

Mason Dixon Square Dancers Federation, Inc.

Delegates Meeting via Zoom

15 September 2024

Pledge:

Led by Cheryl and the meeting was called to order.

Cheryl introduced the new board and officers. Delegates introduced themselves. Duties of the delegate is to attend the Delegate Meetings, among other things. Duties will be posted on the MDSDF website.

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

The minutes were distributed via email prior to the meeting. Jackie motioned to accept Amy second. Minutes were accepted as written.

Treasure Report:

The treasurer's report was distributed via email prior to the meeting. Brandt has stepped down as treasurer and Susan is the new treasurer. Signatories have been changed at the bank. The bank has agreed that all outstanding checks are still valid. Jackie motioned to accept Darlene second. Motion passed.

Cheryl turned the leadership over to Carol Eyre, the new MDSDF president.

Committee Reports:

59th SSBF, Held July 18 – 20, 2024 reported by Ellen Linsenbardt and Jackie Boggs. The festival was a success. The hotel worked. The "Rockin' 60's" themed decorations were a hit.

Bev made a comment that next year there should be mainstream or plus earlier in the day, suggesting an hour before lunch with more dance time after lunch.

Laura reiterated that if we offer a "Saturday Only" rate, there needs to be something for people to dance to.

Helena reported a total attendance of 319 people.

Beverly enjoyed the Hex Squares.

Suggested that workshops be held.

Brandt asked about the finances. Everything is not paid out yet, but as of now, the festival is \$4000 in the black. Huge win. Big piece of this was Laura's fundraising to offset the cost of the floor.

60th Festival, July 17-19, 2025 reported on the hotel search status. Cost for the Pennsylvania hotel is approximately \$6500. The Double Tree will be \$9000 for 2025, but it is local. Quotes for the airport hotels are closer to \$20K. Right now, the committee is leaning toward the DoubleTree since it is local and the dates are available.

Roll Call of Clubs:

Laura reported that 12 out of 15 clubs are represented this evening. Galaxy Stars, Round Up, and Spinning Windmills are missing.

Membership:

Jackie reported that membership dues are \$1/person. Letters are going to each delegate. The intent is to mail the information around October 1, 2024. Jackie requested payment via check. Dayle reported that he paid membership dues with PayPal last year. Brandt reported that payments can be received via PayPal however there is a 3% fee. Jackie says that there is enough confusion already with the list versus the payment and requested that payment be made via check. Names and e-mail addresses are requested for each member. Other data is optional.

Ambassador Dances:

John Blaisdell is not in attendance. Laura read a report from John. There will be 5 clubs participating this year. The dances are currently scheduled:

Friday, October 4, 2024	Tom Thumbs	Forbes/TBA
Friday, November 15, 2024	Friendship Squares	Harnish/Shotting
Sunday, February 9, 2025	Four County Squares	Ritucci/Shotting
Saturday, April 12, 2025	Belair Square Cats	Farris/Buchanan

Appreciation Dance:

Details were discussed at the board meeting. Westowne Elem is pending. Dance is planned for June 8, 2025

Recruitment and Promotion of New Dancers:

Helena reported that classes have started. Classes at Chesapeake and Lambda started in August. Other clubs are starting now.

Club Insurance from USDA:

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

Google Group:

Don Pahl was not in attendance. There was a question from a delegate about being "kicked off" of the Google list. It was suggested that they contact Don directly.

Website: www.marylandsquaredancing.com

Kathy Zottmann reported that she and John Blaisdell are managing the website calendar. She is trying to keep pictures fresh. Several attendees committed to sending pictures from the festival.

Kathy would like info on classes and student dances to put on the website. Helena, Laura, and Kathy to coordinate.

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

Sickness/Distress/Sunshine:

No updates were received from Evelyn Hawkins. Laura sent 3 requests using the form on the website. Those requests were for “get well” cards for Carol Eyre and Peggy Lea, and “sympathy” for Don and Jane Perham for the loss of a brother. Bev also sent 2 requests. Neither have received confirmation emails. Bev said that she had received confirmation emails in the past. Virgil was asked for an update on Peggy Lea. He reported that Peggy Lea is not home and will be going to some type of facility. She is not a candidate for surgery.

License Tags:

Helena reported that three people have requested applications. She received a photo from one of those people displaying their new tags. We cannot get a list of those who currently have the tags anymore due to privacy concerns.

MACA (Mid-Atlantic Challenge Association):

Kathy reported that the Membership Dance is November 2, 2024 with 2 sessions. There will be a morning and afternoon session instead of an afternoon and evening session. Jeremy Butler in the morning caller. Then lunch and an afternoon session with Bill Harrison. Spring weekend is the last weekend in April with Ken Ritucci.

CallerLab:

Next year’s convention is April 13 - 16, 2025. It is the 50th Convention and will be held in Greenville, SC. Bruce was doing this. Need to see who will assume this role.

VASARDA:

Virginia State Convention is February 20 - 22, 2025.

WASCA:

March 20 – 22, 2025 at the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel. 290 people registered so far. The festival committee is sponsoring a “Game Afternoon” on October 12th at Westowne Elementary to raise funds for the festival.

USDA:

United Square Dancers of America annual meeting was held 26 June 2024. Cheryl reported that no one was able to attend and represent the federation. 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 *No other old business*

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New Business *No other old business*

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Club Announcements:

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

Friendship Squares – Halloween Dinner Dance, register in advance (see Laura) and a New Year's Eve dance with Virgil and Amy. First class on Wednesday in Glen Burnie. All dances will be at Glen Burnie Improvement Association GBIA.

Swinging Squares – Dancing resumes on 9/21 @ Bechtel Hall, Odenton, MD.

Four County Squares – The club held their first dance this afternoon with Mike Sikorsky and Amy Shotting. There were 6 squares attending. Their first class was last Monday with 14 students. Their next dance is November 10th.

Amyable Rounders – Amy reported that the PA Festival was a huge success.

The next Tea Dance is September 28th at Catonsville UMC. Classes have started and are open for the next 3 weeks.

Dayle's Dancers – Kathy reported that the club is dancing at advanced levels. See Kathy for details.

A question was asked about student dances. June stated that student dances at Swinging Squares start in December. Jackie mentioned that Four County holds a student dance in January.

Chesapeake Squares – The club is dancing Tuesday, September 17th, with Dayle calling.

DC Lambda Squares – Brian reported that their WASCA theme dance is this Thursday. Rumor is that the dress code will be relaxed.

Darren Gallina from CA will be calling for us virtually on October 10th.

Our festival/fly-in is November 8-10 in Harrisburg, PA. T-shirts are available on Amazon that are printed on demand and mailed out with the person's color choice and size. This is a low-cost way to have custom T-shirts.

Next Delegates Meeting – Virtual

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Next Board Meeting – Virtual

Sunday, October 13, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

Motion to Adjourn – Kathy motioned, Amy second. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Mueller