

RSCDS Boston Branch Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 31, 2024, 7:15 pm

Location: Zoom access use link in email OR call: 617 417 1621

Attendance: Linda McJannet, Cathy Crabtree, Connie Kent, Kat Dutton, David Grubb, Anne Johnson, Marshy Byrnes, Alena Taylor, Ted Randolph

Agenda

1. Minutes from the previous meeting (**Alena**)
 - a. Approved with corrections from Anne via email.
2. Treasurer's report (**Cathy**)
 - a. Demo team income this year was a bit more than last year. More music subsidies paid out *last* year at this time vs this year; the \$800 rent paid was for the 2022 Pinewoods Benefit Ball. (The rent was subsequently repaid.)
 - b. Cathy proposed \$40,000 to be invested in a 12-month CD. Approved. Cathy will invest with Eastern Bank.
3. Reports from class liaisons
 - a. David asked class liaisons to send the current website class description to their class contact and ask if it needs an update.

Great Barrington, MA: **Ted** no news. Classes moved to Wednesday night. 4 classes in a row without cancelling.

Northampton, MA: **Ted** Eileen responded that all is well.

Albany, NY: **Ted** Flurry is coming up Feb 16-18, and workshops did make it into the calendar.

Greenland, NH: **Anne** Weather issues – a few classes were cancelled, but Burns dinner was successful.

Nashua, NH: **Anne** no news

Kennebunk, ME: **Anne** Weather issues – only danced once this month. Down east set for June 8th.

Belfast, ME: **Anne** no news. They will do their Memorial Day dance party.

Brunswick, ME: **Anne** Were able to dance each week, with about 8 people. 2 new dancers. Oct. 19th for fall dance party

Bucksport, ME: **Anne** Classes continue each Monday night with 6 to 7 couples. Valentine's party

Lancaster, NH: **David** no updates.

Fairlee, VT: **David** continuing classes. May 18th party

Cambridge, MA: **Kat** no formal report. Burns Night party was lovely.

Bedford, MA: **Emily**

Salem, MA: **Connie** no report
Stow, MA: **Connie** 2 sets last Friday.
Chelmsford, MA: **Connie** no report

Scheduled business

4. Pinewoods Scottish Sessions Budget and Application (**Marc and Keira Hartstein**)
 - a. Budget proposal PCI has raised their rates, which will impact on the budget for this year. S2 daily discount from 28% to 17%, left both session discount. We will work in forward years to close the gap between session 1 and session 2.
 - i. Proposal 1: Camper Fees \$400 session 1, \$550 session 2, \$900 both.
 - ii. Proposal 2: Camper Fees \$400 session 1, \$500 session 2, \$875 both.
 - iii. Marsha proposed \$410/\$530/\$890 using proposal 1. Connie seconded. Approved.
 - b. TOTAL EXPENDITURES (\$94,337 + 25 waivers)
 - c. Attendance is the biggest question. Budget includes a few scenarios of full camp vs. empty beds and previous years.
 - d. No insight as to covid protocols from PCI at this point.
 - e. At this point, there is not a significant value-add to create post cards to publicize Pinewoods this year. Marc will be creating flyers to send to class leaders across the Eastern Seaboard.
 - f. Marc will circulate a drafted application including how we will handle kids. One rate for 13+. Younger than 13 can be negotiated on a one-off basis. Paperwork must also reflect PCI's rules about youth at camp.

Reports from committee liaisons

5. Teaching & Music Committee (**Kat**)
 - a. Gender-neutral terminology poll of TMC – The draft should be sent to exec within a couple of weeks.
 - b. Pinewoods scheduling for musicians and teachers.
6. Boston Scottish Country Dancers (**Marsha**)
 - a. Planning on participating in NEFFA, not a lot of dancers yet.
 - b. Looking for new dancers to join the team. Linda suggested that Andy host another open house. Exec agrees. Rehearsals likely at the Armory in Somerville on Sunday evenings from 6-8pm
7. Highland Ball (**Marsha**)
 - a. No updates.
8. Nominating Committee (**Marsha**)
 - a. Merrill said the committee hasn't met yet but plans to schedule one soon via Zoom.
9. Fall 2024 Concert (**Cathy**)
 - a. We have a date! Venue: Arts at the Armory Sunday November 24, 2024 (Sunday before Thanksgiving) Will be approaching a music group headliner named "Scottish Fish".
10. ESCape (**Connie**)

- a. Registration is open, but not yet widely publicized. Will be sent out more widely within the next week or so. 41 people registered (no deposit yet) already!
- 11. Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (**Kat**)
 - a. See Marc and Kiera's report above.
- 12. Membership (**Anne**)
 - a. The membership directory went out. A few new members have joined since then.
 - b. Thank you to Peter O. for all the support and time to transition the database.
 - c. Can we establish an auto-renewal...Cathy is waiting to hear more information to bring a presentation to exec.
 - d. Anne has been able to respond to first-time members to welcome them.
- 13. Website (**David**) and Calendar (**Marsha**)
 - a. Who's Who is in the right place, but please check it again to ensure the list is updated and let David know.
 - b. We now have a clickable link on the sidebar for each online class
 - c. Problems with adding a tab for the Tartan Times are caused by line wrapping. The fix is to make a new tab 'Keep in Touch' (done) which will contain the Tartan Times and the 'Subscribe' page (not yet done).
- 14. Equipment (**Connie**)
 - a. No report
- 15. Publicity and Social Media Committee (**Alena**)
 - a. Susie provided a note to Robert, asking him to send notice to all certified teachers, not just class teachers to ask if anyone was interested in a teaching opportunity.
 - b. Teacher meeting happens through Robert – Exec doesn't need to establish additional zoom calls.
 - c. Anne encouraged us to promote dancing in all areas and not just Boston.
 - d. The next meeting agenda is for social media.
- 16. Loon Mountain Games (3rd weekend Sept) (**Marsha**)
 - a. Nothing to report.
- 17. Bookstore (**Emily**)
 - a. Nothing to report.
- 18. Tartan Times (**Linda**)
 - a. The new edition went out successfully. Next edition is already in progress.

Continuing business:

- 19. Revised Perpetual Calendar (**Linda**) January 6th version - Approved.

New business:

- 20. Jeremy and Kendra are willing to run Pinewoods a few years from now. (Keep this in the back of your minds)

Adjournment - Approved

Next Meeting: February 28, 2024, at 7:15 PM

