

Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Dance Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee

September 30, 2020

Zoom meeting: Marsha Byrnes, Bill Card, Cathy Crabtree, Karen Gansz, Susan Haines, Winifred McGowan, Linda McJannet, Lance Ramshaw, Jeremy Thorpe

Guests: Peter and Mary Olszowka

1. **At-Large member** – Lance Ramshaw moved (Marsha Byrnes second) to accept Bill Card as an at-large member of the Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously. There is still one vacant at-large position.
2. **Minutes from the August 26, 2020 meeting** – The minutes were approved with a correction to the concert and grant payment to the musicians in the Pinewoods Scottish Sessions.
3. **Treasurer's Report (Cathy)** - Cathy reports that the cash balance stands at \$73,484, just over \$10,000 more than last year at this time. This is due to more Pinewoods money on hand. We have received the \$200 deposit for the Ceilidh from the Irish Social Club. Recent expenses include postage for mailing the *Tartan Times* and the book order for the Ed Rawson awards.
4. **New Business** –
 - a) Music subsidies for virtual events – Should the music subsidy for virtual events remain the same as for live events? Even though the event is not bringing in the money that it would as a live event, the musicians are still working hard. Cathy suggested payment of 75% of the normal fee (normal fees are \$365 if the class has 12 members and \$265 for less than 12 members). Bill suggested that classes could be asked what they would pay the musicians, or they could be referred to the SDCEA.
After further discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and approved to keep the subsidies the same for both virtual and live events.
 - b) Delegates for HQ AGM, November 7, 2020 via Zoom at 9 AM – The slate of delegates to the HQ AGM is needed by early October. Linda, Cathy, and Jeremy agreed to serve as delegates, and Cathy will ask Jean Farrington if she is also willing to serve.
5. **Reports from Liaisons** –
 - a) Nominating Committee (Marsha) – Lucinda Brandt has agreed to fill the vacancy on the Nominating Committee. A motion was made, seconded, and approved for Lucinda to take this role. There is still one vacant at-large position on the Executive Committee.
 - b) Membership (Susan) – Peter and Mary Olszowka joined the meeting as the new Membership co-chairs. They report that they have been receiving mail and applications but have not yet tried accessing HQ. Cathy is trying to obtain the templates for the directory and the membership reports. Peter and Mary

will need to let John Crabtree know which members want to receive paper copies of the *Tartan Times*, and Exec will need to know the class numbers and the names of new members (so a new member packet can be sent to them).

- c) ESCape (Jeremy) – Nothing to report at this time.
- d) Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (Jeremy) – The major item to report is that Carl Mastandrea has left as the Executive Director of Pinewoods Camp. The search is on for a replacement. Bill will check with Bruce Mabbott concerning any decisions from the Board of Directors.
- e) Teaching and Music Committee (Marsha) – The TMC would like Exec to encourage the SDCEA to make funds available to teachers. They may have already done this, but the SDCEA is an independent organization and Exec does not have power over them.

The question that has not been answered is why Exec selects the Ball musicians. More background information is needed.

The Canadian American Club needs money so perhaps Cambridge class members would consider joining. In lieu of the Canadian American Club fundraiser, the Branch 3rd Sunday event for November has been cancelled. Karen Sollins questioned if the Branch was in compliance for accessibility issues in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. We should be because the Branch is not linked to a specific location.

- f) Highland Ball (Marsha) – Katie McNally had agreed to be the Band Leader for the 2021 Ball. The contract for the hall for Friday evening has been sent to Marsha and we are penciled in on their calendar, but they do not yet want any money.
- g) Equipment (Lance) – Thom Howe is now in a new house with a larger basement. He is thinking about the needs of musicians during the pandemic and whether the mixer or other new pieces of equipment could contribute there.
- h) Loon Mountain Games (Karen) – In lieu of the live games, a virtual Solo Piping and Drumming and Quartet Competition was held.
- i) Joint Ceilidh (cancelled)(Cathy) – Nothing to report at this time.
- j) Boston Scottish Country Dancers (Marsha) – Nothing to report at this time.
- k) New Hampshire Highlands (Susan) – – Roberta Lasnik reports that the ice cream social/benefit Ceilidh was a success. Enough money was raised to cover a portion of the staff's fees, and a small donation was sent to St. Methodios (the Greek Camp).
All the teachers and musician have said yes for being on staff in August 2021.
- l) *Tartan Times* (Susan) – Nothing to report at this time.
- m) Website (Lance) – Now that the Membership co-chairs are in place, Meyer Billmers is anxious to update/reload the Membership information.
- n) Bookstore (Cathy) – Nothing to report at this time.

o) Class Liaisons –

- Brunswick, ME (Karen) – Patti Tillotson says that the classes continue. They will be doing their Annual Fall Dance party on October 17, only this time as an online event.
Patti is doing a review session both this week and next. The Zoom link for the dance will go out next week. Patti will send the link through their distribution list, Beth's Scottish messages and on the website. Ed Pearlman and Beth Murray will be playing.
- Cambridge, MA (Lance) – The Cambridge Class meets via Zoom and with live music for the Social Hour.

6. Old Business –

- a) SAGM – November 9, 2020 via Zoom – Members should be encouraged to bring questions and concerns

7. Next Meeting –

- a) October 28
- b) ? December 2