

# EOSARDA Board Meeting

1:30 pm Sunday, 21 February 2021

Zoom Meeting

## Attendees:

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

**Regrets:** Jacques Chesnais

## 1. Call to Order

1.1. Opening Remarks Appendix A – Dave Western

## 2. Record of 18 October 2020 Meeting

– Arlo Speer

**MOTION:** SPEER // G. CLARKE that the record of the 18 October Board meeting (including the addendum from our special meeting to assign responsibilities for the new Board members) be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

## 3. Committee Reports –

3.1. Financial Report Appendix B – Bob Pitruniak

3.2. Dance Committee – Wendy VanderMeulen

Wendy advised that:

(1) the update of the Dance Manual has started,

(2) until we know when dancing can start up again, there are no dances for the Committee to work and

(3) Barb Englehart indicated she will withdraw from Dance Committee to devote her attention to other EOSARDA duties.

3.3. Swing into Spring Report Appendix B – Arlo Speer

3.4. Publicity Committee Report Appendix C – Lamar Mason

3.5. Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation Report Appendix D – Arlo Speer

3.6. Club Liaison Group Appendix E – Geoff Clarke

3.7. **MOTION:** MASON // CURRIE that the reports be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

## 4. Business Arising from the Past Record

None

## 5. New Business

5.1. Council of Dancers (Annual General Meeting) – Dave Western

The Board agreed to set Sunday 27 June as the tentative date for our Annual General Meeting (Council of Dancers meeting).

We will revisit the date at our next meeting.

5.2. Budget for 2021/2022

With the annual General Meeting scheduled for late June, the Budget will be considered at our next Board meeting.

5.3. Preliminary discussion of nominations previously circulated – Dave Western

The Board reviewed the nominations received to date for the Trillium Long Service Award and agreed to make a final decision after 01 March.

#### 5.4. Return to Dancing

– Dave Western

- How will we know when dancing can resume?
  - When facilities are available and local rules and health advice say we can.
- Should it be a club or association decision?
  - It must be a club decision since EOSARDA cannot direct clubs in their activities.
- What about insurance?
  - Nothing has changed
  - Our insurance provider has advised us that our policy provides no COVID-related coverage
- Vaccine Passports – will we need them? Should they be obligatory?
  - To be determined pending local rules and health guidelines in effect.

#### 6. Next Board Meeting

Sunday 18 April 2021 –1:30 pm

## Appendix A – Chairman’s Opening Remarks

What a difference a year makes.

Last February, we were looking forward to the successful completion of the 2019/2020 dance year.

\$ Plans were underway for a St. Patrick’s Dance to be co-sponsored with Kingston’s Limestone Dancers;

\$ Teena was working from Florida on New Dancer Celebrations;

\$ Arrangements for the 2020 version of Swing into Spring were well in hand; and

\$ We were searching for a way to allow Directors to attend Board meetings virtually.

A month later, the world as we knew it ceased to exist.

In March of last year, I said to the Board:

“[This] country is in a state of turmoil, with an attendant impact on this association and our members. Most, probably all, clubs are shut down for at least the next three weeks and we do not know at this time if they will be re-opened any time soon. We could lose the rest of this dance year.”

an understatement to say the least.

Of course, all of this is now water under the bridge. We now know how bad things can be and we know that nothing is going to change any time soon. Or is it?

As Jean Chrétien said: “There are things we know, things we don’t know and things we don’t know that we don’t know.”

Among the things that we know that we don’t know are:

\$ Whether there will be 3<sup>rd</sup> wave of the Corona virus propelled by more virulent variants

\$ How fast and how successful the vaccine rollout will be

\$ When different dance venues will become available and under what conditions

\$ What impact moving to various colour zones will have on dancers’ and dance leaders’ expectations and risk tolerance.

\$ What a return to “normality” will look like

Two things we can be sure of:

\$ not everything will go according to plan

\$ there will be unforeseen and unforeseeable circumstances along the way

Or, to quote Robbie Burns: “The best laid schemes o’ mice an’ men. Gang aft a-gley”

That being said, based on what has happened in the United States, I predict that things are going to move faster than we expect and that, at least in some parts of our region, there is going to be a strong desire for dancing to resume sooner rather than later.

I also predict that, while some dance leaders and clubs will go ahead on their own initiative, other will look to this Board for advice and guidance. Certainly, we can expect that at the next Council of Dancers, questions will be asked and guidance will be sought.

Therefore, we need to start thinking now about what that advice and guidance will look like and how it will be framed.

I don’t expect that we will reach any conclusions today, but we need to start the conversation. As it progresses other questions will arise. As they do, we will add them to future agenda. As judged appropriate, we will also share them with our colleagues on the Federation Board.

A lot to think about, a lot to talk about, so let’s get to it.

## **Appendix B – Financial Report**

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

## Appendix B – Swing into Spring



To refresh everyone's memory, the *Swing into Spring* committee consists of: Gloria Bateman (Publicity), Simone Cyr (Liaison to SVSRDA), Bob Pitruniak, Kathleen Pitruniak, Arlo Speer (Secretary and Liaison to EOSARDA) and Wendy VanderMeulen (Treasurer).

The *Swing into Spring* Organizing Committee is confident that, with vaccinations being made available, our weekend event (and SVSRDA's Mother's Day Dance) will be able to operate again in 2022. The following dance leaders have agreed to spend the weekend with us in Prescott:

- Todd Felleggy, Meridien, CT
- Tom Miller, Chest Springs, PA
- JL & Linda Pelton, Plano, TX

We will not know until this fall when or if the school board will allow community use of its schools, so that part of our planning must wait until the fall. The Organizing Committee will meet again at the end of the summer. It is our hope that, at that time, we will have more information about COVID, when we can resume dancing, and the availability of the school.

We will keep you up to date with Square Time articles, information on [www.SwingintoSpring.ca](http://www.SwingintoSpring.ca) and posts on [www.facebook.com/PrescottSiS](https://www.facebook.com/PrescottSiS). Please keep watch!

Be safe, Stay well!

Submitted February 2021, by  
Simone Cyr, Liaison to SVSRDA & Arlo Speer, Liaison to EOSARDA

[www.swingintospring.ca](http://www.swingintospring.ca)

<https://www.facebook.com/PrescottSiS/>

## Appendix C – Publicity Committee

### Activities:

1. **Poster Challenge:** The Publicity Committee asked members to submit an original poster that could be used to promote square, round and/or line dancing when we are able to dance again. We received three submissions: 2 related to square dancing and one covering both round and square dancing. The posters were submitted by Linda Chapman, Geoff Clarke and Wendy VanderMeulen. The contributors received a \$25 gift card for their efforts. The posters were sent out to all Club contacts and Publicity contacts. The posters were also published in the December Square Time, with a Staying Connected ebulletin alerting dancers to look for them. Alternative formats for the posters will be sent shortly.
2. **Masks:** The Publicity Committee sourced Canadian-made masks with the “Live Lively” logo and “Modern Square Dancing” or “Round Dancing” printed on them. The goal was to provide a way to raise the visibility of dancing by providing a means for people to chat directly with a dancer. It is also a way for dancers to feel connected and protected.

Three EOSARDA bulletins were sent out providing information on the masks and how to order. An order for 124 masks (70 fitted Square Dancing, 40 fitted Round Dance and 14 Square Dance “Easy Breathing”) was submitted on February 8, 2021. After a 15% discount (not anticipated), the total cost of the order was \$1,533.37. Including a small donation from one dancer, we collected \$1,659. There will be some costs associated with mailing masks to Pembroke and Prescott (and two individuals) for pick-up by those who ordered. The Capital Carousels ordered masks for all their dancers! Orders were received from most parts of the EOSARDA region, except the Kingston area.

While there was the occasional question regarding the “high” cost of the product, and several last-minute orders, generally, the initiative was well received. We will have to see if it achieves its goals.

3. **Staying Connected:** The Publicity Committee has issued eight “Staying Connected” e-bulletins since June 2020. These messages are aimed at offering suggestions to dancers on how to stay in touch with fellow club members and other dancers, sharing news, and generally letting the dance community know we are here to help with whatever may be needed to promote dancing. We will continue to issue these e-bulletins.

Submitted by Lamar Mason  
Chair, Publicity Committee  
for Carole Lauzon and Gloria Bateman

## Appendix D – Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation

1. The Ontario Square and Round Dance Federation held a Board meeting on Saturday 23 January.
2. Like EOSARDA, dancing within the other associations in the Ontario Federation has generally been limited to virtual dancing. Associations are exploring ways to communicate with clubs and encourage clubs and dancers to communicate among each other.
3. At meeting time, there was no news of the fate of the 21st Canadian National Square and Round Dance Convention scheduled for this summer in Surrey, B.C. Since the meeting, the Canadian Square and Round Dance Society website shows:

**21st Canadian National  
Square & Round Dance  
Festival 2020  
July 8, 9, & 10, 2021  
CANCELLED**

4. The Ontario Federation Board (after the 23 January meeting) approved updated nomination guidelines for the Trillium Award. The Federation website now includes a webpage that consolidates all information and updated documents for the [Trillium Awards](#).
5. At least one other regional association within the Ontario plans to promote the same square and round dancing face masks that our Publicity Committee is has sold. Those other associations will work independently of EOSARDA and deal directly with the same supplier EOSARDA used for masks. (**Way to go, EOSARDA Publicity Committee!!!!**)
6. The Ontario Federation's Annual General Meeting will be held online at 1:30 pm on Saturday 17 April 2021.

## Appendix E – Club Liaison Group

### Note from the Chair: -

*At the last Virtual Council of Dancers Meeting in October 18, 2020, after the General elections, there was a 're-alignment'*

*of some Board positions as follows: -*

- ï Wendy V. moved from our Liaison Group to take over the role of Dance Committee Chair from Barbara Englehart.*
- ï As well, Ron Gardner was elected to the Board. Ron has agreed to take over the portfolios that Wendy held on the Liaison Committee, namely Dance Leader Training & Recognition & Awards.*
- ï Helen MacCallum has agreed to continue to handle the Recognition & Awards and, as a non-Board member, will report through Ron to the board on matters relating to Recognition & Awards.*

### **Welcome Ron to the Club Liaison Group!!**

#### **1. Square Time - Gerry Johnson**

We will continue to create new editions of Square time. I have pushed the deadline data for the next version toward the end of February. There is no particular rush as we are not facing club closing deadlines as we usually would. So, volume 67.1 should be available in early March and we can probably expect the next issue to be in early May. There is lots of water to do over the dam, before we can look any further forward.

I think that the Christmas edition was well received. Things are coming in quite slowly at the moment.

I have reviewed my collection of past issues and I have quite a large collection. I will republish this list in an upcoming issue. I do have many duplicates as well.

### **NIL REPORTS from the following portfolios: -**

- 2. Recognition & Awards - Helen MacCallum/Ron Gardner**
- 3. Dance Leader Training – Ron Gardner**
- 4. New Dancer Recruitment Subsidy - Jacques Chesnais**
- 5. Scheduling Conflicts - Geoff Clarke**
- 6. Dance Dangles – Helgi Goodman/ Geoff Clarke**
- 7. New Dancer Celebration – Teena Clarke**