Laughing Squares of Indianapolis, Inc. Minutes of March 9, 2017, Meeting

President Bill Norman called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. There were 14 members present.

Prior to regular club business, our caller, Zelmer Daugherty, announced that he has made no new contracts for the 2018 dance season. The reason is he has macular degeneration, a progressive eye disorder, and may have to discontinue calling if the condition worsens. He said he will not be calling in June and July (summer vacation) or later in January and February (winter vacation). He is willing to continue as long as his health permits; he is also willing to step aside at year's end if the club decides to take on a new caller at that time.

Discussion was held as to what actions we should take at this time to prepare for Zelmer's possible retirement.. Jack Robinson and Sheila Terhune will work with Zelmer to start getting callers identified and lined up for his vacations. They will also begin a search for prospective callers to take over in the event Zelmer is forced to retire early. They will report back to us next meeting and we will continue to look at our options for this summer and for 2018...

We will ask Zelmer to continue calling as long as he is willing and able.

Nina Upton, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report for February 2017. A summary follows:

March

Income: \$ 697.00 \$ 807.00 Expenses: \$(110.80) February 201in (Loss) Gain (Loss) \$(403.14) YTD

Sheila moved that the report be approved as presented; seconded by Conard. The report was approved.

Jerry Hale, Secretary, read the minutes of the February 9, 2017 meeting. Tiny moved for approval; Connie seconded. Minutes were approved as read.

Old Business

President Bill gave an update on the Johnson family. The couple's application to join the club has not yet been received. Krannert management clarified the rest room policy for the facility; transgender people can use any restroom in the facility. This includes the men's and women's locker rooms.

Jack Robinson and Jerry Hale will continue as the club contacts for any further discussions with the Johnsons.

It was re-affirmed that an application to join Laughing Squares is required for all who seek membership in the club.

Nina Upton said that IDA will send information to Bill/Lori for the Indy 500 soon. Decision to work at the track will be discussed when the club opportunities are in hand.

Fund raising opportunities were discussed. Several were suggested, no action taken, tabled for now.

Discussion was continued on being friendlier and more helpful to our students. A number of suggestions were given:

- Be kind and gentle when coaching a student, no rough handling or pushing into positions.
- Don't allow the students to be concentrated in just a few squares; we need to be proactive in dispersing them though the experienced dancers, try to arrange the squares to provide students with experienced corners and opposite square couples
- It was generally expressed that most felt we are a friendly club, we need to remember we are selling our club to these prospective members and anything we can do to promote their enjoyment in the lessons should be done.
- Students not keeping up, usually because of missed lessons, will be identified by the President and Zelmer and may be asked to re-start lessons in the fall.

Sheila presented an example dance shirt – The knit fabric shirt with embroidered logo was \$27. It was suggested that we look at another company to get at least one more bid. This was agreed to, Donna Hale will contact a company she is familiar with. This was tabled until next meeting.

New Business

Last lesson will be March 28. 9 students will be graduating, Nina will get their badges.

Graduation exercise will be similar to last year.

President Bill Norman called for motion to adjourn. Motion made by Tiny, seconded by Sheila. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM. Jerry Hale, Secretary