

EOSARDA Council of Dancers Meeting  
Sunday November 15, 2009

**Attendance**

Representatives from:

The Trackers	Quinte Twirlers
Capital Steppers	Sunshine Squares
Take-a-Step Rounds	Goodtime Squares
Swinging Saints	Got Lines
Mississippi Squares	Spinettes
Grenville Gremlins	Round Tuit Dancers
Town & Country Kickers	Dynamite Tays
Kingston Limestone Dancers	Lockits
Charmin's Promenaders	Meri Squares
Rhapsody Rounds	EOSARDA

**EOSARDA members:**

David Western, Andy Himberg-Larsen, Gerry & Jim Sawtell, Billi & Chuck Langtry, Gavin Currie, Linda and Bruce Warner, Ann Christensen, Don Clingin, Bob & Marguerite Summers, Ziggy Segstro.

**Regrets:** Carol & Bob Milne

1. Call to order – 1:30 p.m.
2. Add to Agenda 5a. Election of 3 new members to the board  
6c. Churchill Centre  
6d. Budget for the year
3. Approval of the Minutes of the April Council of Dancers. Change in Item 9. Geoff Clark was representing the Lockits. Moved by Peter Courdin. Seconded by Gavin Currie.

**4. Reports**

**a. Financial Report**

The Financial Report was given by Bruce Warner. He is placing his statement for year end on EOSARDA website. He discussed the Annual Budget and Balance on hand and told us that revenues were down because dancer registration was down by 78 people. He also covered the Registrar's Report.

**b. Dance Committee**

Gavin covered all the EOSARDA dances this year. All were successful but two lost money. Suggestions were made that we carry on one or all of the EOSARDA dances with outside supports and find ways to make the dances more interesting. We must also consider whether we are holding too many dances.

We voted on whether to have as many EOSARDA dances next year and decided 24 to 3 to cancel the August Affair.

**c. Publicity and Promotions Committee (Square and Round Dance Week 2009)**

Report given by Helgi Goodman. Publicity generated for the Taste of Dance and the recruitment of new dancers. The demo dances were well attended but the day at the shopping centre was long and very few of the dancers signed up. It is believed that we should try to target dancers in their “Forties” and “Just Retired”. Our present population of dancers are aging and are not able to participate as much as they once did.

**d. Club Liaison Committee**

Bob Summers delivered this report. He talked about getting the dancing information out to all clubs and attending the Graduations. He on EOSARDA’s behalf presented certificates to the Harbour Lites Square Dance Club at their 35th Anniversary Dance in Prescott on Oct 3, 2009, Keith Watters at the 50th Anniversary of his square dance calling, and will present one to the Riverside Gypsy Squares as they celebrated 15 years this past September. There was no EOSARDA recognition at that time and hopefully that will be addressed at their winter dance in 2010.

Pat Gauthier does a wonderful job in maintaining the website.

**e. IT Committee**

OACA Report was given by Andy Himberg-Larsen which included the number of callers calling in the area, Goofer Pots for the Mission Christmas Dinner’s and cheerleaders for the Grey Cup Dance.

**f. RDTA Report by Don Clingin**

All Round dancing is going very well. The Christmas Luncheon is their next event and they have a fundraiser coming up in February

**i. Ontario Federation & Canadian Society Report**

Peter Courdin discussed the Trillium Award and how we needed to get together to produce a draft copy of a Grant Application to see if we could qualify for a grant to promote Square Dancing.

Introduced a DVD on “How to Social Dance”.

Discussed membership categories to be added or continued within the association. Will appeal to have the category of “old square dancing” re-instated.

**j. Festival 2014 Steering Committee**

Wendy Vandermeulen discussed Festival 2014 which we will be hosting here in Ottawa. She has 88 people signed up already and needs leaders and helpers to get started on the planning of act. She has already booked the Westin Hotel for the venue as they are offering us a reasonable price. Wendy needs members for a Steering Committee and lots of volunteers for any amount of time you can give.

**5. Old Business**

Three people were appointed to the EOSARDA Board

- Paul and Barb Dennison as Directors
- Ann Christensen as Secretary

This motion was moved by Wendy Vandermeulen and seconded by Marilyn Edwards

## **6. New Business**

**Hearing Assistance Devices** were discussed in detail. We own three sets of hearing devices and they will be circulated to each Club to be tried out by whomever is interested. We will see how many are interested by circulating a Questionnaire before we go any further in obtaining them. It is though if people are interested that the Caller would purchase the Devices with the number of receivers required and sell the receivers to the interested people.

Andy Hindenberg-Larsen is the equipment manager and if you are interested in borrowing a Hearing Device to try it out call him and he will make arrangements for you to pick it up. The onus is on you to go to him for it and to return it to him. He will obtain earplugs from the dollar store so that new ones will be available for each distribution of the device.

Peter Courdin will contact London & Halifax to see what they did at their Festivals re: Hearing Devices.

### **New Business**

#### **Dancers Registrations**

We discussed how we can get out more recruits for Square Dancing, the following are the suggestions:

- Establish a Publicity Promotion Committee/Recruit committee from members of each Club and develop a Strategy Plan
- Try to get CJOH to do a program on Square Dancing
- Concentrate on newly retired people to recruit
- Promote it as a recreation
- North Carolina has a weekly TV Square Dance Show could we influence people to get one going?
- Get together with a Service Group to do their entertainment and promote square dancing.
- Negotiate with SOCAN for better music rates.
- Promote at Dandelion Festival. Demographic is great.
- Promote to families
- Consider where to Square dance as the older people are the less they want to travel
- Should we look at University campuses or High Schools to get a new dance generation started?
- Invite parents of school children to participate in a Fun Night.
- Use the staff in Seniors Homes as potential dancers
- Put advertisements in younger newspapers
- Ask for ideas from other groups to see how they recruited members.

### **Churchill Centre**

It has been proposed that Churchill centre be taken over by Dovercourt Communication Association so as to cut costs. The people at Churchill Centre need our support to keep it independent of Dovercourt so that we can maintain our space for dancing, if Dovercourt takes it over the possibility of us having it to dance is not going to happen.

Wendy will send us a heads up as to when the next meeting to discuss the takeover is to be called so that we can show up en masse to support our space and non amalgamation. Relay information to dancers that you want them to attend to support this effort.

### **Budget for this Year**

The Budget of the year was presented by Bruce Warner. Peter Courdin moved its adoption and Jim Sawtell seconded the motion.

### **Next Council of Dancers Meeting**

Dave Western is to be away for the next Council of Dancers on its usual date so Peter Courdin moved that the date be changed for the next meeting to the **25<sup>th</sup> of April.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:20**