

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

March 27, 2019

Present: Marsha Byrnes, Sue Chari, Karen Gansz, Sharon Gilmour, Susan Haines, Jeffrey Hopper, Winifred McGowan, John Salyards, Jeremy Thorpe

Absent: Cathy Crabtree

1. **Minutes from the February 27, 2019 meeting** – The minutes were approved with a clarification to the wording of the advantages of having more members in a Branch class, i.e. one number would qualify the class to receive insurance coverage while a larger number would qualify the class to receive a music subsidy. A second correction was made in the Albany Class update.
2. **Treasurer's Report** (Cathy) – Cathy reports that the total liabilities and net assets stand at \$62,609. The first installment was paid to Pinewoods for both Scottish Sessions Pinewoods and ESCape, \$8414 and \$4218, respectively.
A 50% rent deposit and security deposit for \$625 was paid to the Irish Social Club of Boston. At some point, we will be reimbursed for part of that from Highland Dance Boston and the Scots Charitable Society.
A 50% deposit for \$1949 was paid to the caterer for the Highland Ball refreshments.
3. **Reports from Liaisons** –
 - a. Highland Ball (May 11, 2019)(Cathy) – To date, the ticket sales number 30 Ball tickets, 1 non-dancer ticket, and 22 Welcome Dance tickets. The Ball chairs, MaryEllen Scannell and Suzie Petrov, are hoping for a rush of ticket sales in April even though the prices increase after March 31st. They are planning to continue with regular updates through April via the Branch members listing. Exec members are asked to do anything they can to encourage more ticket sales.
Sharon Gilmour is organizing food for the Welcome Dance and would welcome any contributions.
 - b. Joint Ceilidh (November 2, 2019)(Cathy) - The date has been set for November 2, 2019, and the deposit and contract have been sent to the Irish Social Club of Boston.
The time for the Ceilidh is the same as last year with the doors opening at 6:30 pm and the evening ending at 10:00 pm.
After several discussions, it was decided that the Ceilidh would be a joint venture with Highland Dance Boston and the Scots Charitable Society.

The Scots Charitable Society will be handling the light buffet (meat pies and other hand-held treats).

A preliminary planning meeting was held last Saturday March 23rd with Linda McJannet, Robert McOwen, Karen Mahoney and Alan McCall (from SCS) attending.

There will be 2 ticket prices, one that includes the light buffet and one that does not. The prices have not yet been set.

Tickets will be sold at the door and in advance through Brown Paper Tickets, and there will also be paper tickets available in advance.

Robert is working on pursuing a Band Leader for the event.

The next planning meeting is scheduled for May 9th where the program will be discussed and a budget developed, including the financial sharing arrangements.

- c. Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (July 5 - 13, 2019) (Jeremy) – Both Session I and Session II have wait lists. All of the paid job positions have been filled, and the payment balances are coming in. Cathy Fahey will be doing sound with Thom Howe. Ross Parker has done a lot of the technical support work, and the chairs are extremely appreciative of all that he has done.
- d. ESCape (July 1 – 5, 2019) (Sharon) – There are still a few camper spaces available. The chairs are happy with how the plans are coming together and feel that there is good communication amongst the team.
- e. Loon Mountain Games (September 20 – 22, 2019) (Jeff) – Nothing to report at this time.
- f. Teaching and Music Committee (Marsha) – The committee is pleased that there are 25 first-timers registered for Scottish Sessions Pinewoods. The committee is planning for a Vintage Dance Workshop to be held in the fall.
- g. Boston Scottish Country Dancers (Marsha) – The group has been talking about how to add more dancers to the team. Several people have been asked to join, but many of them are already overcommitted or have conflicts. The team wants the emphasis to not only be on performance but also on technique and tone.
There are five couples preparing for NEFFA.
- h. Nominating Committee (Marsha) – The slate of candidates is needed as soon as possible so the list can be sent out in the mailing for the upcoming AGM.
- i. New Hampshire Highlands (August 23 – 25, 2019) (Susan) – Roberta Lasnik reports that the flyers are out.
- j. *Tartan Times* (Susan) – As soon as tax season is over, Evelyn and Barbara will start on the next edition because both of them will be traveling in May.

- k. Membership (Susan) – Nothing new to report at this time except to be informed if and when the membership rates are changed.
 - l. Website (Jeff) – Nothing to report at this time.
 - m. Bookstore (Cathy) – Nothing to report at this time.
 - n. SDCEA (Sue) – Gail Wine will be stepping down as Treasurer, and Rebecca Gore will be assuming the role. The group has given out about ten scholarships this year and had a very successful Scholarship Dance. They have about \$24,000 in assets at this time. Information on contributing to the SDCEA is available on the Branch website, but it may also be beneficial to add it back on the Pinewoods application.
 - o. Class Liaisons –
 - Fairlee, VT (Karen) – Gary Apfel reports that the class is happy to have one of its members, Dawn Hathaway, participating in the teacher candidate class and is grateful that the Branch offers these classes. The Fairlee Spring Fling will be held on Saturday May 4, and the class is busy preparing for this event.
 - Burlington, VT (Karen) – Connie Kent reports that the class had taken a break for a couple of months due to low attendance, but she is hoping to host another mixed Scottish and English dance in late April or May with Adina Gordon calling the English portion.
 - Cambridge, MA (Sue) – Robert McOwen and Jen Schoonover were the teachers in February, while Charles Liu and Kat Dutton taught in March. The class has had good attendance this year.
 - Brookline (Sue) – The Brookline Class, along with the Newton Class, is hosting a Tea Dance on Sunday April 7 from 3 to 6:30 PM.
 - Salem, MA (Sharon) – The class was honored to be filmed for a documentary. They are also excited to have attracted a few new dancers. There will be no April Party this year due to numerous reasons.
 - Stow, MA (Sharon) – Vickery Trinkaus-Randall reports that they usually have one seven-couple set at class and have enjoyed great music from Elizabeth Anderson.
4. Old Business –
- a. Discussion on Policies and Procedures – The work continues on membership, fees, directories, Branch classes, etc.
5. New Business –
- a. Date for AGM – Monday June 3, 2019
6. Next Meetings –
- a. April 24 – at Jeremy's
 - b. May 29 - TBD