
Central Park Dance Skaters Association

Newsletter © C.P.D.S.A., 1995

Editorial: Roslyn Dotson, Maureen Eckert, Bob Nichols, Brent Nosworthy, Lezly Ziering,

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What's Up!

On April 6, representatives from the C.P.D.S.A. met with the city in an effort to resolve the current crises on Skaters' Road. Unfortunately, this meeting produced no results other than that the city suggested the dance skaters relocate to Wollman Rink.

After consultation with numerous skaters, as well as our attorneys, the steering committee of the C.P.D.S.A. has decided to **redouble** its effort to reach a negotiated settlement.

Upon advice of legal counsel, we are currently putting together a *detailed* proposal. Our first proposal was merely a description of our organization and how we would generally approach the solution of current problems. In contrast, the new proposal is a formal document which will provide detailed specifics for the solution for each problem/concern raised by the city.

Once this document has been completed (mid next week), copies of this document, along with a press kit, will be forwarded to numerous local politicians, as well as *all* media organizations that can be identified.

The City's Concerns

In the April 6 meeting, the city raised a number of concerns regarding the Skater's Circle. Most skaters will remember last years' talks, so these issues are not unfamiliar: drinking beer in the park, tapes sales, passing a collection around, etc. A new issue raised for the first time is the city's claim that entertainment draws a crowd, a crowd attracts tourists, with tourists comes petty crime.

Virtually all of these concerns are addressable in some form or other, provided that all parties concerned work together *in good faith* to implement *intelligent solutions*.

Unfortunately, one of the skaters' greatest handicaps is that *we have lost credibility* with the city and the Parks Dept. Last year, a loose collection of skaters agreed to the adoption of a code of behavior in our area. Most of the skaters' representatives then worked to the best of their ability to ensure that this agreement was fully implemented. Unfortunately, there were several amongst us, who worked just as hard to see that several guidelines were not followed.

Probably the single greatest challenge now facing us is to convince the Parks Dept. that our fledgling organization really does wish to work to solve the above mentioned problems in good faith.

A Questionnaire

The Parks Department has suggested that the skaters relocate to Wollman Rink. Since the C.P.D.S.A.'s purpose is to represent the interests and wishes of the skaters' on Skaters Road, we are asking you for your opinion in this matter.

To this end, we have designed a questionnaire and will be handing it out in the near future. -- The Editor

Impending "D.B.A" Status

Hopfully, during the next next several days the steering committee will complete all the paper required to file for our non for profit incorporation status. We are currently preparing our corporation's mission statement assembling our Board or Trustees, etc.

Best Dressed Weekend on Skater's Road!!

"They called us chiefs, half-breeds, tramps and thieves..." -Cher

Not!!!

On Easter Sunday, we suggest dressing-up instead of dressing down. Come dressed in your Sunday best and let the world know about your life in the work-a-day world.

Be creative! Be sophisticated! Be yourself (come dressed in a spare work uniform)! Come dressed for a party, a night club, a wedding, a funeral, a Bris, a Confirmation! But, please feel free to let your clothes do some talking for this special event. If you need a costume, speak to me this Sunday (April 16) or contact any C.P.D.S.A. member for further details. -- Maureen Eckert

What's In a Circle

Our Circle is filled with color- White, black, yellow, beige, brown & red, our faces -

Our adornment, rainbow hues. Lean, healthy bodies & love!
hop in our circle - our community. People meet and marry, their children dance and skate in our Circle of Love and Freedom.

Our Circle is a microcosm - an island that reveals the best of N.Y. set like a small multi-faceted jewel beneath the trees and under God's blue sky for all to see.

Cherish it N.Y.; don't snuff it! It's too precious.

Only we can save our Circle

We must dispel the cloud, we must unite, we must call, we must fax
We ask nothing but to be - the Skate Circle. Love - Move to the Music -
Boogie to the Beat -Freedom! The Circle Lives!

-- Lezly Ziering

Please be kind. Don't Litter!

Our Skaters

In a recent article, one public official referred to the collection of skaters on Skaters' Road as a "fringe group." Rather than reflecting the opinion of a single individual, this, unfortunately echoes a common perception (actually a misperception.) The public perception is that roller skating/blading is for kids, and, of course, is not something that mature adults would do on a regular basis.

Reality is very different. How many non-skaters know that the average age of Central Park dance skaters is 40-45 years old (some are in their youthful 60's.) Central dance skaters have children, have been skating 10-15 years (a lot of us for over 30 years.); many with incomes over \$60,000.

C.P.D.S are: attorneys, doctors, dentists, teachers, nurses, professors, financial analysts, Ph.D's, stunt people, actors and actresses, computer programming, wood workers, musicians, members of film crews, producers and directors, art curators and CPA's. Skaters work at ad agencies, televisions and radio stations, on newspapers, in banks, libraries and restaurants. And, we all vote!

The Parks Dept. and city officials should note that some of us even helped initiated roller skating with Richard Wriggley at Wollman Rink in 1978-79, and remember Good Skates, the first skate rental in the park. The Parks Department should note that many of us skate on Skaters' Road during the day and at Wollman's at night, especially on Friday Night, traditionally regarded as Adult Skate Night.

We are not to be underestimated because we don't look our ages...skating really is a fountain of youth...and in a society struggling to reinstate *family values*, skaters' Road has hosted an 18-year old family affair. There *is* unity in our community. --
Roslyn Dotson

Official Contacts

To help save the music on Skaters' Road, we need your non-skating talents! **Attention** para-legals, fund raisers, publicists, artists, writers, lawyers, accountants (or at least one), data base programmers, as well as people willing to roll up their sleeves and perform some old fashioned hard work! If you are interested in helping us, please let us know. All inquiries should be directed to:

Brent Nosworthy (718) 797-0592

Lezly Ziering: (212) 777-3232

Bob Nichols (212) 246-1344

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