

**Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Dance Society**  
**Minutes of the Executive Committee**  
May 23, 2018

**Phone meeting:** Janet Anderson, Marsha Byrnes, Sue Chari, Cathy Crabtree, Sharon Gilmour, Susan Haines, Jeffrey Hopper, John Salyards, Jeremy Thorpe

**Absent:** Cathy Goode

**Guest:** Kat Dutton

- 1. Minutes from the April 25, 2018 meeting** – The minutes were accepted as submitted.
- 2. Treasurer's Report** (Cathy C.) – Cathy reports that the current total liabilities and net assets stand at \$78,990, mainly due to Pinewoods deposits plus about \$5000 coming for ESCape. The income from the Highland Ball is nearly complete. Jen Schoonover taught at a Scottish Family Day held at the Canadian/American Club. This was not a Branch event but was good for community outreach. Cathy will check with Charles Liu and Jen to see if Branch support may be wanted for next year.
- 3. Reports from Liaisons –**
  - a) Joint Ceilidh (November 10, 2018) (Cathy C.) – Nothing new to report at this time.
  - b) Highland Ball (May 18 – 20, 2018) (Cathy C.) – Kat Dutton reports that not all of the reimbursements have been submitted nor has the final catering bill been received, but the estimated loss will be less than \$1000. There were 130 to 135 people in attendance, but there was a decrease in some of the operating costs. The “appetizer method” versus a dinner seemed to be liked by the attendees and gave them more freedom to socialize. More food options will be explored for next year as will more desserts. The Friday Welcome Dance was quite nice with about 55 people in attendance. The cost of the hall was \$240, and the cost of the musicians was \$500, so this portion of the weekend was a breakeven event. The Ball committee is suggesting that the Friday Welcome Dance be included in the Ball Weekend price but with the option for individual pricing. The Committee also suggested trying to avoid holding the Ball on the same weekend as Pawling. We are currently penciled in for May 18, 2019. Other things to think about are to ask if the hall has tall tables for our use, and to consider bringing in desserts provided by a licensed food preparer (pending the final figures from the caterer). A different location for the Sunday Brunch is also needed. Kat will be sending out a survey to obtain feedback on the Ball. Cathy will check with the hall to find out which dates are available for 2019. Ball chairs are needed for 2019. Please be prepared with a list of names for the next Exec meeting.

- c) ESCape (July 2 – 6, 2018)(Sharon) – The money from deposits has been coming in, but Cathy has not yet received a list for who will need to be paid.
- d) Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (July 6 – 14, 2018) (Jeremy) – There is a wait list of 3 people for Session II. A silent Auction Coordinator is needed for Session II, and a 1<sup>st</sup> Timers Hostess is needed for Session I. Laurie Somario, Kat Dutton, and Ellen Wood will be the chairs for 2019 with Laura DeCesare as Jobs Coordinator. There was some confusion on the dates for 2019, but Scottish Sessions will be from July 5 through July 13, 2019.
- e) New Hampshire Highlands (August 24 – 26, 2018) (Susan) – This year’s camp will once again be held at the St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center in Contoocook, NH, but, because of an increase in rates from the diocese, the committee will be looking for a new location for next year’s weekend. With all the delays in finally getting a signed contract with the camp, the committee really wants to promote the weekend and fill the camp. The teachers for 2018 are Martha Kent, Lance Ramshaw, and Jen Schoonover, and the musicians are Terry Traub as music director plus Elizabeth Anderson, Elke Baker, and Howard Lasnik.
- f) Loon Mountain Games (September 2018) (Jeff) – There is nothing new to report, but Jeff will once again have bracelets to pass out.
- g) Teaching and Music Committee (Janet) – The committee continues to work on both Pinewoods 2018 and 2019. They would like to know the date of the 2019 Highland Ball and who will be the chairs. Rebecca Gore has agreed to remain on the Committee, and two other members are still considering. Any new members should be selected by the end of June.
- h) *Tartan Times* (Susan) – Nothing to report.
- i) Boston Scottish Country Dancers (Marsha) – The team has a couple of upcoming gigs – May 29<sup>th</sup> at a nursing home and June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Dance for World Community Festival. The group would like information concerning the Joint Ceilidh as soon as it is available.  
The procedure for bringing in new members needs to be formalized.  
Recruitment could occur during the summer.
- j) Membership (Cathy G.) – Nothing to report.
- k) Nominating Committee (Marsha) – Winifred McGowan and Karen Gansz have agreed to run for positions as members-at-large on the Executive Committee. Ed Pokrass’ term on the Nominating Committee is expiring, so Exec will need to find a replacement.
- l) Website (Jeff) – The webmasters have uploaded many, many photos to the website and have removed the old Highland Ball information.
- m) Publicity (Janet) - Nothing to report.
- n) Bookstore (Cathy C.) – The Bookstore managers have added a few new books, including the latest RSCDS compilation.
- o) Class Liaisons –

- Stow, MA (Sharon) – The class has had 2+ sets and will hold a Homemade Ice Cream Social in June and will add an additional class on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Nashua, NH (John) – The class will meet throughout the summer except for the month of July.
  - Chelmsford, MA (John) – The class will meet throughout the summer and hold a party on August 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - Kennebunk, ME (John) – The DownEast Fling will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup>, and the class will then resume in September.
  - Greenland, NH (John) – The last class for the season will be held on either May 29<sup>th</sup> or June 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Newton, MA (Sue) – The class has been having 10 to 12 dancers. They will meet through June 20, take a 2-week break, and the move to their summer location at the VFW post 440.
  - Brookline, MA (Sue) – The last class will meet on May 20<sup>th</sup> and will resume after Labor Day.
  - Cambridge, MA (Sue) – Charles Liu and Jen Schoonover taught in April and Howard and Roberta Lasnik and Jen Schoonover in May. The end-of-the-season party will be held on June 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - Fairlee, VT (Jeff) – Gary Apfel is asking if the Highland Ball could be scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May so it does not conflict with the Fairlee Spring party.
  - Burlington, VT (Jeff) – The class will break for the summer and perhaps hold a social in the Fall.
  - Northampton, MA (Cathy G.) – The class has requested a music subsidy for 3 musicians.
4. Old Business –
- a) AGM – The AGM will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> and has been confirmed with the Cambridge Class. The Branch covers the cost of the band and hall rental.
5. New Business –
- a) SDCEA – The group has been awarding scholarship money for both Pinewoods and the Highland Ball.
  - b) New equipment manager – The role is still unfilled.
6. Next meeting –
- a) The transition meeting will be held at the end of June.