

Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Dance Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee
April 24, 2019

Present: Sue Chari, Cathy Crabtree, Karen Gansz, Sharon Gilmour, Susan Haines, Winifred McGowan, John Salyards, Jeremy Thorpe

Absent: Marsha Byrnes, Jeffrey Hopper

1. **Minutes from the March 27, 2019 meeting** – The minutes were approved as submitted.
2. **Treasurer's Report** (Cathy) – Cathy reports that the total liabilities and net assets stand at \$75,217. The balance remains high because of the receipt of both Pinewoods and Highland Ball fees. Two payments (March and April) have been made to Pinewoods Camp, Inc. for Scottish Sessions Pinewoods and ESCape. The third payment will be made in May before camp and the final after camp. Some camper refunds have been made for people on the wait list. Highland Ball ticket sales seem to be a little ahead of sales at this time last year. The budget is in good shape.
3. **Old Business** –
 - a. Discussion: Policies and Procedures (*Branch Classes and Residential Events*)
Branch Classes - Utilizing a tiered approach, if a class contains four members, they would be considered a Branch class and would be entitled to coverage by the Branch insurance policy. The other two tiers would qualify the class to receive a once-a-year music subsidy. A class with eight to eleven members would be entitled to a \$265 subsidy, while a class of twelve or more would receive a \$365 subsidy. Executive Committee class liaisons will inform the class of their membership status/numbers.
Residential Events – Under Pinewoods Scottish Sessions, the cut-off date is March 1. The other section that needed clarification concerned younger campers aged 15 to 17 who are experienced dancers and may want to attend camp with their parent. Under ESCape, other than the title change, the other pertinent statement is that the profits and losses are shared equally between the Boston Branch and CDS Boston Centre.
4. **Reports from Liaisons** –
 - a. Highland Ball (May 11, 2019) (Cathy) – Hanneke Cassel will be playing with Thistle House. To date, there are 45 registered for the Welcome Dance and 95 for the Ball. About 20 more registrations are needed. The caterer is aware that the number of attendees may be lower.
 - b. Joint Ceilidh (November 2, 2019) (Cathy) – The next planning meeting is scheduled for May 9 and will include RSCDS Boston Branch, Highland Dance

Boston, and the Scots Charitable Society. There is a call out for a band, but no one has responded.

- c. Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (July 5 - 13, 2019) (Jeremy) – There are 16 people on the wait list for Session I and 4 for Session II. The chairs are awaiting confirmation on the Session I Lifeguard. The theme for camp is “Back to the Highlands.”
There was a user group meeting on April 6. There is a new deck on the front of C#, some other upgrades, a no fragrances policy, a new groundkeeper, and new direction to camp.
A \$200 honorarium was approved to be given to Ross Parker for his tech support to the Pinewoods chairs.
- d. ESCape (July 1 – 5, 2019) (Sharon) – The registration moneys are coming in.
- e. Loon Mountain Games (September 20 – 22, 2019) (Jeff) – Nothing to report at this time.
- f. Teaching and Music Committee (Marsha) – One musician is needed for the Committee. Everyone else slated to go off the committee has agreed to another term.
- g. Boston Scottish Country Dancers (Marsha) – The team danced at NEFFA with 10 dancers, and it went well.
- h. Nominating Committee (Marsha) – Candidates for the at-large positions are still needed.
- i. New Hampshire Highlands (August 23 – 25, 2019) (Susan) – The information is on the Branch website, the flyers are out, and applications are coming in.
- j. *Tartan Times* (Susan) – Evelyn Murray and Barbara McOwen are starting to work on the May/June edition.
- k. Membership (Susan) – MaryEllen and John Scannell report that there are 211 members and 18 Associate members.
- l. Website (Jeff) – Nothing to report at this time.
- m. Bookstore (Cathy) – The keepers of the Bookstore are planning for Pinewoods.
- n. SDCEA (Sue) – Nothing to report at this time.
- o. Class Liaisons –
 - Newton/Brookline, MA (Sue) – The joint tea was held on April 7 with great music by Elizabeth Anderson and Beth Murray.
 - Brookline, MA (Sue) – The class is trying to determine how to keep going once Evelyn is gone.
 - Stow, MA (Sharon) – The class is going well. There will be no class on the Friday of the Ball Welcome Dance.
 - Salem, MA (Sharon) – The Ball review will be held on May 2.

- Kennebunk, MA (John) – The DownEast Fling will be held on June 15 with music by Terry Traub and Catherine Miller. A music subsidy of \$265 was requested and approved. The class averages 6 couples, occasionally more but not less.
 - Greenland, NH (John) – The class has been suffering because class members have been traveling leading to cancellations for a couple of weeks. A new couple came a few weeks ago but haven't yet returned.
 - Fairlee, VT (Karen) – The Fairlee Social is May 4, and they hope for many attendees. The class continues to average around two sets most Wednesday evenings.
- p. Equipment (John) – The sound system did not end up being used for the Newton/Brookline Tea but will presumably be needed for the Ball Welcome Dance and the Belfast Party.

5. New Business –

- a. Recognizing Evelyn – Susan will contact Jean Farrington and Sylvia Miskoe for their thoughts.

6. Next Meetings –

- a. May 29 – phone meeting
- b. June 26? -