

Mason Dixon Square Dancers Federation, Inc.

Delegates Meeting via Zoom

26 January 2025

Pledge:

Carol called the meeting to order at 7:10pm and led the Pledge.

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

The minutes were distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. Margie motioned that the minutes be accepted; Jackie second. The motion passed.

Treasure Report:

The treasurer's report was distributed via e-mail prior to the meeting. Carol stated that the December Treasurer's Report was accepted at the Board Meeting on 8 January. She did ask if there were any comments or questions on this report. There were none. Susan commented that we finished the year with a profit due to increased Festival registration fee.

Committee Reports:

59th SSBF, Held July 18 – 20, 2024

Entertainment tax is an outstanding action from the 59th. This is a board action.

60th Festival, July 17-19, 2025 – Ellen Linsenbardt and Jackie Boggs

Jackie reported. Fundraising is in process. T-shirt sales are going well. There is a fundraiser dance in April with \$15/person admission.

Jackie stressed that registrations are key at this time. There are 45 registered dancers.

Delegates, please register. Note that there is a price increase starting April 1st.

Festival information is on the MDSDF website. Links have been updated on the site based on comments at the last board meeting.

Roll Call of Clubs:

Two new clubs have joined the Federation: Sunday Dancers and Village Swingers. Carol welcomed their delegates.

Laura Vykol reported that there are 17 total clubs. 14 clubs are active (including the two new clubs). Laura reported that all 14 active clubs are represented this evening.

Spinning Windmills, Round Ups and Galaxy Stars are on hold.

Membership:

Carol asked Jackie Boggs how many dancers are in the Federation. She did not have that data this evening. Laura requested clarification since many dancers are registered with more than one club. It was agreed that one dancer should only count once, not multiple times.

Jackie e-mailed after the meeting that she calculated 334 total members BUT this does not include membership lists from Village Swingers and Sunday Dancers.

Ambassador Dances:

John Blaisdell sent a report prior to the meeting.

Tom Thumbs and Friendship Squares have held their Ambassador Dances for this season.

The next Ambassador Dance is February 18 at Chesapeake Squares with Dayle Hodge calling.

Tuesday, February 18, 2025	Chesapeake Sq	Dayle Hodge
Sunday, March 9, 2025	Four County Sq	Ken Ritucci
Saturday, April 12, 2025	Belair Square Cats	

Appreciation Dance:

Dance is planned for June 8, 2025 at Westowne Elem. Frederick Promenaders will sponsor this year's dance.

Recruitment and Promotion of New Dancers:

Melanie Jester reported.

All classes have experienced delays due to weather, and may be pushing the end of classes back to June.

Virgil's classes at Belair Square Cats and Friendship Squares are being taught by Ed Trevor.

Doren and Dayle are going to be alternating teaching Four County's class.

The ¾ Way Student Dance will be held on April 13, 2025 at Westowne Elementary. Dayle Hodge will be calling and Amy Shotting cueing.

Club Insurance from USDA:

No clubs using this program. The Federation is the only "club" on this policy.

Certificate of Insurance has been obtained. This coverage is by location. The Federation has coverage for Westowne Elementary School, the Cow Palace and the Double Tree.

Google Group:

Don Pahl was not in attendance. Kathy and John are supporting him. Kathy suggested that the Google group be advertised to the new dancers as they finish up classes.

Website: www.marylandsquaredancing.com

Kathy Zottmann makes updates on the website for clubs as she receives them. She did ask that the two new clubs review the "club pages" and provide their data so that their pages can be created.

Reminder: All clubs should check and make sure that their club pages are current.

Sickness/Distress/Sunshine:

Laura Vykol provided the following update:

Get well card, Virgil Forbes
Thinking of you, Steve Branch
Get well soon, Bev Sumy
Get well soon, Stephanie Corson
Sympathy card, Patricia White for loss of husband Buck
Get well soon, Jan Dommerich

License Tags:

Link to license plate info: <https://www.marylandsquaredancing.com/license-plates>

MACA (Mid-Atlantic Challenge Association):

Kathy Zottmann reported that the MACA spring weekend is April 26-27 with Ken Ritucci at Westowne Elem. Dancing is C1 through C3. The summer dance is being planned.

CallerLab:

The 50th CallerLab Convention is April 13 - 16, 2025 in Greenville, SC.

VASARDA:

Virginia State Convention is February 20 - 22, 2025.

WASCA:

March 20 – 22, 2025 at the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel. 515 registrations so far. Hotel registration and festival registration are separate.

Dayle stated that it might be a good idea to talk to their festival directors to find out how they are getting registrations. His comments are based on dancer feedback.

USDA:

United Square Dancers of America annual meeting is held the Wednesday before the National Square Dance Convention. The meeting typically starts around 1:00pm. The Federation needs two volunteers to represent MDSDF at the meeting.

Visit the USDA website: USDA.org to view previous webinars and learn more about square dancing.

NSDC (National Square Dance Convention):

- 74th NSDC – Shreveport, Louisiana – June 25 – 28, 2025
- 75th NSDC – Waco, TX - June 24 - 27, 2026
- 76th NSDC – Loveland, CO – June 23 – 26, 2027

Old Business

- Carol announced that the board is still working 501c status.

New Business

- Two new clubs have joined the Federation: Village Swingers and Sunday Dancers

Club Announcements:

Time for delegates to share special happenings about their club(s).

Swinging Squares –

Their next dance is on February 15th with Dayle calling. This will be a student level dance.

DC Lambda Squares –

They advertised in the Washington Post and Metro Weekly attempting to reach new dancers for upcoming classes. The club's Anniversary Dance will be held on March 8th from 2:00-5:00 at Francis Scott Key Middle School in Silver Spring. Ken Ritucci is calling. \$15/person at the door.

Sunday Dancers –

Sunday Dancers will have a variety of callers this spring.

Next Delegates Meeting – Virtual

March 16, 2025 @ 7:00 pm via Zoom

Next Board Meeting – Virtual

Sunday, Feb 9, 2025 @ 7:00 pm

Motion to Adjourn – Jackie motioned, Darlene second. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Mueller