

Metropolitan Chicago Association of Square Dancers



March 18, 2017 MCASD EXECUTIVE MEETING
Elk Grove Township Hall, Arlington Heights

Attendance: Duane & June Bradley, Robert Bradley, Janice & James Cha, Pat & Jim Glass, Marilyn & Jules Heinemann, Darlene Kulpa, Anita Johnson, Bill Neurauter, Christine Steffy, Frankie Terry

Call to order 10 am

Pledge

Approval of agenda

Darlene Kulpa requested to add pumpkin ball to committee reports, Duane Bradley asked to add club fee reduction. James Cha motioned to approve agenda as amenda. Duane Bradley seconded. Vote: All in favor, no opposed.

Treasurer's Report

See attached. Anita Johnson noted that January was quiet. February had advanced ticket sales for the Sweetheart Ball were up, donations for food paid for the food. Raffle and split the pot were down. We did make a profit. Pat Glass motioned to approve the treasurers report subject to audit. James Cha seconded. Vote: All in favor, no opposed.

President's Report

Frankie Terry reported that she received Jan Morse's resignation (News Notes) on Feb 5, 2017 due to commitments. The Executive Board should decide if this position is needed. Jan Morse had said clubs were not sending information to her. Janice Cha motion dropping New Notes as a position. Website seems to have all the same information that can be titled NEWSNOTES. Darlene Kulpa seconded. Discussion on the position of News Notes. Discussed who will do this position? Robert Bradley suggested it is important. Robert Bradley said he will try this position. Janice Cha withdrew her motion. In the past, Clubs were supposed to sending the news and Officers used to write articles. We need to announce his position. Clearing House was to ensure big dances were not on the same date. We don't have many special dances anymore. An email blast was sent January regarding secretary. No response and we still need a secretary. Christine Steffy has been taking minutes but the position involves more. We

decided to extend an invitation to our June 10, 2017 pot luck Executive Meeting to all club members. We hope to encourage people to become involved. Meeting will start at 10, pot luck at 12 – they can come to one or both.

VP Report

The second New Dancer Dance was hosted by Swingin Sugar's. Herschel Tolson was the caller. There were 5 new dancers, 21 angels, 7 board members, 36 attendees. The host club had 10 attendees. Income was \$172, expenses \$145, profit was \$35. Next New Dancer Dance is March 25. Host clubs are Call and Caper and Naper Squares. Flyers were emailed to all club presidents, posed on website and Facebook. Dance level is geared to class level and Club 50. Janice announced will be stepping down at end of dance year July 31, 2018. She has been VP since 2013. Her term ends in 2018. During her term, she has organized multiple Grant programs, tote bags sales, new dancers reporting, publicity and new website. Now is time for new ideas. She will be a resource and will still assist with Facebook and website. Frankie Terry noted we now need to appoint a VP. Let's ask John Wood as ChiTown is successful in a lot of their endeavors. The board thanks Janice and James for their time over the years.

Insurance

Forms were sent to clubs for membership and insurance 2017-18. Directors were informed. So far, two clubs have responded. A copy was sent to Brian to post on the website. MCASD needs to renew with SCISDA. Frankie has a copy. This can be submitted after April General Meeting after elections. There was a question from Glenview Squares regarding insured location. Bill to respond directly. Discussion on certificate from insurance company. Some venues require to be added as additional insured.

Webmaster No Report

SCISDA

SCISDA is also in need of officers. Northern VP position will be open this year. They have an immediate need for secretary.

Freindship_ No Report

Historian No Report

Sweetheart Dance

Frankie Terry reported that this year's dance was a lot of fun. Many dancers expressed they enjoyed it. Tickets sales – some clubs sold more to this dance than the Pumpkin Ball. We need more ticket sales for both. The Sweetheart Dance made a profit. Sweetheart Couple chosen is Barbara Britten and Walter Cosby, Jr. South Side Squares.

Ken Burke had told Frankie Terry he would do something fun instead of the balloons. He replaced some calls with 'Sweetheart' calls. We did an "All Skate" after announcements that everyone could dance to and enjoyed. The weather was wonderful which may have brought more at the door sales. A fun caller helps. 2018 will have Tom Manning, Barry Johnson and Ron Ashenden. We had 25 students sign in. 295 tickets sold. Arlene Kaspik and Barry Johnson are new callers and they are developing into good callers.

Publicity

The Toolbox has new documents. Square Dance Chicago has a new menu tab for the big dances, sweetheart and pumpkin. Has club assignments, news, etc.

Pumpkin Ball

Darlene Kulpa discussed new ways to make ball different. We use local callers and ask Bobby Poyner to recruit. Requesting ideas on how the ball is run – big hall, new dancers, round dance room. New dancer room has more dancers than other room. Sweetheart dance only uses two rooms – Round/Plus are in the same room. Darlene asked for feedback from clubs and received only two responses. Discussion of ideas. Instead of shortening the dance time, put cafeteria as cafeteria only. Use the big hall with rounds in between. Other hall mainstream/club 50/new dancers. Allow a variety of levels in the new hall. Round Dancers want their own room. There were around 15 round dance couples. Main Hall – alternate High/Plus rounds. Discussion on advanced square, advanced rounds. How to mix everyone's wants with the available space. Main Hall plus/rounds, small gym Mainstream/Students. Cafeteria for Advanced/Challenge for a short period with food. How many round dancers only round dance and not square? They want high levels more than 1 and 2. It may work to run Main Hall like club dance – lets try and see what happens? Darlene will have a parade of costumes. We will keep the time from 1:30 – 5:30. Years ago, it was once a weekend event. We tell delegates at the general meeting that we are making changes to make the dancers enjoyable for all dancers. We want to fire up the delegates to want to sell all their tickets because the balls allow all the dancers in the area to come together and dance together, meet others, etc. The funds raised helps all the clubs by returning money back in grants, subsidized insurance, etc. Darlene needs to have sign up sheets out at the General Meeting. Directors will assigned to oversee tasks. Sign up sheets for both the Pumpkin Ball and Sweetheart Dance is in April. In executive session we assign the directors to their duties. We decided we don't need to make an announcement in April. Don't publicize – flyer to indicate types of dancing.

New Grant proposal

See attached form. Focus now is keep dancers dancing, more floor time. It is noted that clubs are offering new dancer dances and MCASD is hosting less New Dancer

Dances. Right now if a club holds a Mainstream/Club 50 dance, they fear they will not have other clubs visit. This grant program will help a club offer these dances so they don't have to worry about losing money for these dances. Any club can do this whether they offer lessons or not. Dates proposed are up for discussion. Clubs submit when they will do their dance, then report. If clubs select same night, let the clubs work it out to coordinate. We can use the clearing house. It's a real dance – stealing and retrieving. But students don't count for steal since they aren't members yet. Clubs can decide when it is most beneficial for them to schedule it. September dates would encourage newly graduated to come back. Discussion regarding the premise for this grant. Mainstream is top level and let the club decide how to do their dance. It's a place for new dancers to go and then they have fun. Other dancers go just for fun and support new dancers. Do we need class level tips since it is replacing new dancer dances? Scheduled Club 50/Mainstream – can a club have class level? Can the bylaws allow us to remove MCASD New Dancer Dances? MCASD New Dancer Dances bring in small amount to budget. This money would be lost. MCASD New Dancer Dances is not in by laws or constitution. We try for a year, see if it works. If not, return to New Dancer Dances.

More discussion on MCASD sponsored new dancer dances. Maybe keep MCASD to sponsor class level dances, have grant program sponsor Mainstream/Club 50 dances. The value of discussions helps MCASD come up with what to do. Agreed they are not replacing MCASD sponsored new dancer dances. Past was \$200 limited to clubs offering lessons. Perhaps of \$100 per dance, max two dances per club. Qualifying – no Plus level, just Club 50/Mainstream. Application will be due June 1, just to say Yes, we want to do it. We don't give too much time so they forget to send it in. Flyer by August 1, same time for Metropolitan directory. Ken Davies must have clubs flyer anyway by Aug 1. Flyer – can be regular club flyer. Let's put a little image to tag the dance on the website. Image may be a leaf (new life). Janice will find and send out. Something prettier than an asterisk. Christine will help those clubs that are computer challenged. Clubs must send stat's within 14 days after the dance. Treasurer will send check after submission. Anita Johnson motioned grant as modified, Darlene Kulpa seconded. Vote: all in favor, yes

Marilyn Heinemann will email final copy after making the changes to the application form.

Caller Seminar

Chicago Caller School was held March 31 – Apr 2 in Morton Grove. There were 10 students; 9 from the Chicago area, 1 from Morton IL. Two people so far have applied for grant money. Bob Asp, Arlene Kaspik and Barry Johnson will be assisting.

Club Fee Reduction

Duane Bradley noted that the Treasury has over \$20,000. He requested a fee reduction for clubs. Requesting to lower the fee to \$5 for club dues and \$5 for insurance. The treasury balance is money coming from the clubs going back to the clubs. It will help clubs who have little funds. Duane Bradley motioned to change membership fee for \$5 and insurance \$5 for 2017-18 season. It was noted that for the 20 clubs, we would have \$1300 less coming in. Anita says we can afford it with savings. Income usually equals expenses. Next year we will need to find either cut \$1300 or bring in \$1300 more or we withdraw from savings. James Cha seconded. Vote: All in favor, Frankie Terry noted now we need to sell more tickets to balls.

Nominating Committee

Committee consists of Duane Bradley, Ken Davies. Christine Steffy was appointed by the President but is not able to participate. Jancie Cha volunteered.

Open Forum

Forms for stealing retrieving has to have caller and club sign. Question as to why does the caller has to sign? It is not a requirement in bylaws. Form can be re-done with out the caller requirement.

Adjourn – Bill Neurauter motioned at 12:29 to adjourn, Marilyn Heinemann seconded.
Vote: All in favor

