

Mason-Dixon Square Dancers Federation, Inc. Delegates meeting held virtually via Zoom March 21, 2021

Call to Order: Cheryl Rakes, President, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm & attendees said the pledge of allegiance.

Brandt Braunschweig asked if anyone objected to having the meeting recorded. Everyone agreed. The last delegates meeting was held virtually January 17, 2021

Minutes: Virgil Forbes moved to accept the minutes & Peggy Lea Gosnell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Brandt Braunschweig reported that there was little activity. The check to Delta Hotel as a deposit was cashed. Three clubs paid this year's dues: Friendship Squares, Four County, and Tom Thumbs. February's reconciled balance: Checking: \$8,781.83 and Savings: \$11,265.22.

Carol Eyre moved to accept the minutes and Virgil Forbes seconded the motion. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Roll Call: The clubs had delegates present except for Crabtown Squares, Crossfires, and Galaxy Stars.

Star Spangled Banner Festival 2022: Carol has obtained 3 callers & 2 cuers. Need to decide how large the festival is going to be before making flyers. 'Goodbye Phantom, Hello Corner' will be the theme with a Red/White/Blue color scheme. Carol has the Hospitality Committee. Bev is on the Decorating Committee. Bev will reach out to Pat, the Cogburns, Martha Blaisdell & others who are creative to see if they can come up with some ideas about a phantom and a corner. Bev will also contact those who helped with prior festivals to see if they are willing to help again.

Laura will do the 50-50 again for this festival.

Nothing on the 2023 Festival at this time.

Bev asked about the number of rooms anticipated for the festival. Cheryl will discuss with the hotel pricing changes if we decrease the number of halls used. We have until September to make changes to the contract without penalties. We don't know what the county specifications will be per room. In 2019 we had six rooms of dancing and the Second-hand Rose, with 50-50, 5-3-2, baskets, and registrations at the bottom of the escalator.

Part of the contract is also tied in to a guarantee of sleeping rooms as to how much we pay for ballrooms. So Cheryl will find out how that would alter if changes were made. Board can discuss a discount on festival registration if staying at the hotel like PA did. Laura said in the past, they offered an advanced registration discount if you preregistered and paid the fee for the next festival while at the current festival. About one hundred twenty-five registrations have rolled from being prepaid.

Membership: Peggy Lea hasn't received any more updated rosters for September '21 – August '22. Peggy Lea asked Laura to remind the representatives that we need updated membership lists sent to Peggy Lea & checks to Brandt. Peggy Lea received club rosters from Tom Thumbs, Friendship Squares, & Spinning Windmills. Joyce said Chesapeake Squares should be staying the same. Pat said Four County will be the same as last year. Peggy Lea requested receiving an email from the clubs to confirm their rosters are staying the same as last year. Cheryl and Laura will draft that correspondence.

Nominations for May Elections: Ellen Linsenhardt will check with people for a list of names for nominations. Ellen asked to let Cheryl or herself know if anyone wants to volunteer to be on the board so they can be added to the nomination list. Vice President: is currently vacant, Ellen is filling in and is acting VP. Norva Pope is willing to remain on

the board. Tom Turlington would like to retire from the board. Laura will talk with Gail McCormick. Board positions are 3 year terms except for Vice President, which is a 2 year term.

Appreciation Dance: May, 2022: Nothing new. Friendship's willing to sponsor.

Recruitment and Promotion of New Dancers: Helena contacted the teaching clubs for who's going to be teaching, when, & where. Friendship Squares, Frederick Promenaders, Tom Thumbs, & Belair Square Cats are all hoping to hold classes this fall.

Swinging Squares is discussing lessons or a mainstream/plus review because they may need a new hall to dance if they can't dance at Ft. Meade's school.

Four County is open to having a class, but is not actively planning on holding lessons because they only graduated one couple each of the last two years.

Bev asked, 'Do you anticipate a Graduation dance at the festival?' If we have classes, we should have one.

Club Insurance-USDA: That's on hold since we are not dancing.

Google Group has 330 members.

Website: Brandt: Bill Phelps is switching from Go Daddy. There are plans to redevelop the website to more modern technology, but has not been started. No personal, private, or financial transactions were on the site, but the security warning issue is thought to have been resolved with the switching of the host. Bill was trying to organize a group with himself, Brandt, and John Blaisdell to have new direction for the website. This is a good time to be making those changes since we are not dancing and relying on the website as much.

Telephone Tree: Nothing has been sent. Please send Norva & Laura an email or call so that information can be distributed.

Sickness/Distress/Sunshine

Bill Hallam, Don Gray, and Ralph Collipi have recently passed.

Since January, Laura has sent a sympathy card to daughter, Crystal, for Mark White.

Laura sent get well card to Barbara Blackford, cuer, who was hospitalized with Covid 19.

Laura sent a sympathy card to Lenny Houle on the passing of his wife, Connie.

Amy Shotting's mother passed and Laura's sending a sympathy card to Amy.

Peg Kincaid has skin melanoma on her face & neck. She's had two operations and will be doing Proton Therapy.

Barbara Blackford, cuer, Go Fund Me Page: <https://gofund.me/ea475d92>

There was a discussion on the gofund.me asking for a % donation, but it's not required.

License Tags: No activity.

SDLBA-SQUARE DANCE LEADERS BALTIMORE AREA: Bruce Simperts said some callers are paying CallerLab dues.

Nationals will be June 24—26, 2021 in Jackson, Mississippi.

Virgil Forbes: Social Square Dancing (SSD) is something between Basic & Mainstream because it's only 10-12 week classes and there's a Facebook group. CallerLab will be doing a major Zoom meeting next week. If interested in details, contact Virgil.

Bill Harrison is working at Home Depot in Waldorf.

MACA-MID-ATLANTIC CHALLENGE ASSOCIATION: Ellen said is hoping to hold a dance in August perhaps at the Masonic Lodge, but the location is not certain.

USDA-UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA: Cheryl has been attending their webinar series and said the webinars since October are on their website. Mike Hogan's webinar is now posted on the site. They're starting to plan for their annual meeting, which will be zoom. They offer a lot of resources and Cheryl encouraged us to go to the USDA.org website and go through the information that's on there.

WASCA-WASHINGTON AREA SQUARE DANCERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION has their board meeting at the same time as MDSDF. The WASCA Spring Festival is scheduled for March 17-19, 2022 for 61st festival theme: Back on the Road Again (Route 66).

VASARDA-VIRGINIA STATE CONVENTION will be held May 20-22, 2021 at the Fort Magruder Hotel & Conference Center in Williamsburg, VA

OLD BUSINESS: Heart Fund Dance donations can be made directly to the Heart Association and hopefully we will be able to support Pennsylvania's Heart Fund Dance next year.

NEW BUSINESS: Carol would like to hold a fund raiser for the Star Spangled Banner Festival. Virgil suggested holding a dance at Catonsville Sr. Citizen Center in the fall and spring and donating the proceeds to the festival. Bruce said he was told a vaccination card and waiver, and temperature checks would be required to enter the Catonsville Sr. Citizen Center.

Tom suggested gofundme or an alternative way to contribute to MDSDF.

Bev suggested a virtual dance and to send money to an address (tip jar) as an alternative to gofundme. Virgil will ask Dayle Hodge about virtual dancing and his opinion. Doren McBroom's been doing virtual dances every week.

June said money can be sent through Facebook. Brandt suggested Paypal as well. Some won't send money electronically. Peggy Lea suggested sending money for a no-dance dance. Venmo & Zelle can be used to transfer money without any fees. Tom & Barbara Buchanan volunteered to do the advertising for a no-dance dance.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS Swinging Squares is still waiting to hear whether they can use the school or not.

Chesapeake Squares has been having monthly socials and will have a socially distanced picnic on April 11th at Sherwood Gardens.

Friendship will be having a club picnic/cookout at Laura's in May. They want to plan a dance at Laura's.

NEXT DELEGATES MEETING-Virtually: Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

NEXT BOARD MEETING –Virtually: Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Virgil moved to adjourn and Bruce Simperts seconded the motion at 3:25 pm.

www.marylandsquaredancing.com