on 22 May, 1969. Council also drafted revisions of the club's Methods Of Operations to reflect changes which had evolved, and I included my concepts of the purpose and function of the program committee.

The Methods Of Operation were originally drafted by an Ad Hoc committee at the direction of the membership. It was felt that such written guidance would facilitate continuity of operation and aid new council members particularly, as they might be unfamiliar with some details of conducting the business of the group.

I commend the 1969 Methods of Operation to your attention. I hope you can use them and up-date them for the benefit of future councils.

Copies to all members

John Hunter
1969 Council Chairman