



Puttin' on the Dance Session Notes

“Vision: First Things First”

with: Bob Henshaw, Delia Clark, David Millstone

Transcribed by: Lisa Sieverts

Delia: all dances have a vision, but it may not be stated. Every decision we make as organizers either supports or detracts from the vision.

Bob Henshaw -- refer to PowerPoint for details, “Starting, Repairing and Revivifying a Dance Series.”

Bob:

1975 started dancing

1978 formed Old Songs, later Dance Flurry

Learned a lot the hard way, both in dance and at work.

Five components of a successful dance series, in the PowerPoint overview of the Organizing Process, in the PowerPoint

Comparison of several dance orgs: Pleasures of the Town, DanceFlurry, POTD.

David Millstone--everything is on his handout.

As Ralph Sweet said dances tend to be run by the “over-active 10%.” A cautionary note – these people can skew the vision of the dance away from what most really want.

Q&A with Dave and Bob

How does dance in Norwich work with band-centered series? This is no longer a common model. ..

Q: Do you really need to write down your vision?

Yes. You may think it's obvious, but it's only obvious to you.

“Dance manager” is another role, more common in west.

The power of writing down the vision is that it lasts. When you write it down, people know what they are buying into. For example, your group might say "How do we get an intergenerational dance?" Well, start by saying that's what you want.

Press release is a way to publicize your mission. Awareness will lead to curiosity.