

Special EOSARDA Board Meeting

Sunday, 16 August 2020

2:00 - 4:00 pm

ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING

Attendees:

Jacques Chesnais	Geoff Clarke	Teena Clarke	Gavin Currie
Barb Englehart	Pat Gauthier	Gerry Johnson	Lamar Mason
Bob Pitruniak	Arlo Speer	Wendy VanderMeulen	Dave Western

1. Call to Order

- 1.1. Opening Remarks Appendix A – Dave Western
- 1.2. Publicity Committee request the addition of an item of New Business: “Publicity Committee: Seeking direction”. The item was added as Item 4.5.

2. Previous Records and E-Mail Decisions

– Arlo Speer

- 2.1. **MOTION:** Pitruniak / VanderMeulen That the record of our 02 June 2020 meeting be accepted, with one error corrected. **CARRIED**
- 2.2. **MOTION:** Speer / Geoff Clarke ... that the e-mail decision to purchase Zoom Pro account be confirmed. **CARRIED**

3. Reports

- 3.1. Financial Report Appendix B – Bob Pitruniak
- 3.2. Club Liaison Report Appendix C – Geoff Clarke
- 3.3. Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation Report – Dave, Bob, Barb, Arlo
 - Both Society and Federation are waiving fees for 2021 unless dancing starts up again in which case fees will become payable.
 - Fee structure for 2021 not yet set since cost of insurance is yet to be established
 - Confirmation that insurance will not cover COVID related claims
 - **Barb** is Secretary of Federation
 - **Bob** is Director – Recruitment (Dancer Recruitment and New Club Bursaries)
 - **Dave** is now Director - Legal and is going to seek legal advice on COVID related waivers for dancers
 - **Arlo** will review the published criteria for Trillium Awards. Anyone with thoughts or suggestions is invited to contact Arlo.
- 3.4. **MOTION:** Currie / Pitruniak ... that the reports (except for the Financial Report, provided for information only) be accepted. **CARRIED**

4. Business Arising from the Past Record and Reports

4.1. Use of our Zoom Pro Account

– Arlo Speer

- The Technology Committee recommends that initially we limit the Zoom account to use by members of the EOSARDA Board, Committees struck under the Board, and groups and activities jointly supported by EOSARDA (e.g., *Swing into Spring*, co-sponsored dances, etc.).
- In making this recommendation, the Technology Committee recognises that, after using Zoom for some time, the Board may wish to revisit this approach, perhaps opening the account to others such as member clubs or dancers.

- The Board concurs with this approach as an initial step.

4.2. New Dancer Celebrations 2020 - Revised Action Plan

– Teena Clarke

- **MOTION:** Speer / Gauthier ... that the Board approve mailing and associated costs in accordance with Item 1 of Appendix C, the Club Liaison report.

CARRIED

4.3. Travel Dangle program

– Geoff Clarke

- The Board agreed to suspend the Dance Dangle programme temporarily.
- Despite the suspension, dancers who had earned a Dance Dangle by the time dancing ceased should submit their applications through normal channels.

4.4. Where do we go from here?

– Dave Western

- EOSARDA 2020/2021 fees and “in good standing” status

MOTION: Speer / Pitruniak ... that:

- Any member (individual or club) in good standing from last year remains a member in good standing without the requirement to pay registration fees until dancing resumes.
- Although we normally ask clubs to register at this time of year, we will wait to send registration packages to clubs until dancing resumes. **CARRIED**

4.5. Insurance-related EOSARDA Bulletin

- The Board agreed that our President is to draft an EOSARDA Bulletin to advise member clubs and dancers about insurance coverage with respect to COVID-19. The Bulletin will be subject to review by the Board before being published.

4.6. The deferred jointly sponsored St. Patrick’s dance in Kingston

- The board agreed to support a 2021 dance, providing health and other restrictions become relaxed making it possible to holding the event. The President will advise our co-sponsor.

4.7. Potential activities for the Publicity Committee

- The Board sees the “Stay Connected” communications as useful and encourages a continuation of those items.
- The Board agreed that we should not promote enrolment at this time; however, activities to maintain visibility would be valuable.

5. New Business

5.1. Square Time

– Gerry Johnson

- The Board agreed that the Square Time editor will endeavour to put together the next edition of Square Time and will solicit articles from clubs. A decision on whether to issue only an on-line edition or to also produce a print edition has been deferred to a later date.

5.2. Council of Dancers meeting

– Dave Western

2:00 Sunday 18 October 2020 using Zoom

5.3. Council of Dancers meeting – Agenda

– Dave Western

Normal AGM items

COVID-related issues

Board Members to suggest additional items

5.4. Draft Liability Waiver

– Dave Western

Dave is investigating (on behalf of the Ontario Federation) creating a liability waiver to assist member clubs when they return to dancing.

The information will be presented to the Ontario Federation at its next meeting on 04 October.

6. Next meetings: --

6.1. Board Meetings:

1:30 on Sunday 20 September ... by Zoom to address financial matters, a draft budget for coming year and preparation for Council of Dancers

11:00 on Sunday 18 October ... by Zoom in preparation for Council of Dancers meeting that afternoon

6.2. Council of Dancers meeting

2:00 pm Sunday 18 October ... by Zoom

Appendix A – Opening Remarks

Good afternoon and thanks for joining us today.

I would like to thank all of those who have been doing whatever they could to keep dancing relevant and dancers informed during the current pandemic. These are difficult times and every little bit that makes the situation a little easier to deal with is much appreciated.

Today's meeting is a chance for us to catch up on what has (and has not) happened over the summer months; to take a look ahead at the new dance year, whatever that may look like; and to brief you on last week's Federation Board meeting.

In addition, we are going to consider an innovative suggestion from Teena concerning new dancer recognition; discuss Gerry's question about a new edition of Square Time; and we are going to start planning an on-line AGM and Council of Dancers for this fall.

Did you all get a chance to look at the Facebook discussion I forwarded on Thursday? Much of what was said in the video was an affirmation of things we already know, but near the end of the video there is an interesting comment from the English Country dancer. She said that given the fact that we are not going to get back to dancing in the near future, we need to focus our efforts on getting ready to welcome an influx of new dancers once dancing does resume. We have the time now to plan for the future, let's use it to good effect.

A reminder that if you wish to address the Board at any time, click on the blue hand button on your screen. I will do my best to acknowledge your request and give you the floor. It would also be appreciated if you would mute your microphone when you are not speaking.

Dave Western
President

Appendix B: – Financial Report

1. Current results

I include a summary of activity since 01 July 2019 and including results up to 30 Jun 2020. This summary completes the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Again, print this report in landscape mode.

2. Financial compliance

No change.

3. Financial results for 2019-20

I include the unreviewed reports for the 2019-20 fiscal year. I will now try to find a reviewer.

Bob Pitruniak
Treasurer, EOSARDA

NOTE: Additional information has been omitted from the on-line version but is available upon request.

Appendix C – Club Liaison Group Report

Preamble: With COVID-19 still active and keeping our activity in a dormant state for the foreseeable future, there's not a 'lot of action' on the Club Liaison front, however there are a few items to note:-

1. **New Dancer Celebration - Teena Clarke**

- I received an email from Lamar recently explaining that Carol Lauzon from Glengarry Tartans requesting that she forward "The letter and pins" for new dancers be sent to her so she could forward them to those dancers that were to receive them last April. She did so.
- I feel that it might be appropriate to send a letter to the clubs in September asking them if they would like us to forward

"Letters and pins" to them so that they can personally mail them to their new dancers who were completing their first year.

- If I do that and the response is affirmative then I would have to contact each of the Directors on the Board to mail their envelope to the designated club.
- You see each Director that was going to present the celebration letters and pins are holding on to those envelopes for the time being.
- Then I would suggest that any mailing costs that they incur, they obtain a receipt, then send the receipt to our treasurer Bob Pitruniak.

2. **Dance Leader Training Subsidies - Wendy VanderMeulen**

- Our planned summer clinic has been cancelled, of course. However, we have kept in touch with the interested dancers and two, in particular, seem to be putting work into the effort of learning to call. John had prepared a document on learning singing calls and sent that out. Another one, on writing choreography, is in the works.
- As soon as reasonably possible, we will hold a hands-on clinic.
- There are no expenses to claim or callers' applications for funds to deal with.

3. **Square Time - Gerry Johnson**

- As the editor of Square Time, I will be looking for some direction as to where we go from here. Does the board believe we should put the next issue on hold until clubs are back in business? Anyway, please add the discussion point to the agenda. THIS ALSO APPEARS AS AN AGENDA ITEM UNDER "NEW BUSINESS"

4. **Dance Dangles - Helgi Goodman/Geoff Clarke**

FOR THE BOARD'S CONSIDERATION - It's my recommendation that "EOSARDA suspend our Travel Dangle program until Sept 2021".

- Even if Dancing becomes available on some restricted basis by perhaps Jan 1, 2021 Clubs would be so occupied in simply re- establishing their operations, that the last thing they need to deal with would be guests. Based on the current Covid-19 conditions, I feel that September 2021 is probably the nearest date possible for a restart???
- EOSARDA should revisit this issue next summer, if there is any possibility for the visitation program to restart (or not) in September 2021.
- Note that: - there could be some dancers who have qualified for Dance dangles from their Club Visits from Sept 2019 to the time dancing was suspended. I can pursue these if the Exec feels it is worthy to do so. I would simply canvas Clubs to obtain required application forms and prepare required certificates, letters and dangles and mail them to recipients.

"Obviously we cannot maintain a visitation program when there is no dancing. Following along with that, when the green light does come on, (whenever that is), we must not complicate Club attempts to restart by promoting visitations via our Dance Dangle program.

When Clubs advise us that they are ready again to accept visitors, we can be there to support them as in the past with our assistance.

NIL REPORTS from the following portfolios: -

1. **Recognition & Awards** - Helen MacCallum/Wendy VanderMeulen
2. **New Dancer Recruitment Subsidy** - Jacques Chesnais
3. **Scheduling Conflicts** - Geoff Clarke

Submitted by: Geoff Clarke, Chair - Club Liaison