

Metropolitan Chicago Association of Square Dancers



MCASD Executive Board Meeting August 15, 2015 At Elk Grove Township Hall, Arlington Heights

Next Meeting Saturday, October 17, 2015 at 10AM

PRESENT: Frankie Terry; Janice & James Cha; Chuck Koziol; Bill and Marlene Neurauter; Christine Steffy; Sue Davies; Darlene Kulpa; Jim and Pat Glass; June & Duane Bradley; Robert Bradley; Pat Semple; Carolyn & Bob Lopez; Jules and Marilyn Heinemann

Frankie Terry called the meeting to order at 10 am. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chuck Koziol asked to add the Budget to the Agenda during New Business. Christine Steffy moved to accept the Agenda as amended. Bill Neurauter seconded. The Agenda passed unanimously.

Christine Steffy moved to accept the Minutes from the June meeting. Marilyn Heinemann seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: During April and May, there was not a lot of activity. We ended April with \$21,082. During May we had income of \$105 from dues, making our balance \$21,187. During June there was a loss of \$84, bringing the balance to \$21,103. In July, we had income from dues and insurance of \$75 and \$65 in Tote Bags and Magnets were sold. After Paying SCISDA for Membership and Insurance, we ended the fiscal year with a balance of \$20,582.

We have also received \$4239.85 in Convention registrations. The total in our checking account reflects this amount, but the total of our checking and Certificate of Deposit accounts subtracts that amount.

For 2015, our income is under by \$1824 and our expenses are under by \$1740, leaving us with Net Income for this Fiscal year of \$1451.

Bill Neurauter moved to accept the treasurers report after the auditor's approval. Darlene Kulpa seconded. This passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Frankie Terry called and emailed the SCISDA delegates explaining why MCASD is asking to host the 2016 Convention. At the SCISDA meeting at the July Convention, MCASD won approval to host the Convention in 2016 and also won approval for the additional monetary support for the Intro Party Grant. Frankie thanked everyone who worked so hard on getting these approvals.

MCASD clubs are far ahead of where we were last year in planning for the Square Dance Intro Parties.

There are 209 people already registered for next year's convention. Hopefully with the hotel and convention at one location, it will mean an increase in attendance. Janice Cha thanked Frankie for her time, organization skills and leadership in getting approval for MCASD to host the 2016 Convention and for SCISDA support of the Intro Parties.

SECRETARY: Nothing

INSURANCE: Bill Neurauter reported that two clubs have not paid attention to the instructions about membership renewal and insurance. Some checks were made out incorrectly, another was lost in the mail. Because of this delay, Bill is late getting things to SCISDA.

Because Northern University required \$3,000,000 aggregate in Insurance Coverage instead of the normal \$2,000,000, the charge for insurance went up slightly this year and the certificates for the upcoming year will be delayed. Certificates should be coming by the end of the following week.

Jules Heinemann suggested if clubs are not getting info, it might be helpful to notify the directors to get that information to the clubs.

Christine Steffy suggested that there be a summary list of important information handed to the delegates at each General Meeting or mailed to them within a week of the meeting. This would be information that they must share with their clubs.

WEBMASTER: The attendance at the Web Teach season at the convention was not well attended. Some clubs still need help with understanding the way to submit information to the website.

There will be a change to the front page of the website, showing each of the Intro Parties that are scheduled.

Janice Cha suggested that the website has a flyer to promote the Intro Parties and attract new dancers. This can be individualized, printed out by clubs and distributed. Christine Steffy said that today people don't use paper very much, most people use social media and the web.

NEWSNOTES: No Report.

FRIENDSHIP AWARDS: Barb O'Connell asked if we should continue with the Friendship Awards. Frankie said that clubs may not know how this works because we have not been promoting it. Directors and Delegates need to talk about this with their club membership. There was a discussion about going out to dance regardless of whether a person gets a dangle and also a suggestion about giving something else to people who go out to steal and retrieve. Possibly coupons to go to a free dance would be a good incentive. Things that affect stealing and retrieving are the distance you may have to go to another club and small clubs don't have the membership to go out very often.

There will be an explanation of Stealing and Retrieving, why it's important and how the Friendship Award works at the next General Meeting.

HISTORIAN: No Report.

SUNSHINE: Birthday cards and Anniversary cards were sent to those celebrating during the past months.

SWEETHEART DANCE: A form has been created for New Dancers to sign-in. This will be used at the Pumpkin Ball also. This will give us an accurate count of new dancers and the clubs that they are coming from. There will be a welcome station for new dancers.

PUMPKIN BALL: Darlene has confirmed with each club what responsibility they will have for this dance. A director will be assigned to oversee each area that day.

PUBLICITY/WEBSITE: There is now a Toolbox that clubs can download to publicize their clubs' Intro Parties.

The comment that is most often heard, is that clubs need money to publicize their events. Yard Signs are one suggestion. The wording needs to be simple and bold. There isn't a lot of time for someone to read a lot of information as they are passing by a yard sign.

BY-LAWS UPDATE: James Cha read thru the explanation of changes. There are suggested changes to Article II Election of Officers; Article III Meetings; Article IV Representation; and Article V Membership. Bill Neurauter questioned if any of these changes would contradict the constitution. The committee will review the constitution and make revisions accordingly.

2015 STATE CONVENTION: A report has been submitted from each chairperson from this year's convention, with suggestions for next year. The convention for this year will have a loss of approximately \$5200. Chuck Koziol said this was due to the facility charging us for the Hall rental. In previous years, since the dance halls were located at a hotel facility, we were not charged for the halls, since the rooms had been booked at the hotel.

At Northern, even though a cost of \$8,00 was negotiated, there ended up being many extra charges that increased the \$8,000 to \$12,000 at one point but was negotiated back down to \$8,800.

Janice also passed out a Convention Planning Meeting schedule for this year and asked everyone to please mark their calendars.

Christine Steffy is now the Northern Region VP of SCISDA.

A list of where and when all the Square Dance Intro Parties are taking place with a Map has been posted to the SD Revival site. The Facebook Page is controlled by MCASD and is intended as outreach to the Public. The Square Dance Chicago Group can be posted on by anyone.

Marilyn Heinemann asked if any other steps needed to be taken to get the grant money from SCISDA. MCASD will submit the paperwork to SCISDA once they get the paperwork from the individual clubs. Each club must complete the 3 steps as required by MCASD.

Sue Davies again questioned the possibility of printing things for SCISDA. Chuck Koziol said that if we are printing things for SCISDA, that SCISDA needs to pay for it. Marlene Neurauder moved that SCISDA requests for printing pay the same rate as clubs must pay. Duane seconded the motion. Bill Neurauder said that since MCASD is overseeing the convention, expenses will be charged to the convention. An invoice would go to SCISDA. Marlene pointed out that if the amount of printing that SCISDA needs causes a break down of the equipment, there should be an extra charge. The motion was put to a vote. Except for 2 abstentions, the motion passed.

An updated Directors list will be e-mailed to you. If you have a problem, please let Frankie know. Bill Neurauder said that normally the Director's assignments are discussed at an Executive Board meeting and then decided.

Pat Semple will run the training at the General Meeting. It will be kept at 15 to 20 minutes. If it needs to run longer, the training will be held after the General Meeting.

BUDGET: Chuck stated that for next year's budget we need to make more income or have fewer expenses. It would be helpful to encourage the use of the Square Dance magnets. Clubs could purchase 10 to use as incentives, prizes, etc. Frankie used as an example, giving one magnet to whoever brought in the most new dancers.

Chuck explained that expenses and income have both been going down since 2010. Christine Steffy said we are doing our best to increase attendance at the Pumpkin Ball and Sweetheart Dance, but that is difficult without any money for promotion. Chuck said that possibly next year there may be some proceeds from hosting the 2016 Convention. But the maintenance of the printer could add expenses to the budget.

Christine Steffy moved to accept the budget. Bill Neurauder seconded. Jules Heinemann said he was concerned that there is no budget for promotion. Christine Steffy asked if we could use any money from the Certificate of Deposit toward a plan for Promotion. She suggested there be money ear-marked for Promotion because without any publicity, it is difficult to attract new dancers/members. Frankie commented that the budget can be revised at a later meeting.

A vote was taken to accept or reject the budget. The proposed budget passed unanimously.

Bill Neurauder moved to adjourn. Duane Bradley seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn & Bob Lopez