

## **Mason Dixon Square Dancers Federation, Inc.**

Delegates Meeting, via Zoom

21 January 2024 @ 1900

### **Roll Call of Clubs:**

All clubs in attendance.

Board members – Mary Dean is missing, everyone else is in attendance.

### **Pledge:**

Led by Cheryl and meeting called to order.

### **Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

The minutes were distributed via e-mail by Laura prior to the meeting. Cheryl asked if there were any questions or comments. Bev from 4 County mentioned that they are having a class. Clarify that Cheryl was not in attendance. Page 2 – Don Moger and Page 3 “Fly-In” Festival. Motion to accept with corrections, and seconded. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer’s Report:**

Not lot of activity to report. Check has been written to the Doubletree for festival, but it has not cleared. Cheryl says that she received an e-mail stating that the check was received. Tax return is being worked to change the fiscal year. IRS is requiring electronic filing; Brandt is looking for an option to complete the return at no cost to the federation. This is the first time filing with the new fiscal year. This puts the federation in alignment with USDA. Ken Shotting asked why SDLBA is in the “reserve” funds. The name designates where it came from, as in it came from SDLBA, with the restriction to use for Recruitment and Promotion. This change needs to be incorporated into the year-end report. Bev asked why John Hopkins line has a balance. Brandt needs to investigate. Motion to accept with corrections, and seconded. Motion carried.

### **Festival Committee Reports:**

- 59th SSBF, July 18 – 20, 2024 reported by Ellen and Jackie. Ellen first. It is official that the festival is moving to the DoubleTree Hilton in Pikesville. Hotel is honoring the advertised room from the previous hotel. Festival registration fee to dance is increasing to \$100 per person. Flyers are being printed. Committee is planning to go to the hotel this week to view the rooms and start planning the decorations, etc. A letter is going out this week to those that pre-registered asking them to pay an additional \$30. The cost of the ballrooms is more. Callers and cuers are not getting an increase (same pay for many years).
- 60<sup>th</sup> Festival 2025 reported by Cheryl. Goal is to hold the 60<sup>th</sup>. Costs will go up significantly in 2025, as in ballroom rental will be approximately double.

**Membership:**

Cheryl requested list of clubs, dues and membership information. Brandt sent a list to Laura on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Laura has membership lists from:

- Amyable Rounders
- Belair Square Cats
- Chesapeake Squares
- Dayle's Dancers
- DC Lambda Squares
- Frederick County Promenaders
- Four County Squares
- Friendship Squares
- Spinning Windmills
- Swinging Aces
- Tom Thumbs

Laura is missing membership lists from Crossfires, Round Ups, and Swinging Squares. Casual Squares is not dancing at this time.

**Nominations Requested:**

Nominations are needed for two board positions and all five officer positions. Contact Cheryl.

**Ambassador Dances:**

John Blaisdell reported that there are two ambassador dances coming up. Chesapeake Squares is hosting their dance on February 6 (snow date Feb 20) and Four County is hosting their dance on March 10.

**Appreciation Dance:**

Belair Square Cats will host the MDSDF Appreciation Dance on Sunday, June 9, 2024 from 2 – 4:30pm. Mark Franks is calling and Amy Shotting is cueing. The dance will be held at Westowne Elementary School. Dance is for all dancers including newly graduated dancers.

**Recruitment and Promotion**

Helena reported that all classes are doing well. Classes are currently reviewing mainstream and planning to start plus in early Feb.

The Student Level ¾ Dance on Sunday April 14, 2024 at Westowne Elementary School from 2-4:30 pm with 2x2 format. Admission is \$5 admission for all dancers. Kent Forrester is calling.

**Club Insurance from USDA**

No clubs using

**Google Group**

No update

**Website:** [www.marylandsquaredancing.com](http://www.marylandsquaredancing.com)

Kathy reported that the website is up & running. Good traffic, so people are using. John is maintaining the calendar. Requesting that all clubs to check and make sure that their club pages are current.

### **Sickness/Distress/Sunshine**

Laura reported that she had sent cards to Ed Trevor (sympathy – lost mother) and Gene Lehr (get well card).

The following were mentioned during the meeting and Laura will send cards: Sharon Fleming, Ida Rogers (suffering from severe case of Covid), Jan Caughlan (knee replacement) and Cindy Scharf (fell before Thanksgiving & returned home last week).

### **License Tags:**

Helena has taken over this committee. She has had one request.

### **MACA:**

Kathy reported on MACA's upcoming events.

- Spring Weekend
  - May 4-5
  - Caller Don Moger
  - C1-C3A
  - Full program on our website, <http://mkrupar2000.wix.com/maca>
- Summer Dance
  - July 27, 2 sessions 2:30-9:30
  - Callers: Dayle Hodge and Ett McAtee
  - Afternoon session A2 and C1
  - Evening session C1 and C2
- Membership Dance
  - November 2, 2 sessions 2:30-9:30
  - Callers: TBA
  - Afternoon session C1 and C2 with C3A star tips
  - Evening session C1 and C2 with C3A star tips

### **SDLBA/Caller Lab 2024:**

Caller Lab is March 25-27, 2024 in Grapevine TX.

Plus program definitions will be reviewed/discussed.

### **VASARDA:**

Virginia State Convention to be held February 15 - 17, 2024 at the Holiday Inn Virginia Beach, Norfolk, VA.

**WASCA:**

Washington Area Square Dance Festival to be held March 14 – 16, 2024 in Alexandria, VA.

**USDA:**

United Square Dancers of America Annual meeting to be held 26 June 2024 at the National. We need two delegates to represent the Federation. Visit the USDA website: [USDA.org](http://USDA.org) to view previous webinars.

**NSDC (National Square Dance Convention):**

- 73<sup>rd</sup> NSDC in Milwaukee, Wisconsin – June 26 – 29, 2024
- 74<sup>th</sup> NSDC in Shreveport, Louisiana – June 25 – 28, 2025
- 75<sup>th</sup> NSDC in Waco, Texas – June 24 – 27, 2026

**Old Business:** *No other old business*

**New Business:**

Cheryl stated that she, Carol, Ellen, and Jackie need to talk together regarding the festival. She asked if they could use Brandt's Zoom account and he agreed.

**Club Announcements:**

Four County is hosting a WASCA Theme dance on Jan 28 @ South Carrol Senior Center with Dayle Hodge calling and Amy Shotting cueing.

Dayle's Dancers will host a weekend "Intro to C1" for Advanced dancers and any C1 dancers who would like a refresher on May 10-12. Dancing will be in Dale's basement and attendance is limited.

Dayle's Dancers is hosting a dance on July 12<sup>th</sup> to welcome a dancer visiting the area from Germany.

Swinging Squares next dance is on Feb 17<sup>th</sup> with new dancers and students welcome.

Friendship Squares next dance is Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> with Gary & Amy doing the honors. This is their Chili Cookoff and everyone will have an opportunity to taste all the chili.

Belair Sq Cats is dancing on Jan 27<sup>th</sup> with Dayle & Christina Eum doing the honors. Their Feb 10<sup>th</sup> dance is their halfway dance with 2<sup>nd</sup> hand rose. A plus class starting in Feb.

Amyable Rounders is holding monthly "tea" dances. Their classes are doing well and include non-square dancers.

Fly-In Festival in Harrisburg PA. Ett confirmed and they are looking for two other callers. Festival is November 8-10, 2024.

In response to a question about the hotel registration URL, Geoffrey Elbo added the following information in the Zoom chat box. *URL – Uniform Resource Locator. It is basically a web address that takes you to a web page.*

**Next Delegates Meeting**

Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 2:00pm in person @ Westowne Elementary School.

**Next Board Meeting – Virtual**

Sunday, February 11, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

This may be contingent on the Super Bowl. Options to move it earlier in the day or to another date. TBD at this time.

Motion to Adjourn - Virgil, second from Kathy

Respectfully submitted,  
Darlene Mueller