

## **Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Dance Society**

### **Minutes of the Executive Committee**

January 30, 2019

**Phone meeting:** Marsha Byrnes, Sue Chari, Cathy Crabtree, Karen Gansz, Sharon Gilmour, Susan Haines, Jeffrey Hopper, Winifred McGowan, John Salyards, Jeremy Thorpe

**Guest:** MaryEllen Scannell

- 1. Minutes from the January 9, 2019 meeting (December meeting)** – The minutes were approved with the addition of information concerning the fees with online registration for Pinewoods.
- 2. Treasurer's Report (Cathy)** – Cathy reports that the total liabilities and net assets stand at \$56,785. Registrations for Pinewoods continue to come in, so the assets will be increasing until the Pinewoods Camp payments are due starting in April. The recent workshop held in Fairlee, VT brought in \$425 while the expenses totaled \$540. The Branch covered the price difference. The March hall rental for the Candidates Class (to be held at the First Parish Church in Weston) has been prepaid.
- 3. Old Business –**
  - a. Policies and Procedures Review – In looking at the Membership section, the question remains of what do members really get for being members of the Branch? Membership gives members a discount to official Branch events and helps the Branch classes to qualify to receive an annual music subsidy and to be covered by the Branch insurance. There was a discussion concerning Life Members, and Exec decided to keep that category for the time being. Membership packets are available from Headquarters, and Jeremy will try to get some for each Branch class.
- 4. Reports from Liaisons –**
  - a. Highland Ball (May 11, 2019) (Cathy) – MaryEllen Scannell presented the Budget for the Ball Weekend. The numbers are based on 130 attendees and includes fees for use of the Branch sound system on Friday and Sunday, an increase for the Saturday sound person, an increase in the music budget for Sunday, and some dollars for decorations (which may not be needed). During cocktails, the plan is to play Dave Wiesler's CDs on the sound system, and all of the food will be provided upstairs and not on the floor. There is no need for a police officer this year, and most of the volunteer positions have been filled. The registration for is ready to go-live with the same prices as for last year. Exec. approved the budget.

Suggestions were made for possible co-chairs for the 2020 Highland Ball. Please let Jeremy know if you have other suggestions.

- b. Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (July 5-13, 2019) (Jeremy) – The application has been posted online, and many registrations have been submitted.
- c. ESCape (July 1-5,2019) (Sharon) – The application is out and available as a Google form. Cathy will contact the co-chairs, April Birnie and Daniel Potter, to determine how she will be receiving the registration fees.
- d. Joint Ceilidh (November 2019) (Cathy) – No date has yet been decided for the 2019 Joint Ceilidh. Linda McJannet is contacting the Irish Social Club for available dates in October and November. Our intention is to avoid scheduling it at the same time as Fiddle Hell Weekend (November 7-10, 2019).
- e. New Hampshire Highlands (August 23-25, 2019) (Susan) – The committee is still working the roster of teachers. Terry Traub will be the Music Director.
- f. Loon Mountain Games (September 20-22, 2019) (Jeffrey) – Nothing to report at this time.
- g. Teaching and Music Committee (Marsha) – At their recent meeting, the TMC reviewed the class descriptions, the class grids, and what the teachers are teaching at Pinewoods this summer. The committee would like to see the final version of the Youth Guidelines.  
Exec needs to know who is leaving the TMC this year.
- h. *Tartan Times* (Susan) – Barbara and Evelyn inquired as to whether or not the contact/event chairs information on page two of the *Tartan Times* is correct. It seems to be except there is a question of if Patti Tillotson is still the TAC Rep.
- i. Boston Scottish Country Dancers (Marsha) – The team will be starting rehearsals for their NEFFA performance (April 12-14, 2019). They performed at the 12th Annual Ancient Universities Burns Night on January 26<sup>th</sup>, but the new venue was not ideal for doing a demonstration.  
A process for joining the team still needs to be put in place versus just showing up or waiting to be asked.
- j. Membership (Susan) – John Scannell reports that there have been no changes since last month's report.
- k. Nominating Committee (Marsha) – Nothing to report at this time.
- l. Website (Jeffrey) – The webmasters need updated information for Scottish Sessions, ESCape, and the Highland Ball.
- m. Bookstore (Cathy) The Bookstore has received a donation of gently used books that they will be selling.
- n. Class Liaisons –
  - Chelmsford, MA and Nashua, NH (John) – The two classes have been working on Burns Night Dances and performed a demonstration tonight under the guidance of MaryEllen Scannell.

- Stow, MA (Sharon) – Vickery Trinkaus-Randall reports that the class has two sets. Elizabeth Anderson will be providing the music for the SDCEA Scholarship Dance on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Salem, MA (Sharon) – Everything is fine.
- Northampton, MA (Winifred) – The class is meeting at the Florence Civic Center with four to five couple and a couple of new dancers. They plan to hold their end-of-the-year party on June 1<sup>st</sup> pending confirmation on the hall.
- Cambridge, MA (Sue) - In December, the Intermediate Class was led by Karen Sollins and the Social Hour by Laura DeCesare, and the successful Holiday Party was led by Beth Birdsall. In January, Robert McOwen led the Intermediate Class and Jen Schoonover the Social Hour.
- Brookline/Newton, MA (Sue) – The two classes will be hosting a Tea Party on Sunday March 10, 2019 with music by Elizabeth Anderson and Beth Murray. The MCs will be Flo Hearn, Heather Day, and Evelyn Murray. The request for a music subsidy for two musicians was approved by Exec.

**5. New Business –**

**6. Next Meetings –**

- a. February 27 at Marsha's at 7:15 PM
- b. March 27 -