

RSCDS Boston Branch Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 28, 2022 7:15pm

Location: Zoom link <https://bentley.zoom.us/j/96473604914> (no passcode needed)

(Phone link in email of 9/26/22)

Linda's cell 1-617-417-1621

Attendance: Anne Johnson, Linda McJannet, Alena Taylor, Bill Card, Marsha Byrnes, Cathy Crabtree, Emily Russell, Ted Randolph. Missing: David Grubb, Connie Kent

Agenda

1. Minutes from the previous meeting *Approved*.
2. Treasurer's report (**Cathy**)
 - a. 9/30 will be the end of the fiscal year. We will likely end with a bit of a shortfall: currently -\$132.82.
 - b. Pinewoods Scottish sessions summary: near final. Thanks to donations, we were able to end with a net income of \$1,075.29. Waiting for Debbie and Catherine to confirm the final numbers and send the final check to PCI.
3. New business (**Linda**)
 - a. Date for Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November
 - i. Headquarters AGM is November 4-5, 2022
 - ii. Boston Branch SAGM Monday November 14, 2022 *in-person Cambridge/hybrid*. Zoomers can submit questions via chat, provide reports in advance for someone who will be in attendance.
 - b. Delegates and ballot for HQ AGM—volunteers? – we will be able to vote on proposals (fee increase & children membership category) via proxy.
4. Scheduled reports from liaisons
 - a. Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (**Connie/Cathy**)
 - i. Tim Pixton mentioned that we are a little behind on what we pay musicians. Also the travel reimbursement (\$0.14 per mile) to be discussed with budget in the December exec meeting.
5. Optional reports from liaisons
 - a. Membership-progress on membership drive (**Cathy**)
 - i. 91 members enrolled as of today. 40 singles, 21 couples. Our own possible rate change will be discussed in the May exec meeting, before our AGM.
 - b. Teaching & Music Committee (**Marsha**)
 - i. Candidate classes will not happen this year. Officer election for TMC... they remain the same as last year. NEFFA is open for applications, due by the end of October. Starting to prepare for 2023 Pinewoods. No

workshops this year.

- c. Boston Branch Scottish Country Dancers (**Marsha**)
 - i. Harvard Sq. last weekend went well with 4 dances, 4 couples and a few “try-it” folks. They are working to put together dances for the fall concert.
 - ii. Last meeting Anne was talking about a separate demo team for other Maine festivals and Loon mtg games. 1 team from Brunswick, 1 team from Belfast.
- d. Highland Ball (**Marsha**)
 - i. Elizabeth needs to have a co-chair. There may be someone at our SAGM, we will make an announcement. Working with Cathy to have a budget for November. Karen Sollins is putting together the program. It will be a bit shorter than previous years. Elizabeth would like to keep the caterer.
- e. Fall 2022 Concert (**Linda**)
 - i. Sent about 400 post cards, Tartan Times ad, and website update. Andy will be program choreographer, Alasdair will play more Scottish music. Ticket sales: 111 sold as of today. Please push this concert 100% within the next month. Alena to work through the publicity list, as will Linda. Cathy will put together the volunteer chart next week. Reminder: there will be no food.
- f. ESCape (**Bill**)
 - i. Nothing new since last exec
- g. Website (**David**)
 - i. Updating event pages (PW, ESC, Concert, etc.) No updates
 - ii. website history page (to nudge Linda)
- h. Nominating Committee (**Marsha**): New member ideas?
 - i. Everyone has said “no” so far. Please continue to think of possible people and inform Marsha. Linda will ask MaryEllen Scannell for suggestions.
- i. Equipment (**Connie**) No report
- j. Publicity (**Alena**)
 - i. 132 Meetup Members, Susie and Charles agreed to post Cambridge class for all 5 Mondays in October.
- k. Loon Mountain Games (Sept. 16-18) (**Alena**)
 - i. We ran SCD "Try Its" on all three days and I estimate that we had over 80 people dancing with us over the 3 days. I'm pretty sure we have gained a new couple in Greenland from the Games, I'm hoping there will be others, but at least the idea is planted. Thanks go to Betty Allen and Sherri Mancusi for filling in to promote the dance at our promotional tent. The Games folks gave us an indoor space to dance on Sunday afternoon because of impending rain; I'm hoping we can obtain that space as a

permanent place to dance in future games.

- l. New Hampshire Highlands (**Anne**)
 - i. Haven't heard any feedback yet.
 - m. Tartan Times (**Emily**)
 - i. No updates currently
 - n. Bookstore (**Alena**)
 - i. No news
 - o. Class Liaisons (see page 2)
6. Continuing business
- a. **Music subsidy:** New fiscal year starts Oct 1. A class needs 8 paid members to get \$265 and 12 paid members to get \$365 based on current fiscal year membership. Our membership email gives until Oct. 31st, should we give a grace period of October for subsidy? Some classes don't dance through the summer to encourage membership before the end of September. Question of whether this grace period should be permanent? If changes need to be made to the by-laws, this should be brought up at the next exec meeting. Cathy will make a proposal.
 - b. **Waning Classes:** At what point to groups that don't meet at all...at what point do we say they no longer exist? (Newton and Brookline) Speak to dancers who has attended, and they may be waiting for a leader to step forward.
7. Next Meeting: October 26 *Approved.*
- a. November meeting is November 30.
 - b. December meeting will be January 4. (Emily may be having a baby that week)
 - c. January meeting will be January 25.

Optional reports: Archives (Emily); Calendar (Marsha)

CLASS LIAISONS

Great Barrington, MA: **Ted**

Couple members moved to CA. Wants to post classes on Meetup

Northampton, MA: **Ted**

Ilene asked Cathy about music subsidy.

Albany, NY: **Ted**

Party will be end of October. Remote teacher for hybrid class doesn't have power for over 1 week, keep in our thoughts

Greenland, NH: **Bill**

Plan to start dancing on Oct. 11th.

Nashua, NH: **Bill**

Weekly head-count basis. If 6 show up, they hold class. Will host a New Year's party.

Kennebunk, ME: **Bill**

Dancing since Sept. 11th. 1 new couple. They've been promoting new membership.

Belfast, ME: **Anne**

They dance through the summer, and are continuing to have strong attendance

Brunswick, ME: **Anne**

Request October party music subsidy based on last year's numbers. Approved by executive committee in principle.

Bucksport, ME: **Anne**

Have been dancing with 6-10 dancers, with a lot of newer dancers.

Lancaster, NH: **David**

Fairlee, VT: **David**

Burlington, VT: **Connie**

Cambridge, MA: **Emily**

No news

Brookline, MA: **Emily**

No news

Newton, MA: **Emily**

No news

Bedford, MA: **Emily**

Continuing to meet regularly.

Salem, MA: **Alena**

No news, still working with Salem community to find a feasible space.

Stow, MA: **Alena**

Starting October 14th. While their post said masks optional - they are required for now.

Chelmsford, MA: **Alena**

We met last month and had two three couple sets even on the Friday of a holiday weekend. We will be meeting on Oct 7. Still requiring masks (and vaccinations).