

Minutes
EOSARDA Board Meeting - Sunday, January 16, 2011

Attendance:

Barbara Dennison, Paul Dennison, Andy Himberg-Larsen, Billi Langtry, Chuck Langtry, Nancy Morgan, Karin Nikischer, Bob Summers, Dave Western, Pearl Western

Regrets:

Don Clingin, Jean Clingin, Gavin Currie,

Absent:

Cora Calwell

1) Call to Order and approval of Agenda

a) The meeting was called to order at 1:34 PM

b) Approval of agenda

The draft agenda was amended by Bob adding new business concerning the title of past president.

2) Opening Remarks and welcome - Dave Western

Two years ago, the Board changed the way it works. Up until then all business was transacted in plenary and meetings of 4 hours or more were not unknown.

The Board decided to set up 5 Standing Committees

- Operations
- Dance
- Publicity, Promotions and Publishing
- Information Technology
- Club Liaison, Awards and Recognition

The priority of committee work changes over the course of the year.

- P,P and P is very active in late spring and summer as prepares for Fall Recruiting drive - tends to be more reactive after that as takes advantage of opportunities that present themselves
- Club Liaison becomes very active at this time of year as prepares for Graduations
- Dance Committee tends to be focussed on major regional dances

Our Committee chairs are working very hard on their assignments, but some are finding themselves in charge of a committee of one. The system is dependent on each Director taking active role on their committees.

Communications tend to be by e-mail, this being the lowest common denominator as we are not all comfortable with Social media. But sometimes there is no response and it is difficult to know if e-mails are being received and read or not. I am asking all of you to be sure and check your e-mails diligently and respond promptly. The alternative is regular committee meetings which are inefficient and difficult to organize.

Let's do a quick review of the current Committee assignments, based on my notes (**Appendix 1**). If there are any changes, please let me know. Please ensure that you are contributing meaningfully to the work of your committee or committees.

3 a) Approval of Minutes of November Board Meeting

The minutes for the Board meeting of November 21 were approved with a change to the Treasurer's Report. (**See 3 b**) Chuck moved that the minutes be adopted and Bob seconded the motion.

3 b) Acceptance of Draft Minutes, November Council of Dancers

The minutes for the November Council of Dancers were amended as follows:

Error in reporting available funds of \$ 5165.19 should have read Bank balance \$ 11,540.19

Less amount to be submitted to Federation for insurance \$ 3,423.00.

This means that the Association really had \$ 8,117.19 available for operations.

The \$ 2,952.00 for Square Time was a memo entry only.

The amended minutes were accepted by the Board and will be circulated to Council of Dancers for approval.

4. Reports

a) Operations Committee

i) Financial Report - Bruce Warner

-- available on request.

ii) Registrar's Report - Linda Warner

While no new registrations have been received by the Registrar, Bob reported 3 more members from Kingston as of the end of November and Bruce reported 3 more members from Kanata.

1064 members are currently paid up.

b) Dance Committee - Billi Langtry for Gavin Currie

Frosty Fling 2011

Frosty Fling will be held at Mother Teresa High School on Feb 5. Nancy Morgan has agreed to help Billi and Chuck Langtry coordinate the dance with a view to acting as overall coordinator for the dance in 2012. Callers will be Paul Adams and Brian Crawford; cuers will be Jean Clingin and Jerry Sawtell. Once again, there will be a sale of used clothing with proceeds going to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Jamboree 2011

The Committee has not received any proposals from member clubs who would be willing to organize the dance jointly with EOSARDA. Consequently, this dance will not be held in 2011.

August Affair 2011

If a dance is held this summer, it will be organized as part of the preparations for Festival 2014, and will probably be held in July.

Fall Fest 2011

With respect to Fall Fest, the dance will be held at Sir Robert Borden on Oct 29.

We have been in touch with Don Moger and he has agreed to call. Details of the program still have to be worked out.

Jamboree 2012

Jamboree 2012 will be considered on the same basis as Jamboree 2011 i.e. it will be a dance organized jointly by EOSARDA and a member club, with EOSARDA covering any loss and any profit being split between EOSARDA and the club. A joint organizing committee would be set up to run the dance. Expressions of interest will be accepted by the EOSARDA Dance Committee up until June 15, 2011. Meri Squares has indicated an interest, and follow up discussions will be held.

c) P, P and P Committee - Barbara Dennison

It has been a busy season for PP&P.

The committee did take on the promotion for Hearing Enhancement and you will hear more on that one later.

The Kanata Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a program called “Winter West” for the areas of Kanata, Goulbourn and West Carleton & they are looking for community activities. David Western received the information thru one of the community groups, of which, he is a member.

This does create an opportunity to introduce and promote basic Modern Square Dancing to the youth, to teens, to young adults & to anyone interested in learning. This is simply trial run to test the interest level in the Kanata, Goulbourn & West Carleton area. The convener of Winter West thought “offering to teach Modern square dancing”, as an event, was super.

Wendy VanderMuelen and Andy Himberg-Larson will be the Callers for the Winter West event for Kanata, Goulbourn & West Carleton. This event will be held at the Kanata Rec. Complex, 100 Walter Baker Place, Upper Hall A, February 5, 2011, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Nancy has taken over as Editor of Square Time.

Bob Summers suggested this committee could send out publicity tips to clubs telling them what they can do: ie sending a picture of an event or be more visible in the news. The committee will decide what best practices to use.

d) Club Liaison Committee - Bob Summers

Nil report

e) IT Committee - Bob Summers

Nil report

f) Festival 2014 - Dave Western

A final draft of the contract with the Ottawa Convention Centre has not yet been received. The festival committee is optimistic that the contract will be signed shortly.

g) OACA Report - Andy Himberg-Larsen

The OACA will be running a summer basic dance program again this year.

Pearl suggested that this be announced to the new dancers as quickly as possible since many of those that Pearl knows are under the impression that there will be no square dancing from the end of April until September.

h) RDTA Report - Jean Clingin

Our next meeting is January 29th. At the last meeting - November 20th, we ended the dance season with Chinese Buffet lunch - great food and good company.

We want all round dancers to know of our Heart and Stroke Benefit Dance - February 12th - Parkdale Church Hall - 7:30 pm. Lots of dancing cued by local leaders.

I) Hearing Assistance Working Group - Barb Dennison

To date we have 4 Deluxe Systems ordered.

We require 3 more Deluxe Systems to have the lowest price available. Unfortunately we have no receivers ordered.

I have sent a note to Bruce Warner to be circulated to all Clubs, Presidents, Callers and Cuers re "3 more systems & we are there - for the best possible price".

Caller Geoff Clarke & Cuer Don Pearson have forwarded to all members of their clubs, the benefits of Hearing Enhancement.

There is a need for all clubs to promote the benefits of receivers e.g. better hearing etc. My recommendation is that Presidents, Callers, Cuers send a note to all club members recommending the purchase of Hearing Receivers. Not only is the receiver good for dancing but, also, great for FM radio listening.

There was a discussion as to how to increase the use of Hearing Enhancement equipment by clubs and dancers.

Paul moved that the Board subsidize 25% of the cost of receivers. Nancy seconded the motion. After some discussion this motion was amended as follows:

The Board will offer a subsidy of \$18.50 for any receivers ordered through the Board between February 1 and March 15, 2011. This will reduce the cost per receiver to \$55.99 regardless of the number of receivers ordered. Any volume discounts received will be used to defer the cost of the subsidy program. This will be advertised in the next issue of Square Time.

The amended motion was unanimously adopted.

5. Old Business

a) EOSARDA Eagles - Dave Western

Nil report

b) EOSARDA Shirts - Dave Western

As per instructions of the Board the entire stock was distributed during the Council of Dancers.

c) Clarification of Financial Report to Council of Dancers (Status of Square Time Expenditures) - Bruce Warner

See 3b above.

d) Financial Information on the web - Bob Summers

Financial data in the Minutes is no longer being posted on our web site. It is available upon request.

e) Venue for April Council of Dancers - Dave Western

Prescott is available from 11 AM as long as we are quiet. Kemptville is closer for most clubs but the cost of rental has increased. Nancy will check her Church hall in Kemptville for the cost of rental. A decision on this issue has been deferred pending receipt of additional information. The item will be carried forward to the next Board meeting.

5. New Business

a) Meri Squares' Subsidy Application - Bruce Warner

EOSARDA provides subsidies to clubs for start-up costs, however few clubs request money for this. Meri Squares has requested a subsidy for their Fall start-up. The application includes hall rental, coffee, caller costs.

After some discussion, it was determined that costs for callers and hall rentals connected to club Open Houses do not fall within the intended scope of the subsidy program. Therefore, that portion of Meri Squares' request was rejected.

Efforts will be made to clarify this program's guidelines.

b) Project Plan - EOSARDA Web Site Renewal - Bob Summers

Bob and Dave will work together to create a detailed work plan for this project. The work plan will identify major milestones and important target dates. This item will be carried forward to the next Board meeting.

c) Graduation 2011 - Bob Summers

It was agreed that EOSARDA would present graduating dancers with a free coupon for Fall Fest 2011. These coupons will be given to all square and round dancers who have completed an initial first year of dancing.

Linda suggested using better quality paper and colour for the coupons. Bob will explore this further and will present the Board with a revised draft of the coupon at the next Board meeting.

d) Use of GROUPON or equivalent for recruiting new dancers - Barbara Dennison

The use of group discount web sites to promote square and round dancing seems to have some promise but more information is required as to costs, terms and conditions of use and time lines. Billi undertook to do some initial research into this subject and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

e) Use of outside Sponsor to promote Square Dancing - Barbara Dennison

Barb suggested that we consider using an outside sponsor such as Marianne Wilkinson from the City of Ottawa to promote square and round dancing. After some discussion it was determined that more information on how this would work and what our expectations would be is required. Barb undertook to provide a more detailed recommendation at the next Board meeting.

6. Other Business

a) Composition of the Board

Since the immediate Past President is unable to serve in this function for health reasons and the previous Past President is unwilling to do so, it was agreed that this position will be shown as "vacant" on both the Association's web site and in Square Time. It was noted that the listing in Square Time is already consistent with this decision.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Appendix 1
Amended Membership of Standing Committees

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Members</u>
Operations Committee	Dave Western	Barbara Dennison Bruce Warner Linda Warner Pearl Western
Dance Committee	Gavin Currie	Cora Caldwell Don Clingin Jean Clingin Andy Himberg-Larsen Billi Langtry Chuck Langtry Nancy Morgan Dave Western <i>Non-Board Members</i> Peter Courdin Karen Remy
Information Technology	Bob Summers	Karin Nikischer Bruce Warner Dave Western
Publicity, Promotions and Publications	Barbara Dennison	Billi Langtry Chuck Langtry Nancy Morgan (Editor ST) Karin Nikischer Dave Western
Club Liaison, Recognition and Awards	Bob Summers (SW Area)	Paul Dennison Andy Himberg-Larsen (NW Area) Nancy Morgan (SE Area) Bruce Warner Dave Western