

Minutes of the EOSARDA Board meeting, March 16th. 2014
At the Citizen's Building, Baxter Road, Ottawa

Attendance: Bill Ableson, Gavin Currie, Barbara Englehart, Roger Frappier, Billi Langtry, Chuck Langtry, Nancy Morgan, Pierre Reinhard, Mary Anne Reinhard, Bruce Warner, David Western.

Regrets: Bob Summers

- 1.1 The meeting was called to order at 13 h 30
- 1.2 Approval of Agenda with additions at 6.3 Organizational Chart and 6.4 Federation

2. Minutes of February meeting deferred to the April meeting.

3. Opening Remarks - Dave Western

It's hard to believe, but we are almost at the end of another dance year. Well, "almost" is the key word this year.

Normally at this time we would be looking forward to graduations; a flurry of year-end dances; the April Council of Dancers and its attendant election of a new Executive which would take over the reins of power next September. Nothing much to do but sit back and watch the year unfold as it should.

But as you already know, this year is different. This year we cannot afford to just sit back and let things unfold as they may. This year we have to keep working to convince our dancers to get off the couch and register to attend Festival.

Why does it matter? Is it just a question of prestige? Well no. Frankly the economic future of this organization is at stake.

\$ If Festival is a financial success, we will be going into the next Dance Year with a substantial treasury that will allow us to undertake some serious recruiting and build on the wonderful results that the organization experienced this year.

\$ If Festival is a bust, we will be faced with a substantial deficit which will deplete our financial resources and severely limit future recruiting efforts.

We have seen a 10% increase in registrations over the past month with the

current total sitting at 772 according to the web site. Of these 507 are from Ontario. Of course not all the Ontario registrations come from our region, so it is reasonable to assume that less than 50% of our membership has registered to attend Festival.

I know that many of you are doing everything possible to promote Festival and to encourage dancers to register. We need to keep up the pace. This is not the time to slack off and sit back. Please seize every opportunity to grab the microphone and talk up attendance at Festival. There is still lots of time to secure a good outcome for Festival 2014, together we can do it.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Operations committee

4.1.1 TREASURERS REPORT AS OF MAR 16/14 – BRUCE WARNER

Information available on request

4.1.2 REGISTRAR'S REPORT - Barbara Englehart

Membership now totals 1019.

4.2 DANCE COMMITTEE – Gavin Currie

FROSTY FLING 2015

At our last meeting, it was agreed that Frosty Fling 2015 should go ahead. In addition, the Dance Committee was encouraged to look into the possibility of holding the dance in the afternoon in order to make it easier for out-of-town dancers to attend. I checked the calendar of events and noted that all the Sunday afternoons from mid-January to mid-February have activities in the afternoon which are likely to be repeated each year and so it did not appear to be practical to move to a Sunday afternoon. I then sought out the views of the Dance Committee by e-mail and the consensus was that we should try moving the dance to Saturday afternoon. I have now booked Mother Teresa High School for Sat, Feb 7, 2015. We plan to hold the dance from 2:00 to 4:30.

4.3 Publicity and Promotion/Club Liaison Committee - Nancy Morgan

Club Liaison, Publicity, Promotions Committee

Committee Members: Nancy Morgan (Chair), Chuck Langtry (New Dancer Celebrations), Billi Langtry (New Dancer Celebrations), Mary Anne Reinhard (Square Time Invoicing), Pierre Reinhard (Support)
Adhoc committee members: Gavin Currie (Square Time Distribution), Bruce Warner (Square Time finances)

Awards, Anniversaries and Celebrations

Trillium Nominations: We reviewed and are putting forward the following three application for the Trillium Award

- Robert & Linda Harrison - Merit Award
- Rusty Saunders - Merit Award
- William & Marian Maitland - Long Service Award

The paperwork will be completed and sent to Federation prior to the April 15th deadline.

MailChimp: Designed and Sent... want more details, please send me a note.

New Dancer Recruitment Subsidy: No new requests for subsidies have been received.

Graduations: See review by Chuck and Billi

Square Time: The next issue of Square Time is almost complete and will be sent to Jiffy Print this evening asking for 255 copies

External Publicity and Promotions: Discuss is still underway to design a glossy brochure to be distributed at Festival 2014 that will advertise the Square/Round/Line movement in Ottawa and the surrounding areas.

New Committee Members: An Organizational Chart has been designed to display the committee vacancies. Next steps will be to write definitions for the Club Liaison Committee and present at the Council of Dancers. With clear definitions we're hoping to attract people to these areas. Part of the definitions will be to clarify that other than the Chair these committee members do not have to attend monthly board meetings

4.4 IT Committee - Bill Ableson
A data base design is being considered at this time.

4.5 OACA Report - Bob Summers
No report as Bob is away.

4.6 RDTA Report

No report

4.7 FESTIVAL 2014 - Dave Western

As already mentioned, current registration stand at 772, a 10% increase in the last month. This is very encouraging.

On April 1, the registration cost will increase to \$150 for the weekend. At that time, the Festival Board plans to announce that day passes will be available at the door (and probably by pre-sale) for \$50 a day. As we know, the Halifax convention made a profit thanks to so-called "walk-up" admissions.

As of last week, there are two full squares of Basic dancers registered to attend Festival. This is good, but it could be better. To encourage our Basic dancers to attend Festival, last month this Board agreed to provide all of our new graduates with a coupon for a \$10 discount off the cost of a full Festival registration. I am very pleased to announce that the Festival Board has agreed to match this initiative, so our new graduates will now receive two \$10 coupons in their graduation package.

Graduates who are not yet registered to attend Festival will attach the coupons to their registration forms at the time they register. The Festival Registrar will collect the coupons and submit them to EOSARDA for reimbursement to Festival. Those already registered will submit them directly to our Treasurer for reimbursement.

One of the most important messages to deliver to our Graduates at Graduation, is that the Basic program at Festival will be just for them and will be geared to their dancing ability. They will be dancing with their peers and are not expected to be accomplished Basic dancers. At the same time, this is an unrivalled opportunity to improve the dancing skills that they have worked so hard to achieve.

Other items of interest:

- \$ sales of souvenir hand sanitizers and shoe bags are going well
- \$ we currently have 16 of our 40 booths in the Vendors' Village sold
- \$ publicity cards for Dance wear 2014 have been printed and are being distributed to clubs and to the sewing community
- \$ there will be a line dance program at Festival 2014, but it may be limited

to Saturday afternoon

\$ The application for Dancing on the Hill is under consideration by the Federal Government

5. Old Business

5.1 Swing Into Spring 2015

This subject will be taken to Council of Dancers.

51.2 Procedures Manual

Draft of section on registration procedures is in process.

5.3 Graduations – Chuck and Billi Langtry

CLUBS	APRIL	No OF GRADUATES	EOSARDA REP
Kanata Squares	10		
Harbour Lites	10		Nancy
Stone Bridge in Russell at Mother Teresa S.S.	11	25	
Swinging B's	11	13	Roger
Seaway Squares	21	2	Roger
Merri Squares	22		
Mississippi Squares	22	8	
Pembroke	24	10	
Lime Stone Dancers	24	???24	
Bay Waves	25		
Napanee Pioneers			Nancy to look into it
Grenville Gremlins	25	8	
Village Squares	May 2	10	

NOTE: Compensation for number of kilometres travelled is available.

5.4 Trillium Awards – Nancy

See report at item 4.3 above

5.5 Overpayment by Kingston

Reimbursement has been processed.

6. New Business

6.1 Council of Dancers

- In Prescott April 27th.
- Agenda items:
 - Festival
 - Festival volunteers
 - Swing Into Spring 2015
 - Organizational Chart
(We need both board and committee members)
 - Elections of new board

It was moved by Mary Anne and seconded by Billi that the P&P committee be allocated a budget of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for the April Council of Dancers.

Carried

6.2 Petition on Bottle Water to be Directed to the City of Ottawa

The Board decided that we are not going to support this petition.

6.3 Organizational Chart

The chart is to be recirculated and comments are to be directed to Nancy ASAP.

6.4 Federation

Billi and Chuck are now members of the Professional Development Committee at Federation level.

7. Adjournment at 15 h 46

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Frappier

Next meeting in Prescott at 11 h followed by Council of Dancers