MDSDF Delegates Minutes

May 21, 2023

The meeting started at 7:07pm by President Cheryl Rakes and reciting the pledge.

Present: Cheryl Rakes, Carol Eyre, Peggy Lea, Derek Haber, Betty Jones, Laura Vykol, Ellen Linsenbardt

Missing: Brandt B, Helena Jester, Norva Pope

Cheryl made a brief announcement stating that Dayle’s Dancers were now members of our Federation. And possibly Lambda Squares from the DC area may be joining.

Minutes: The March 2023 minutes were reviewed. No changes. Virgil F made a motion to accept; Bruce S seconded. Approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Brandt had sent out the reports. Since he was not at the meeting, there was a question about a $525 dance expense for Cheryl. Peggy Lea made a motion to accept; Virgil seconded. Approved.

58th Festival 2023: Carol Eyre reported that there are 137 people registered, which is not good. Betty J said she was waiting on Patron Lists from Amy and Virgil. Then she would get the lists in order and sent to Dave Dewey, sending the money to Brandt and the lists to Cheryl to type up. 3-2-1 tickets are out. People are at stores selling and others working on returning/handing in monies and tickets. For the Grad Ball, working on getting the forms returned that have been signed by caller teachers. For Computer Numbers SW, Chip is planning to use equipment from WASCA. The program Book is working on getting some ads. It is $25 for a full page – in WORD format and color is ok. Not sure about another meeting, but will check with the Committee Heads about their needs for the BEO.

We need 400 to 500 people to be close to even, so we need lots more people. We don’t have a good number for the registrations from last year this time. But we had under 400 total last year.

How many hotel rooms currently? The last number was 124 – 6 weeks ago. For contract we need 320, but that’s not including the staff and suite rooms yet.

We will pay WASCA a small fee for the use of their computers for the Computer Squares and the use of Swirls cards and RFID card readers that WASCA has purchased. No people are needed to run computer squares as the callers will start the reader to set it up for each tip. Only Ken R has not used the system, so we’ll have to train him. It might be better to store the computers each night. Chip will reset each system several times a day to keep them running properly. “Ask” will be used if a single dance is not matched, it won’t randomly pick someone.

59th Festival 2024: Ellen L reported that they are working on the flyer. The new front has the callers and cuers. Need to re-work the back. The theme is 60’s music/Flower power/peace.

Roll Call: 13 of 15 Clubs represented. Missing Amyable Rounders and Galaxy Stars.

Membership List: Laura was working on updates during the meeting. DC Lambda Squares has been included. Chip and Jackie sent new additional members. Crabtown Squares has closed and has been removed.

Nominations for Board Positions: Cheryl stated that the 3 names for elections are: Betty Jones, Helena Jester, and Mary Dean. We will vote on all three at once. The Board of Directors that are returning are Betty J and Helena J. There are 2 vacancies. Mary Dean will complete one of the vacant terms that ends August 2024. The vote was approved by all. The new 3-year term will begin September 1, 2023.

Next years election, we will have 2 more vacancies for Board Members. And we’d like a new Recording Secretary, so Ellen L can spend more time with Festival duties.

All of the Officers are up the re-election next year!

Ambassador Dances: All 4 dances are done. Two people from each Club attended the Four County Dance. It was a good turnout. John Blaisdell is doing a good job with this – and it encourages club visitation.

Appreciation Dance: The Appreciation Dance will be Sunday, June 11, 2023. Flyers are out – also new ones with the updated location. Four County is working to get items together. A magnet will be the gift (an idea from Friendship). New dancers are invited to attend. There will be an A2 tip. It is a free dance, so we want everyone to come as it is a “Thank You” from MDSDF to all dancers. It was also advertised on MDSDF and WASCA mass emails.

*General Note:* The Catonsville Senior Center is no longer being used. We will now be at Westowne Elementary School on Harlem Lane in Catonsville. If it’s going to be a large event, then we need to request the use of the gym, instead of just the Rec Center room. This is a specific request. For a larger event, it would be setup differently because no food allowed in gym.

Promotion & Recruitment: Helena Jester reported that Frederick County Promenaders had their class graduation last week. Several other classes will graduate this week. There will be summer workshops to keep the new grads interested. Saturday afternoons with Casual Squares will be one such dance.

Insurance: We will need to add the students for the calendar year to USDA.

Google List: Don Pahl reported that there are 343 addresses currently on the Google List.

Website: Nothing new, but Brandt has been working with Kathy Z.

Sickness: Linda Turlington has lost some family members and other family health issues.

License Tags: No requests. Laura may look for someone to take over this job. Perhaps a new person.

MACA: The Spring Dance with Mike Kellogg was a success for C1 & C2. The summer dance will be Saturday, July 21, 2023. There will be A2 & C1 in the afternoon, then C1 & C2 in the evening. Doren McBroom and John Marshall will be calling. It will be at the Masonic Lodge in Northern VA – as previously.

CallerLab: Was in Reno, NV – April 23-26, 2023. Tim Marriner got the Lifetime Achievement Award. Donna M was there to receive it. Jim Mayo has passed.

USDA: We need 2 representatives for the June meeting on Wednesday of the Nationals in Mobile, AL.

WASCA: Nothing to report. They are looking for a new Festival location starting in 2025.

VASARDA: VA State Convention will be in February 2024.

NSDC: 73rd in Milwaukee, Wisconsin – June 26-29, 2024

74th in Shreveport, Louisiana – June 25-28, 2025

OLD Business:

1. Nothing new for Old Business.

NEW Business:

1. Stating again that there will be NOTHING more at the Catonsville Senior Center. All future dances and meetings will be at Westowne Elementary School on Harlem Lane in Catonsville.
2. Motion by Bruce S to cancel the July Delegate Meeting. Virgil seconded. Approved.

Club News:

* Casual Squares will dance Saturday afternoons during the summer.
* Chesapeake Sqs been having good Sunday afternoon dances and they dance all year.
* Four County Sqs – Sunday, May 28, 2023 at the South Carroll Senior Center will have Rick Gittleman calling, and Amy Shotting cueing. DBD will be this Tuesday with Dayle Hodge. June 25 will be the Grad Dance.
* Dayle’s Dancers will be tomorrow for A2. Then DBD Tuesday at Four County. Then they will be dark while they are in Germany. Then back for the rest of the summer. Doren McBroom will be filling in for the DBD times.
* Friendship Sqs will have their “Salute to the Service” the last Friday in May. The June 3 dance with Tom Miller and Peg Kincaid will be at the other church. The first Wed in June will start the Funshops at Jenkins Memorial Church from 7pm to 9pm; cost $7.
* DC Lambda Sqs will have several open houses and blast classes for SSD. November 10-12, 2023 will be the Harvest Hoedown. Other items will be added into the Calendar of Events.
* Swinging Squares has a new home at the Knights of Columbus in Odenton. Their last dance this season will be June 17. There is good AC.

Laura V reminded everyone that she will be attending 2 more dances to collect for the Festival Flooring Fund Raiser. So far she has collected around $3,300 this year.

Reminder… Register for the Festival and signup for Hotel rooms!

Next Delegates Meeting – LIVE ……………..…….. Sunday, September 17, 2023; 2pm

Next Board Meeting via ZOOM….……..…………….....Sunday, June 11, 2023; 7pm

**MOTION:** none

Motion made by Virgil F to adjourn meeting. Darlene M seconded. Approved.

Meeting ended at 8:22pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Linsenbardt