

Mason-Dixon Square Dancers Federation, Inc.
Delegates meeting held virtually via Zoom January 17, 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 that it could. The last delegates meeting was held on January 19, 2020 and the minutes are on the MDSDF website. There were no meetings held between January 2020 and January 2021 due to Covid 19.

Treasurer's Report: No activity.

John Blaisdell had sent Tom Thumbs membership list along with a check for their membership dues. Peggy Lea will send the check to Brandt to deposit.

Cheryl introduced the Board of Directors: Cheryl Rakes, President

Ellen Linsenbardt: Acting Vice President

Laura Vykol: President of Friendship Squares & Corresponding Secretary for MDSDF

Brandt Braunschweig: new Treasurer

Denise Latimer: new Recording Secretary

Norva Pope, Telephone Tree: Former President of Friendship Squares and Four County Squares, former Star Spangled Banner Festival Director, & was Assistant General Chairman of the 49th National Square Dance Convention

Peggy Lea Gosnell: Membership

Helena Jester: Recruitment and Promotion of New Dancers

Betty Jones: new to the board

Tom Turlington: not present

Carol Eyre: Past President & Festival Director

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Roll Call: Laura Vykol took attendance. Belair Square Cats were the only club that did not have a delegate present.

Star Spangled Banner Festival:

The Festival for 2021 has been cancelled. Work has started on the 2022 Festival.

Carol Eyre has three callers & two cuers committed for the 2022 Festival.

Virgil Forbes asked if 2020 & 2021 Festival registrations have been rolled over to the 2022 festival? There were fifteen registrations refunded to dancers, but the rest of the registrations have been rolled over to 2022.

Membership: Each club please send Peggy Lea Gosnell club membership information. Clubs may send checks for membership dues, but it's optional.

Special Dances:

The *Heart Fund Dance* would need a new sponsor since Dublin Dancers folded.

Ambassador Dance: Amy Shotting **thought** we previously discussed ending the Ambassador Dances because there were so few clubs participating.

Peggy Lea requested that club members donate to the Heart Fund for someone they know. Cheryl will contact Emma Hahn for the heart fund donation specifics.

Friendship Squares agreed to be sponsoring the *Appreciation Dance* in May of 2022.

Parks & Rec: Peggy Lea had not spoken to anyone about use of the Catonsville Senior Center when activities resume.

Recruitment and Promotion of New Dancers: Any ideas are welcome. Helena will try to get a contact list for clubs and new dancers when they continue classes.

Club Insurance: Don Pahl stated the website was USDA.org/insurance.php.

Norva Pope asked Don to contact club Presidents when we resume dancing & talk to each club. \$4.85 per dancer is the cost.

Someone asked the difference between the 2 insurances: WASCA & USDA. One cannot use your personal home for dances, it must be a commercial location for USDA Insurance. Some clubs have insurance through WASCA. Don will list & send out.

GOOGLE Group is 333 strong for square dance emails. Don is moderating.

Website:

Don Pahl said there is a cookie issue with the website, but nothing dangerous. Bill Phelps summarized some of the issues with the website. There is a security warning on some browsers. Since we don't collect data or any money, the website is secure for our use. Discussion ensued. Bill will work with Brandt to update the website and for redevelopment of the website.

Telephone Tree: Please send any information to Norva and Laura.

Sickness/Distress/Sunshine:

Laura reported she had sent a sympathy card to Crystal McCoy and family on the death of her father, Mark White.

Bea Kolchin passed last fall but no contact information was available to send a card to the family.

A get well card was sent to Jack Kenny on 11-16 -20 & a sympathy card to his wife Sherri Kenny, on 12-3-20.

A get well card was sent to Jerry Story on 12-3-20 & a sympathy card was sent to the Story family on 12-25-20.

A sympathy card was sent to Kathy Zottmann on 12-5-20 for the loss of her father.

A sympathy card was sent to Kathie on October 13, 2020, for the loss of her husband, Bill Koppenhaver.

Deaths: Jim Leslie; Daryl Davis' mother, Elinore MacFarlane; Dave Coffman; John (Happy) Burlinson; & Sherry Ann Downs. Shirley Hoff passed away last week. She danced with Gingham Squares & Four County Squares.

Linda Sellner is home and back to work.

License Tags: No activity.

SDLBA-Square Dance Leaders Baltimore Area:

Bruce Simperts reported that there is no information on Callerlab.

MACA-Mid-Atlantic Challenge Association: is planning a dance for August, but needs a location.

USDA-United Square Dancers of America was doing Zoom seminars on 501(c)3. Brandt and Cheryl attended.

WASCA-Washington Area Square Dancers Cooperative Association: C.T. Montgomery reported some round dancers are dancing. WASCA cancelled the 2020 & 2021 Festivals. 2022 is a scheduled event. The Virginia State Convention moved to a new location & is still scheduled for May, 2022.

Nationals is scheduled for June in Jackson, Miss.

Myrtle Beach held an event last September. Some became sick afterwards & five died, so be patient.

Old Business

The Directory is on hold.

New Business:

Bev and Mike Sumy proposed a *Welcome Back Dance*.

Nominations are due soon for the *Board positions* of Tom, Norva, & a vacancy.

Activities: Friendship Squares did a picnic & pickle-ball. Some are dancing virtually.

Belair Square Cats have been virtually meeting.

Chesapeake Squares had two socially distanced picnics & handed out a survey. Monthly they have been doing Zoom meetings. People are interested in joining small groups for outdoor activities and they have had topic driven social meetings.

Derek Haber said Dan Grimes is calling every Wednesday for Virtual Dancing. Second Monday is for social dance & the group has played Jeopardy.

Crabtown: *Toys for Tots* raised \$400 plus in donations.

Covid-19 Vaccine progress: There was an update as to how various counties were handling the vaccination process.

How to handle those not vaccinated? There was a discussion as to steps that could be taken to ensure safety when dancing is able to resume. Virgil Forbes said there is a group discussing how to *restart Square Dancing*.

Virgil has talked with two of three clubs for refresher dances (8-10). Virgil suggested contacting everyone to say, "Now's a good time to refresh." Belair Square Cats, Frederick Promenaders, Friendship Squares, and Tom Thumb are all planning/hoping to hold classes this fall, following the models they have used in the past. Swinging Squares is discussing whether to hold a regular

beginners class or to offer a Mainstream/Plus review, but all plans depend upon school availability. Four County Squares are open to the idea of holding a class.

Next Delegate's meeting: will be held March 21, 2021 at 2:00 pm which will be held via Zoom.

Adjournment: Virgil Forbes moved to adjourn and Bruce Simperts seconded the motion at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Latimer