

**MVFD Council Meeting Agenda**  
October 6, 2004

**Minutes of last Council meeting (6/22/04)**

**Treasurer's report**

**MVDC Rep report**

**New Business**

Neighborhood meeting at the Pavilion  
Demo at Springboro Xmas Fest (November 20, 2004)  
Syllabus project  
Proper set dance formation on Thursday nights

**Old Business**

MVFD Honor Roll Designee  
Balkan Cabaret (July 11, 2004)

Upcoming events:

Event	Date	Responsible
Annual Workshop	Oct. 30-31	John Pappas
New Year's Eve	Dec. 31	Program Committee

**Other Business**

**Adjourn**

**Miami Valley Folk Dancer  
Minutes  
October 6, 2004**

Meeting Time: 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: Harry Khamis, Lina Considine, Dolores Brooks  
Jim Woolley, Bill Vernon

The meeting began with a reading of the minutes from the last Council meeting held on June 22, 2004. Bill moved to accept the minutes as read and Jim seconded.

Jim Woolley gave the Treasurer's Report. A copy is included in the minutes. As of October 6, 2004 we show a balance of \$5228.70 with a gain of \$648.99 from the last report. Jim mentioned that overall membership is still down for this year and that there are still some members who have not paid their dues for 2004. Their names will be dropped from the roster as of January 1, 2005. Dolores moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Lina seconded.

Bill Vernon gave a report from the September 15th meeting of the Miami Valley Dance Council. A copy of this report is included in the minutes. Some discussion was held concerning point #9 in Bill's report. This stated that the Dance Council intends to offer a summer program for beginning dancers on Monday nights in 2005. This program will offer dance instruction by various dance groups. Bill asked if MVFD would be interested in sponsoring and teaching at least one Monday night class next summer. Council unanimously agreed that this would be a good idea and asked Bill to sign us up at the appropriate time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Harry reported an email from Ed Cordray stating that our neighbors at the Pavilion would like to hold a neighborhood meeting in our facility prior to a regularly scheduled Thursday night class/dance. They are asking for MVFD sponsorship. Council members

agreed to the proposal in principle stating that the advantages for us would be to establish good relationships with our neighbors and perhaps even schedule a "mini Open House" for them after their meeting at which time we would invite them to stay and dance with us. A question was raised as to whether this would be a one time only event or the beginning of a series of regularly scheduled meetings. Harry will ask Eddie about this. Council agreed to support one meeting with any subsequent meetings being up for discussion.

2. Council discussed the invitation from the Springboro Historical Society for MVFD to participate in this year's Springboro Christmas Festival to be held on Saturday, November 20th at 3:00 P.M. Leslie Hyll has agreed to develop the program for this event and to teach the dances. Bill and Dolores will assist with the overall organization. Practices will be held at the Pavilion on Saturday mornings beginning on October 9.

3. Leslie Hyll has reported that the Syllabus Project is nearing completion and now she is wondering what direction Council would prefer she take with her finished product. A few options were put forward for Council's deliberation. After some discussion, Council agreed to support the creation of CDs at a selling cost of between \$20 - \$30. Leslie indicated that she would like to begin taking orders for the CDs at the October Workshop so as to have them available by Christmas. Council members suggested that Leslie develop a promotional flyer describing these CDs. Harry mentioned that Leslie's hard work on this project should be acknowledged at the Annual Meeting. He has asked Louise VanVliet to develop a program. All Council members agreed that this CD will be a wonderful PR tool for our club.

4. Harry explained the reasons why in recent weeks he has insisted that dancers follow proper set dance formation when a set dance is about to be played. This procedure (based on set formation in Scottish Country Dancing) involves couples simply lining up in a longways set with the head couple then walking down through the middle and counting off. Sets of 4 couples are then formed in a more orderly manner. Harry has instituted this change due to complaints voiced by MVFD members who claim that they have been

shut out from sets because of dancers rushing to get ahead of them or because of inappropriate comments made to them. Council discussed this situation and made note of the fact that there has been- within the last two years- a gradual disregard of proper dance etiquette on the part of some of our members and a growing feeling that it is important to position oneself in the "top" set with just the "right" people. Harry suggested that this attempt to form sets in a more structured manner would help our dancers approach the set more calmly and would hopefully result in everyone feeling included and enjoying themselves. It was suggested that all future set dances begin in this manner. Harry offered to write a column addressing this issue for the next newsletter.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. The MVFD Honor Roll designees are Lou and Nancy Hyll. Leslie will plan a program for them at the Annual Meeting.
  2. The Balkan Cabaret (July 11, 2004) was a success. Ed Cordray sent a letter to Council thanking us for MVFD support. Ed reported that there were 65 people in attendance with 41 of those being members of MVFD or the South Slavic Club. Ed fell only \$7.00 short of breaking even on the cost of the production.
  3. Upcoming events include the Annual Workshop scheduled for October 30 and 31. John Pappas seems to be right on track with the planning.
- The New Year's Eve Party has been scheduled and it is hoped that the South Slavic Club will join us. John Pappas will speak to City of Dayton officials to seek permission to serve alcohol at the Pavilion for this occasion.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Members are reminded to take flyers regarding MVFDs Annual Workshop to upcoming dance events.
2. Council was reminded that we had decided to dedicate this workshop to the memory of longtime MVFD member, Adele Nellis. A display of her artwork was suggested as one way to honor her.

Also, Harry will ask John to make an announcement at the Saturday evening dinner and perhaps play certain of Adele's favorite dances during the evening.

3. The question of raising guest fees was deferred to next year's Council.

4. Lina requested that MVFD co-sponsor a ballroom dance with the Chinese-American Association on November 12th or 13th. Council agreed.

5. No new Council meeting was set. Any necessary communication will be done through email, phone, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores Brooks  
Secretary

**Miami Valley Folk Dancers  
Treasurer's Report for 2004**

Council Meeting 10/6/04

**Balance as of December 31, 2003** \$4579.71

**Receipts**

Dues \$2094.50  
Guest Fees \$172.00  
Interest \$6.83

Hall Rent \$50.00

Tri-City Festival \$36.00

Entertainment Books

Fall Workshop \$100.00

Postage Donation

Syllabus \$1.00

Demonstrations \$400.00

Sat. Morning Classes \$254.00

Total Receipts \$3114.33

Total Funds for the Year \$7694.04

**Disbursements**

Pavillion Support (Hall Rent) \$1365.00

Liability Insurance \$50.00

Refreshments & Kitchen Supplies \$150.76

Paper/Printing Supplies \$113.26

Entertainment Books \$283.50

Fall Workshop \$92.50

Tri-City Festival \$58.40

Postage \$28.18

MVDC Newsletter \$5.00

Advertising

Memorials & Gifts \$115.00

7/11 Balkan Caberet \$150.00

Culture Works \$50.00

CityFolk

Get Well Cards \$3.74

Total Disbursements \$2465.34

**Balance as of October 6, 2004** \$5228.70

Gain/(Loss) \$648.99

Respectfully submitted:   
James M. Woolley, Treasurer

REPORT OF THE MIAMI VALLEY DANCE COUNCIL MEETING (SEPT. 15,  
2004).

1. Honor Couple Nominations are due at November Dance Council Meeting. I think Leslie will take care of this.
2. Flyers that list Club teaching times are available (our packet of them has been on counter at Thursday night dance sessions).
3. The last issue of the Dance Council newsletter did not get printed because of computer problems. Clubs subscribing to it will have their subscriptions extended for one issue.
4. Caution: wasps have been encountered in the closet at the pavilion's northeast corner, and under the stage as well.
5. A motion has been made to allow Dance Council officers to be reelected for one year terms when no one else volunteers to run for the position. The current rule is one reelection and then out. I will vote for the amendment unless you decide otherwise.
6. When dance council microphones failed, Ed Cordray suggested use of the MVFD mike until Dance Council's mike is fixed or a useable one is given to Council (Stuart Lewis offered an old one of his). I assured the group that their use of our mike was OK with us. Let me know if there's a problem.
7. The Dance Council's Telephone Hot Line will announce our October Workshop.
8. This Sunday is the benefit dance (from 2 - 5 at the Pavilion) to raise funds for the Dance Council. We are asked to send dancers, items for auction or raffle, a finger food. Leslie has already donated a couple of home-made decorative house items for the raffle, but we could give more.
9. Matter brought up from last Dance Council Meeting and never discussed: The summer program of Monday night beginners dance teaching is scheduled for next year. Should we volunteer to teach one Monday night? Maybe promote it in try to get new members?

10/6/04

Dear MVFD Council,

As you are aware, we have been working on the "MVFD Syllabus Project" for several years (4). The project is now nearing completion, with approximately 95% of the work behind us.

It is now time to consider what we want to do with the completed collection.

Here are some ideas:

#### A. Sell the collection

It has been my intent to release the collection on a CD – to sell it to the general public, proceeds going to the club. Such a CD would include

1. the software needed to open and read the syllabi (Acrobat Reader),
2. all the syllabus files (one for each syllabus) – there are over 75 syllabi,
3. an Introduction to the collection,
4. a master list of syllabi in the collection with links to each syllabus file (sorted by year, by instructor, and by ethnic subject of the syllabus),
5. an alphabetic master list of all the dances in all of the syllabi with links directly to the dances in each syllabus file,
6. the capability to search for keywords across all of the files,
7. encryption to prevent people from copying the text from the electronic files, but allowing the pages to be printed (although if they want to spend the money on the right software, they can do exactly what we have done to create the collection). However we do not have the technology to prevent someone from making copies of the CD.
8. The CD is designed so that it will automatically start up when put into the drive, and all features can be accessed directly on the CD. An owner could also choose to install the collection on their hard drive.

Up to this point all labor has been volunteer (20 volunteers).

Costs involved in producing the cd,

1. blank cds,
2. cd labels,
3. jewel cases,
4. jewel case inserts,
5. printer ink, etc.
6. This would probably work out to cost a few dollars per CD.
7. There will be some costs associated with packaging and mailing to people to who order the CD. Again, this would probably work out to cost a few dollars per CD.

Possible prices to charge for the CD

\$75 – about \$1 per syllabus. No, not even I would buy it for this price.

\$35 – less than 50 cents per syllabus, it is a price comparable to buying a new game for your computer or a hardback book. Serious dancers and technophiles would probably buy it at this price.

\$15 – about 20 cents per syllabus, it is a price comparable to buying an older game for your computer or a paperback book. Not at all expensive, in my opinion, for a collection of this size.

\$5 – about 7 cents per syllabus, this would essentially cover the cost of making the CD.

(shipping/packaging would be additional)

In my opinion, there is no price scenario that would generate a great deal of income for the club. I don't think the market for the collection is that large. Making money was not the point of the

\$20-30

project. Additionally, I would want to provide, free of charge, the CD and hardcopies of available syllabi to several dance libraries/archives in the US.

Instead of releasing the collection on a CD, it could be released on a DVD. A DVD would still be readable by CD drive (because there would be only data files, no video), but would be more difficult/expensive for someone else to make copies of it.

### **B. Put the collection on the Internet**

Another option would be to put the collection on the internet, making it available to anyone who can access it. An internet version would have most of the features of the CD version.

This option would require the club to acquire more disk space to host the web site. Currently we pay for hosting the club's web site (\$15/year for the domain, [www.daytonfolkdance.com](http://www.daytonfolkdance.com); \$10/month for the hosting package.) The next level of web hosting package that would provide enough data storage for the collection would increase the monthly cost to \$20/month. I consider these to be quite reasonable costs for hosting a web site. If this is your choice, I would want the club pay for the additional cost of \$10/month.

### **C. End game.**

If we are going to sell the collection, we need to decide on the price. I would like to start advertising it at the Croatian workshop. Maybe even start taking orders for it. The goal would be to have the CD out for Christmas delivery.

The primary sources of advertising would be our website, dance email lists, and demo copies to folk dance publications (so they can review it and write about how wonderful it is in their publication).

I honestly have no idea how many of these we could sell. It is a limited market. But I wanted it for my computer, and anything else we can get out of it is just fine with me.

If we are going to put it on the internet, I need to redo the introduction and master lists for the internet. It will take about the same amount of work to complete an internet implementation as the CD implementation, I just need to know which direction I'm going in. There are some technical things I need to research for an internet implementation, but that's ok. I had to research some technical things to figure out how to do the cd.

Thanks for your patience and attention. I think we are creating a wonderful asset for the club. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Leslie, self-appointed MVFD Syllabus Project Chair